

[AS REPORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.]

House of Representatives, 3rd September, 1924.

Hon. Mr. Coates.

ENGINEERS REGISTRATION.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to make Provision for the Registration of Engineers.

Title.

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Engineers Registration Act, 1924, and shall come into operation on the first day of April, nineteen hundred and *twenty-five*.

Short Title and commencement.

2. In this Act—

Interpretation.

10 “Board” means the Engineers Registration Board constituted under this Act:

“Minister” means the Minister of Public Works:

“Registered” means registered under this Act:

“Registrar” means the Registrar appointed under this Act.

15 3. (1.) An Engineers Registration Board is hereby established, consisting of six persons to be appointed by the Minister, of whom three shall be appointed on the recommendation of the Council of the New Zealand Society of Civil Engineers (Incorporated).

Constitution and procedure of Engineers Registration Board.

20 (2.) Of the three members appointed as aforesaid on the recommendation of the said Council, one shall be representative of civil engineers, one shall be representative of electrical engineers, and one shall be representative of mechanical engineers.

(3.) The powers of the Board shall not be affected by any vacancy in the membership thereof.

(4.) Save as provided in the *next succeeding* subsection, every member of the Board shall be appointed for a term of three years, but may from time to time be reappointed, or may be at any time removed from office by the Minister for disability, insolvency, neglect of duty, or misconduct, or may at any time resign his office by writing addressed to the Minister. 5

(5.) If any member of the Board dies, retires, or otherwise vacates his office, the vacancy so created shall, within two months after the occurrence thereof, be filled in the manner in which the appointment to the vacant office was originally made. Every person so appointed shall hold office for the residue of the term for which his predecessor was appointed. 10

(6.) The first meeting of the Board shall be held at such place, and at such time, being not later than two months after the commencement of this Act, as may be determined in that behalf by the Minister. 15

(7.) At every meeting of the Board four members thereof shall form a quorum, and no business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. 20

(8.) The Board shall at its first meeting choose one of its members to be Chairman, who shall have a deliberative vote and, in the case of an equality of votes, shall also have a casting vote.

(9.) Every question before the Board shall be determined by a majority of the votes of the members present at a meeting of the Board. 25

(10.) A meeting of the Board may be demanded at any time by notice signed by any two members thereof, and sent to the Minister, who shall thereupon convene the meeting.

Registrar
of Engineers.

4. There shall be appointed an officer of the Public Service to be called the Registrar of Engineers. Such office may be held concurrently with any other office. 30

Register
of Engineers.

5. The Registrar shall keep in his office a Register of Engineers, in which shall be entered the names of all persons registered under this Act, the qualifications by virtue of which they are so registered, and such other particulars in relation thereto as may from time to time be prescribed. 35

Qualifications of
applicants for
registration as
engineers.

6. (1.) Every person shall, on payment of the prescribed fee, be entitled to be registered under this Act as an engineer who—

(a.) Holds some recognized certificate as hereinafter defined, and who satisfies the Board that he has had not less than three years' practical experience in engineering; or 40

(b.) Has attained the age of twenty-five years, and has been engaged during a period of not less than *six* years before the commencement of this Act in the acquisition of professional knowledge or in the practice of engineering, in a manner satisfactory to the Board, and who makes application for registration within *twelve* months after the commencement of this Act; or 45

(c.) Passes or has passed an examination or examinations approved by the Board, and who satisfies the Board that he has had not less than three years' practical experience in engineering. 50

(2.) For the purposes of this section the term "recognized certificate" means a certificate, diploma, degree, or license, granted by some university, college, or other public institution (whether in New Zealand or elsewhere), and which is recognized by the Board as furnishing sufficient evidence of the possession of the requisite knowledge and skill for the efficient practice of the profession of engineering.

7. No person shall be registered under this Act who is less than twenty-four years of age, or who, in the opinion of the Board, is not of good character and reputation.

Limitations as to age and character.

8. Every application for registration under this Act shall be in writing, and the statements made therein shall be verified by a statutory declaration made by the applicant.

Applications for registration to be verified.

9. Every person registered as an engineer under this Act shall, on payment of the prescribed fee, be entitled to receive a certificate of registration under the hand of the Registrar.

Certificates of registration.

10. Every person who wilfully makes, or causes to be made, any false entry in or falsification of the Register, or procures or attempts to procure himself or any other person to be registered under this Act by making or producing, or causing to be made or produced, any false or fraudulent representations or declarations either verbally or in writing, and every person who aids or assists therein, is liable to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds for each offence.

Penalty for wrongfully procuring registration.

11. The Board shall *may* cause to be removed from the Register the name of every person who has been registered under this Act in error, or who is convicted of any offence punishable by imprisonment or dishonouring him in the public estimation, or who has been guilty of such improper conduct as renders him, in the opinion of the Board, unfit to be registered under this Act.

Cancellation of registration.

12. (1.) Every person whose application for registration has been declined by the Board, or whose name has been removed from the Register, may, within three months after notice of such refusal or removal has been communicated to him by the Registrar, appeal in the prescribed manner to a Board of Appeal, consisting of a Magistrate and two assessors appointed in accordance with regulations under this Act.

Appeals from decision of Board.

(2.) The Board of Appeal shall thereupon hear the appeal, and may either confirm the decision of the Board, or order the registration of the appellant, or the restoration of his name to the register, and the determination of the Board of Appeal shall be final and conclusive.

13. (1.) The Board shall, in the month of April in every year, furnish to the Minister of Public Works a copy of the Register, as at the thirty-first day of March then last past, and the Minister shall cause the same to be published in the *Gazette*.

Copy of Register to be gazetted.

(2.) The *Gazette* containing any such copy shall, unless the contrary is proved, be sufficient evidence in all judicial proceedings that, on the thirty-first day of March immediately preceding the date of the *Gazette*, every person whose name appears therein as a registered engineer was duly registered as such, by virtue of the qualifications therein set forth, and that no person was so registered whose name does not appear therein as a registered engineer.

14. (1.) Every person commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds who, not being registered under this Act, uses, or causes to be used, in connection with his business, trade,

Improper use of words, initials, &c., implying registration.

calling, or profession any written words, titles, initials, or abbreviation of words, titles, or initials, intended ~~or likely~~ to cause any person to believe that he is so registered.

(2.) In every prosecution for an offence against this section the burden of proving that the defendant, at the time when the offence was committed, was registered under this Act shall lie upon the defendant. 5

Application of fees.

15. All fees and other moneys paid under this Act shall be paid into the Public Account, and shall form part of the Consolidated Fund, and all expenses incurred in respect of the administration of this Act shall be paid out of moneys to be from time to time appropriated by Parliament for the purpose. 10

Regulations.

16. The Governor-General may from time to time, by Order in Council, make regulations—

- (a.) Prescribing forms of application for and certificates of registration under this Act: 15
- (b.) Prescribing the fees payable in respect of examination and of registration under this Act, for the issue of certificates of registration, and for inspection of the Register:
- (c.) Prescribing the subject-matter of examinations to be conducted by or under the direction of the Board in the case of applicants or of any class of applicants for registration under this Act: 20
- (d.) Prescribing the form of the Register to be kept and the particulars to be entered therein: 25
- (e.) Providing for the appointment of assessors and the conduct of appeals under section *twelve* of this Act:
- (f.) Generally providing for such other matters as may be necessary for the effective administration of this Act.