

Hon. Mr. Williams.

ELECTRICAL WIREMEN'S REGISTRATION AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the Electrical Wiremen's Registration Act, 1925. Title.

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

5 1. This Act may be cited as the Electrical Wiremen's Registration Amendment Act, 1928, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Electrical Wiremen's Registration Act, 1925 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act). Short Title.

10 2. (1) If the Board is satisfied that any person though not qualified to be registered as an electrical wireman in accordance with the requirements of section eight of the principal Act is nevertheless competent to carry out a limited class or limited classes of electrical-wiring work (including electrical-wiring work in connection with any specified premises, but not elsewhere), it may at any time authorize his registration as an electrical wireman under the principal Act, but subject to the special provisions of this section: Certain persons may be registered for certain classes of electrical-wiring work.

New.

20 Provided that no person shall be registered under this section unless he satisfies the Board that he has been employed or engaged for at least three years prior to the date of his application for registration in the class or classes of work in respect of which he has applied for registration.

25 (1A) Any person whose registration under this section entitles him to do maintenance work only shall carry out any such work only in case of emergency due to breakdown or other accident, and his employer shall within twenty-four hours thereafter cause such work to be inspected and tested by a registered electrical wireman or the holder of a provisional license.

30 (2) Where the registration of any person as an electrical wireman is authorized pursuant to this section, the Registrar shall enter in a special register such particulars with respect to such person as may be prescribed, including a statement of the limitations subject to which the registration has been authorized, and a like statement shall appear in every certificate of registration issued under the principal Act in respect of the person so registered.

(3) Every person commits an offence under section twenty-five of the principal Act who employs or permits any person registered in accordance with this section to do any electrical-wiring work that he is not authorized to do by virtue of such registration, or who, being a person registered in accordance with this section, does any electrical-wiring work that he is not authorized to do. 5

(4) Where before the passing of this Act the Board has authorized the registration of any person for the purposes of certain classes of electrical-wiring work only, such registration shall be deemed to have been as effective as if this section had been then in force, and the name of such person shall be transferred from the Register of Electrical Wiremen kept pursuant to the principal Act to the special register prescribed by this section. 10

Section 17 of principal Act amended.

3. Section seventeen of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting, after the words "an electrical wireman," the words "or to require him to be the holder of any certificate or license other than one issued by the Board." 15

Wiring of premises to be done by registered electrical wireman, or by apprentices or improvers under his personal supervision.

4. (1) Save as otherwise provided in this section, no electrical-wiring work shall be done by any person other than a registered electrical wireman or by the holder of a provisional license, in either case with or without the assistance of apprentices or improvers working under his supervision and in his presence. 20

(2) Before any such work is begun the person undertaking the same shall give notice thereof to the electrical-supply authority, or, where there is no such authority, to the Chief Electrical Engineer of the Public Works Department, specifying the date on which it is proposed to begin such work and giving details thereof. 25

Struck out.

(3) If an employer is satisfied with respect to any apprentice who has had at least twelve months' practical experience of electrical-wiring work, or with respect to any improver as hereinafter defined, that such apprentice or improver is fully competent, without supervision, to do any electrical-wiring work of a kind to be specified in that behalf by regulations, he may authorize such apprentice or improver to do any such work without supervision. 30

(4) Where on inspection any electrical-wiring work done by an apprentice or an improver pursuant to the authority conferred by the *last preceding* subsection is found to be defective, or to have been done contrary to the requirements of any Act or regulations relating to electrical wiring, the employer shall be deemed to have committed an offence and shall be liable to a fine of *ten* pounds unless he satisfies the Court that he took all proper precautions to satisfy himself that the apprentice or improver concerned was fully competent to carry out the work without supervision: 35

Provided that no proceedings in relation to any offence against this subsection shall be instituted except by a person authorized in writing in that behalf by the Board. 40

(5) Any apprentice or improver by whom any defective work has been done, as referred to in the *last preceding* subsection, shall, if the Board so directs, be disqualified for such period, not exceeding *twelve* months, as the Board determines, from doing any electrical-wiring work except under the supervision and in the presence of a registered electrical wireman or the holder of a provisional license. 50

(6) Where, on any premises other than the premises in which any electrical apparatus is intended to be used, any work involving electrical 55

wiring is done in connection with the repair or assembling of such apparatus, such work shall either be carried out by a registered electrical wireman or the holder of a provisional license, or be inspected and tested by him before such apparatus is put into use.

5 (7) For the purposes of this section the term "improver" means a person who, having completed an apprenticeship to the electrical-wiring trade ~~for a term of not less than three years~~, has sat for but failed to pass the examination prescribed for electrical wiremen under the principal Act.

10 (8) This section is in substitution for section eighteen of the principal Act, and that section is hereby accordingly repealed. Repeal.

5. Section nineteen of the principal Act is hereby amended as follows :— Section 19 of principal Act amended.

15 (a) By omitting from subsection one the words "The electrical-supply authority shall cause to be inspected all electrical-wiring work in any premises before the same are connected with the source of supply, and shall forthwith," and substituting the words "It shall not be lawful to connect any premises or any apparatus therein with a source of supply controlled by an electrical-supply authority until all electrical-wiring work in such premises has been inspected, tested, and approved, and permission to make such connection has been given by the electrical-supply authority, and forthwith after such inspection the supply authority shall."

