

MOTOR-VEHICLES AMENDMENT BILL.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM.

Clause 4: The purpose of this clause is to enable the registration or licensing of a motor-vehicle to be effected in any district instead of, as at present, only in the district in which the garage of the vehicle is situated. The change of procedure renders unnecessary the giving of information as to garages, and it is accordingly proposed to repeal section 16 of the principal Act.

Clause 5: This clause is designed to regularize the present practice of renewing the registration-plates annually instead of issuing an annual license in documentary form.

Clause 6: The purpose of this clause is to provide for the annual renewal of licenses to take place in June instead of in April of each year.

Clause 7: The principal alteration of the law effected by this clause is in the authority to refund a proportionate part of the annual fee paid in respect of a motor-vehicle if it is destroyed or is permanently removed from the Dominion.

Clause 8: The purpose of this clause is to protect the owner of a motor-vehicle plying for hire in more than one district from being required by the several local authorities to pay a license fee in each such district. The proposal contained in the clause is that such a fee may be charged only in a district where there is a garage provided for the vehicle.

Clause 9: This clause enables the Registrar to cancel the registration of a motor-vehicle if in any year the annual license fee has not been paid.

Clause 10: It is proposed by this clause to increase the fees payable by manufacturers and dealers for the use of "dealers'" plates, and in consideration of the increased fee to extend the purposes for which vehicles bearing such plates may be legitimately used.

Clause 11: This clause is consequential on the recent transfer of administration from the Department of Internal Affairs to the Public Works Department.

Clause 12: This clause, *inter alia*, increases from £20 to £50 the maximum penalty for a breach of the regulations.

Clause 13: This clause revises the schedule of annual license fees payable in respect of "trade motors."

Clause 14: This clause provides that the principal Act shall bind the Crown. The object of the provision is to secure for the purposes of the Main Highways Account the registration fees and license fees that will thus become payable in respect of State-owned motor-vehicles.

Clause 15: This clause repeals the various exemptions from the requirements of the principal Act now existing with respect to State-owned and other publicly-owned motor-vehicles.

Hon. Mr. Williams.

MOTOR-VEHICLES AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

Title.	
1. Short Title.	8. Limiting provisions of section 12 (4) of principal Act, relating to charges made by local authorities in respect of motor-vehicles plying for hire.
2. Amendment of definitions.	9. Registration of motor-vehicle may be cancelled if license not renewed in any year.
3. Section 4 of principal Act amended.	10. Use of unregistered motor-vehicles by manufacturers and dealers.
4. Application for registration of motor-vehicle or for issue of annual license may be made to any Deputy Registrar. Repeal.	11. Section 25 of principal Act amended.
5. Issue of new registration-plate may take the place of issue of annual license.	12. Extension of power to make regulations.
6. Altering date of expiry of annual licenses. Repeal.	13. Schedule of annual license fees amended.
7. Amending provisions as to payment of annual license fees.	14. Principal Act to bind the Crown.
	15. Repeal of provisions allowing exemptions from requirements of principal Act.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the Motor-vehicles Act, 1924.

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 Motor-vehicles Amendment Act, 1927, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Motor-vehicles Act, 1924 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

Short Title.

2. Section two of the principal Act is hereby amended as follows :—

Amendment of definitions.

10 (a) By inserting, after the words "and any other vehicle" in the definition of the term "motor-vehicle," the words "or locomotive":

15 (b) By omitting from the definition of the term "public motor-car" the word "plied," and substituting the words "licensed by any competent authority to ply":

(c) By inserting, after the word "drawn" in the definition of the term "trailer," the words "or propelled"; and by adding to that definition the words "but does not include a side-car attached to a motor-cycle."

20 3. Section four of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from subsection two the words "for each provincial district."

Section 4 of principal Act amended.

Application for registration of motor-vehicle or for issue of annual license may be made to any Deputy Registrar.

4. (1) Section five of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from subsection one the words "a Deputy Registrar in the provincial district within which the garage of the motor-vehicle is situate at the time of the application," and substituting the words "any Deputy Registrar."

5

(2) Section ten of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from subsection one the words "within the provincial district in which the garage of the motor-vehicle is situate."

Repeal.

(3) Section sixteen of the principal Act is hereby repealed.

Issue of new registration-plate may take the place of issue of annual license.

5. (1) If on payment of the annual license fee in respect of any motor-vehicle a new registration-plate is issued, then, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the principal Act, it shall not be necessary to issue a license in documentary form in respect of that vehicle, and for all the purposes of that Act the issue of a registration-plate appropriate for any year shall be deemed to be the issue of the annual license for that year.

10

(2) The fact that any motor-vehicle is used on any road or street without having affixed thereto in the prescribed manner an appropriate registration-plate for the then current year shall be sufficient evidence, until the contrary is proved, that the annual license fee payable in respect of the motor-vehicle for that year has not been paid.

15

(3) This section shall be deemed to have been in force as from the commencement of the principal Act.

Altering date of expiry of annual licenses.

6. (1) Every license under section ten of the principal Act granted to take effect after the thirty-first day of March, nineteen hundred and twenty-eight, and on or before the thirty-first day of May, nineteen hundred and twenty-eight, shall continue in force until the thirty-first day of May, nineteen hundred and twenty-nine.

