

METHYLATED SPIRIT.

ANALYSIS.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to prohibit the Purification of Methylated Spirit. Title.

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

1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Methylated Spirit Act, 1905." Short Title.

2. This Act shall be deemed to be incorporated with "The Customs Laws Consolidation Act, 1882," and "The Customs and Excise Duties Act, 1895." Act incorporated with Customs Acts.

3. In this Act, if not inconsistent with the context,— Interpretation.
"Methylated spirit" means and includes (a) any spirit methylated under regulations prescribed by the Commissioner of Customs, also (b) any spirit which has been entered on importation into New Zealand as methylated spirit:

"To clean" means and includes to deodorise, to rectify, to distil, to purify, or to partially deodorise, rectify, or purify methylated spirit:

"To prepare" means and includes to treat in the manner described in subsection two of section four hereof.

4. (1.) No person shall clean or be concerned in cleaning or attempting to clean methylated spirit for any purpose whatsoever. Offences under this Act.

(2.) No person shall add to methylated spirit any substance or substances for the purpose of disguising the odour or taste thereof, or for rendering the same fit for use as a perfume, or beverage, or as a food for human use.

(3.) No person shall knowingly have in possession any cleaned or partially cleaned spirit, or spirit to which a substance or substances have been added in breach of this Act.

(4.) Every person who commits a breach of this section is liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds, and shall also forfeit for every such offence all vessels, utensils, apparatus, machinery, instruments, implements, or materials in his custody or possession which have been used or are capable of being used in breach of this Act, and all methylated spirit found in his possession.

(5.) Any spirit cleaned or prepared in breach of this Act shall be deemed uncustomed goods, and shall be liable to forfeiture.

Power to enter, &c.

5. If any proper officer of Customs has reasonable ground to suspect that any methylated spirit which has been cleaned or prepared in breach of this Act is stored in any building or premises, or if he has cause to suspect that any methylated spirit is being cleaned or prepared in like manner, he may, under a search-warrant or writ of assistance enter and search such building or premises, and seize and carry away any utensils, apparatus, machinery, instruments, implements, and materials which are being used or which have been used for cleaning or preparing methylated spirit in breach of this Act. 5 10

Purchase of sample for analysis.

6. (1.) If any such officer applies to purchase any spirit or any compound which he thinks may contain spirit in any shop, store, factory, or place, and tenders the price for the quantity he requires and selects for the purpose of analysis, not being more than is reasonably requisite, and the owner or the person having the custody of such spirit or compound as aforesaid refuses to sell the same to such officer, or to permit such officer to examine the contents of any vessel for the purpose of such selection, such owner or person shall be liable to a fine not exceeding *fifty* pounds. 15 20

(2.) Where any such officer purchases any spirit or any compound which he thinks may contain spirit under the *last preceding* section he shall, after the purchase has been completed, forthwith notify the owner or the person having custody of the goods of his intention to have the same analysed, and shall offer to divide the sample into three parts, each to be then and there marked and sealed, and shall, if required to do so, proceed accordingly, and shall deliver one of such parts to the owner or the person having the custody of the goods. 25

Vessels containing methylated spirit to be marked.

7. All vessels containing methylated spirit shall be distinctly marked "Methylated spirit," and any such spirit found in vessels not so marked shall be liable to forfeiture. 30

Restrictions on delivery of methylated spirit.

8. The Commissioner may refuse to permit the delivery of any spirit entered as methylated spirit which does not in his opinion conform to the standard for spirit methylated within New Zealand; or may require any spirit so entered to be subjected, before delivery, to such further methylation as he deems necessary, in default of which such spirit shall be liable to forfeiture if not exported within such time as the Commissioner directs. 35