20 (b) By inserting, after subsection two, the following new subsection :—
 " (2A) The Board may at any time after the expiration of one year from the date of any such endorsement cancel the same and cause a note of such cancellation to be inserted in the register."

25 (c) By adding the following subsection :—
 " (4) Where the source of supply is not controlled by an electrical-supply authority, the following provisions shall apply :—

30 (a) Connection with the source of supply shall not be made until either the electrical-wiring work has been inspected, tested, and approved by a person directed in that behalf by the Chief Electrical Engineer of the Public Works Department, or the Chief Electrical Engineer has authorized such connection without inspection being made.

35 (b) The Chief Electrical Engineer shall report to the Board any such fault or defect as an electrical-supply authority is required to report by subsection one hereof, and shall have the same powers of suspension as an electrical-supply authority has under that subsection. On receiving any such report from the Chief Electrical Engineer the Board may take action thereon in accordance with subsection two of this section as if the report were made by an electrical-supply authority."

Section 20 of principal Act amended.

6. Section twenty of the principal Act is hereby amended as follows :—

(a) By repealing subsection one, and substituting the following subsection :—

“ (1) No electrical-supply authority shall cause any inspection or testing of electrical-wiring work to be made for any purpose whatever, or shall authorize any approval of such work to be given, by any person other than a person appointed by it for the purpose and registered as an Inspector of electrical wiring as hereinafter provided.”

(b) By adding the following subsection :—

“ (3) No Inspector shall, for the purposes of the last preceding section, be competent to inspect any electrical-wiring work done by himself.”

Section 21 of principal Act amended.

7. Subsection two of section twenty-one of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting, after the words “ is a registered electrical wireman,” the words “ and the Board is satisfied that he is competent to inspect and test electrical-wiring work.”

Cancellation of registration of Inspectors of Electrical Wiring.

8. If the Board has reason to believe that any registered Inspector of electrical wiring is not satisfactorily carrying out his duties it may appoint ~~some-competent-person~~ a person registered under the *Engineers Registration Act, 1924*, as an *Electrical Engineer*, or an *Inspecting Engineer*, or *Inspector of Electric Lines on the staff of the Public Works Department*, to inquire and report to it as to the competency of the Inspector. If as a result of such inquiry and report the Board is satisfied that the Inspector is incompetent it may cancel his registration as an Inspector, and no appeal shall lie against its decision.

Section 25 of principal Act amended.

9. Subsection one of section twenty-five of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing paragraph (b), and substituting the following paragraphs :—

“(b) Does any electrical-wiring work contrary to the provisions of this Act or of any regulations thereunder ; or

“(c) Employs or permits any person to do any electrical-wiring work contrary to the provisions of this Act, or of any regulations thereunder :

“ Provided that proceedings in relation to any offence under this paragraph shall not be instituted except by a person authorized in writing in that behalf by the Board.”

Offence not to give information as to person doing any electrical-wiring work.

10. Every person commits an offence and is liable to a fine of *ten* pounds who, on demand by an Inspector of Electrical Wiring or other person duly authorized to inspect electrical wiring, refuses or fails to give to such Inspector or authorized person any information at his disposal that may lead to the identification of the person who did any electrical-wiring work in any premises, and where the occupier of such premises at the time such wiring was done so refuses or fails to give such information he shall be deemed, unless the contrary is proved, to have permitted such work to be done contrary to the provisions of the principal Act.

Proceedings in respect of offences may be instituted within twelve months.

11. Notwithstanding anything in the *Justices of the Peace Act, 1927*, proceedings may be instituted against any person in respect of an offence under the principal Act at any time within twelve months after the date on which the matter of the information arose.

Section 27 of principal Act amended.

12. Section twenty-seven of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing paragraph (f) and substituting the following paragraph :—

5 “(f) Providing for the apportionment between electrical-supply authorities of an amount not exceeding the amount by which the cost of administering this Act in any financial year exceeds the fees, fines, and other moneys received or recovered to the use of the Crown under this Act in respect of that year.”

13. In addition to all other powers of making regulations conferred on him by the principal Act, the Governor-General may from time to time, by Order in Council, make regulations—

Control of operation of stage-lighting.

10 (a) Requiring that any stage-lighting switchboard to or from which portable apparatus is or can be connected or controlled in any theatre, music-hall, motion-picture theatre, or public building shall be operated only by a registered electrical wireman or the holder of a provisional license :

15 (b) Generally regulating the use of portable apparatus on stages.

14. (1) The principal Act, to the extent to which it requires electrical-wiring work to be done by or under the supervision of registered electrical wiremen or holders of provisional licenses, shall bind the Crown.

Principal Act to bind the Crown for certain purposes.

20 (2) The inspection, testing, and approval of all electrical-wiring work done for any Department of State shall in every case be made and given by a person directed in that behalf by the Chief Electrical Engineer of the Public Works Department.