25

(2) Every such license granted to take effect after the thirty-first day of May, nineteen hundred and twenty-eight, shall continue in force until the next succeeding thirty-first day of May.

30

(3) Where by virtue of this section a license is continued in force for a period longer than *twelve* months after the date of the issue thereof, the license fee shall be increased by an amount equal to the *one-twelfth* part of the annual fee (as prescribed at the date of the issue of the license) for every month or part of a month for which the license is in force in excess of *twelve* months.

35

Repeal.

(4) Section ten of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing subsections three and four thereof.

Amending provisions as to payment of annual license fees.

7. Section eleven of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing subsection two, and substituting the following subsection:—

40

"(2) On making application for the issue of an annual license in respect of any motor-vehicle there shall be paid by the owner thereof the appropriate annual fee prescribed in Part I of the Schedule to this Act:

45

"Provided that in the case of a license applied for and granted for a period less than a year the license fees prescribed by this Act shall be reduced by the *one-twelfth* part thereof for every complete month by which the term of the license is less than one year:

"Provided further that if the Registrar is satisfied that any motor-vehicle has, by reason of accident, been destroyed or become wholly unfit for further use as such, or that any motor-vehicle has

50

been permanently removed from New Zealand, he may, without further appropriation than this section, refund or cause to be refunded out of the Post Office Account such sum as in his discretion he thinks proper, not exceeding the *one-twelfth* part of the annual license fee for every complete
 5 month between the date of the accident or the date of removal from New Zealand, as the case may be, and the end of the period for which the license fee has been paid. Any adjustment as between the Post Office Account and the Main Highways Account that may be rendered necessary by reason of any refund made pursuant to this section may
 10 be made without further authority than this section."

8. Section twelve of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing paragraph (c) of subsection four, and substituting the following paragraph:

Limiting provisions of section 12 (4) of principal Act, relating to charges made by local authorities in respect of motor-vehicles plying for hire.

15 "(c) From any charge lawfully made in respect of any motor-vehicle plying for hire by a local authority in whose district a garage of that motor-vehicle is situated."

Registration of motor-vehicle may be cancelled if license not renewed in any year.

9. (1) The registration of any motor-vehicle may be at any time cancelled by the Registrar if an annual license in respect of that vehicle was not issued for the preceding year or for some portion of that year,
 20 and if registration was effected before the beginning of that year.

(2) Where the registration of a motor-vehicle has been cancelled pursuant to this section, an annual license shall not thereafter be issued in respect of that vehicle unless and until it has been re-registered and the appropriate registration fee, as prescribed by section nine of the
 25 principal Act, has been paid.

10. Section eighteen of the principal Act is hereby amended as follows:—

Use of unregistered motor-vehicles by manufacturers and dealers.

30 (a) By adding to subsection one the words "or for the purposes of his business as a manufacturer of or dealer in motor-vehicles":

(b) By omitting from subsection two the word "five" and substituting the word "ten"; and by omitting from the same subsection the words "ten shillings," and substituting the words "two pounds":

35 (c) By inserting, after the words "for the purposes of sale," in paragraph (a) of subsection three, the words "or for the purposes of the business of the owner as a manufacturer of or dealer in motor-vehicles."

40 11. Section twenty-five of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from subsection two the words "Minister of Internal Affairs," and substituting the words "Minister of Public Works."

Section 25 of principal Act amended.

12. Section thirty-six of the principal Act is hereby amended as follows:—

Extension of power to make regulations.

45 (a) By adding to paragraph (e) of subsection one the following words: "and prescribing also the conditions on which duplicates of any registration-plate, or of any such certificate, license, permit, or other document may be issued, and the fees to be paid in respect of any such duplicate."

50 (b) By omitting from paragraph (s) the word "twenty," and substituting the word "fifty."

Schedule of annual
license fees
amended.

13. (1) The Schedule to the principal Act is hereby amended, as from the first day of April, nineteen hundred and twenty-eight, by omitting from Part I so much thereof as relates expressly to "trade-motors," and substituting the following:—

	£	s.	d.	5
"(5) For trade motors,—				
"(a) For every such vehicle with a carrying-capacity (manufacturers' rating) not exceeding one ton, with pneumatic tires on all wheels	2	0	0	
"(b) For every such vehicle with a carrying-capacity (manufacturers' rating) exceeding one ton, with pneumatic tires on all wheels				10
"(c) For every such vehicle that is not fitted with pneumatic tires on all wheels	5	0	0	

(2) The said Schedule is hereby further amended by adding thereto the following explanatory note:— 15

"For the purposes of this Schedule a tire shall not be regarded as a pneumatic tire,—

- "(i) If the air used for inflation of the tire has been introduced in the process of manufacture or otherwise than by pressure applied from time to time; or 20
- "(ii) If when the tire is inflated for use the space occupied by air is less than one-half of the total volume of the tire so inflated."

Principal Act to
bind the Crown.

14. The principal Act shall bind the Crown as from the first day of April, nineteen hundred and twenty-eight.

Repeal of provisions
allowing exemptions
from requirements
of principal Act.

15. The principal Act is hereby amended, as from the first day of April, nineteen hundred and twenty-eight, as follows:— 25

- (a) By repealing subsection four of section three thereof:
- (b) By repealing section nineteen thereof:
- (c) By repealing Part II of the Schedule thereto.