This Public Bill originated in the House of Representatives, and, having this day passed as now printed, is transmitted to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

House of Representatives, 28th October, 1898.

[As amended by the Legislative Council.]

Hon. Mr. J. McKenzie.

STOCK ACT AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

Title. 1. Short Title.

COMPENSATION.

- 2. When owner of slaughtered stock entitled to compensation.
- 3. How compensation to be assessed.
- 4. Amount of compensation.
- 5. Full market-value may be paid if animal not diseased.
- 6. In other cases up to half value.
- 7. Destruction of carcases, and application of proceeds therefrom.
- 8. Cases in which compensation not payable. 9. Moneys payable out of Consolidated Fund.

- 10. Return of stock slaughtered and compensation paid.
- 11. Repeal.
- SPECIAL INSPECTION OF SLAUGHTERHOUSE.
- 12. Appointment and powers of Special Inspector of slaughterhouse.

SHEEP-DIPPING IN NORTH ISLAND.

13. Period for sheep-dipping altered for North Island.

BRANDING.

14. Definition of "brand" extended.

A BILL INTITULED

An Act to provide for Compensation in respect of Stock destroyed in Title. the Interest of the Public Health, and also to otherwise amend "The Stock Act, 1893."

5 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 Stock Act Amendment Short Title. Act, 1898," and it shall be read together with and be deemed to form 10 part of "The Stock Act, 1893."

COMPENSATION.

2. Whenever in exercise of the powers in that behalf con- when owner of ferred upon him by "The Stock Act, 1893," an Inspector con-slaughtered stock demns any stock as being diseased and causes the same to be compensation. 15 slaughtered, and the carcase thereof to be destroyed or otherwise disposed of, the owner of the stock shall be entitled to compensation in the cases to the extent and subject to the conditions hereinafter provided.

3. The compensation shall be based on the fair market-value of How compensation 20 the animal as fixed immediately prior to the inspection that resulted in its being condemned, such compensation to be ascertained in case of dispute by arbitration of two arbitrators, one to be appointed by the Inspector and one by the owner, with power to the two arbitrators to appoint an umpire, and the decision of such arbitrators or umpire 25 shall be final.

No. 127-3.

Amount of compensation.

- 4. Such market-value shall in no case exceed,—
- (1.) For horses, twenty pounds per head;(2.) For cattle, eight pounds per head;
- (3.) For swine, two pounds per head;

(4.) For sheep, one pound per head.

Full market-value may be paid if animal not diseased.

In other cases up to half value.

Destruction of carcases, and application of proceeds therefrom.

Cases in which compensation not payable.

5. In any case where, after examining the carcase of the slaughtered animal, the Inspector is satisfied that it was not diseased when he condemned it, the amount of the compensation shall not exceed be a sum equal to the full market-value as aforesaid.

6. In any other case the amount of the compensation shall not 10

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exceed be a sum equal to one-half such market-value.

7. In every case the carcase shall be destroyed or otherwise disposed of as the Inspector directs, and the net sum received in respect thereof shall be the property of Her Majesty, and shall either be paid into the Public Account as part of the Consolidated Fund or, with 15 the consent in writing of the Inspector, be paid to the owner of the animal and deducted from the amount of the compensation.

8. No compensation shall be payable in respect of any description of stock other than horses, cattle, sheep, or swine; and in respect of them no compensation shall be payable in any of the 20

following cases, that is to say,—

(1.) In the case of imported stock of any description or any age, if condemned within six months after importation; nor

(2.) In the case of horses, if less than one year or more than twelve years old when condemned; nor

(3.) In the case of cattle, if less than one year or more than eight years old when condemned; nor

(4.) In the case of sheep or swine, if less than three months or

more than four years old when condemned:

Provided that in every such case the net sum received in 30 respect of the carcase shall be the property of the owner of the animal, and shall be payable to him accordingly, anything hereinbefore contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

9. All moneys payable in respect of compensation under this Act shall be payable out of the Consolidated Fund without further 35

appropriation than this Act.

10. Within twenty-one days after the close of each year ending the thirty-first day of March, if Parliament is sitting, or, if not, then within twenty-one days after the beginning of the first ensuing session, the Minister for Agriculture shall lay before both Houses of the 40 General Assembly a return setting forth in respect of such year,—

(1.) The total number of each description of stock condemned

and slaughtered;

(2.) The total amount paid in respect of compensation, showing separately the total amounts based on the full market- 45 value and on the half market-value;

(3.) The total sum received in respect of the disposal of the carcases, showing separately the total amount deducted from the compensation and the total amount paid into the Public Account.

11. Section 5 of "The Stock Act Amendment Act, 1895," is hereby repealed.

Return of stock slaughtered and

compensation paid.

Moneys payable out of Consolidated

Fund.

Repeal.

SPECIAL INSPECTION OF SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

12. On the application of the licensee of any slaughterhouse the Appointment and Governor may from time to time appoint a fit person to be a special powers of Special Inspector of Inspector of such slaughterhouse, provided that two or more licensees slaughterhouse. may, by application to the Governor, be associated for the purposes of this section; and, for the purposes of this section, the following provisions shall apply:-

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(1.) The Special Inspector shall have in respect of such slaughterhouse, the licensee thereof, and the stock therein, all the powers and functions of an Inspector under "The Stock Act, 1893," and also such additional powers and functions as the Governor from time to time confers upon him.

(2.) The Special Inspector shall be under the control of the Minister for Agriculture, and shall be entitled to receive such salary as is agreed on between that Minister and the licensee; but the salary shall be payable by the licensee, and in no case shall there be any right or claim against Her Majesty in respect thereof.

SHEEP-DIPPING IN THE NORTH ISLAND.

20 13. Within the North Island of New Zealand (but not else-Period for sheepwhere) the period prescribed by section six of "The Stock Act dipping altered for North Island. Amendment Act, 1895" for the dipping of sheep, is hereby altered and declared to be the period between the first day of January and the thirty-first day of March, but in all other respects the provisions of 25 that section shall continue to apply. in lieu of the period between the first day of February and the thirtieth day of April, and the provisions of that section shall apply to the altered period in like manner, mutatis mutandis, as in the case of the original period.

New clause.

BRANDING.

14. The definition of "brand" in section fifty-six of "The Definition of Stock Act, 1893," is hereby extended, in cases of horses, cattle, and sheep, to include such other descriptions of brands as the Governor by Order in Council gazetted from time to time may prescribe.

"brand" extended.

By Authority: JOHN MACKAY, Government Printer, Wellington.-1898.