

Hon. Mr. MacDonald.

SLAUGHTERING AND INSPECTION AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the Slaughtering and Inspection Act, 1908. Title.

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

1. (1.) This Act may be cited as the Slaughtering and Inspection Amendment Act, 1918, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Slaughtering and Inspection Act, 1908 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act). Short Title.

10 (2.) This Act shall come into operation on the first day of January, nineteen hundred and *nineteen*. Commencement.

2. In this Act the term "meat-exporter" means and includes any person, firm, or company carrying on the business of exporting meat from New Zealand, but does not include— Interpretation.

15 (a.) The holder of a license issued under section twenty-five of the principal Act (relating to meat-export slaughterhouses) in respect of the export of meat from stock slaughtered in the slaughterhouse to which the license relates; or

20 (b.) Any person in respect of the export of meat from stock raised or fattened by him for export.

3. After the commencement of this Act it shall not be lawful for any person, firm, or company to carry on, or to continue to carry on, the business of a meat-exporter unless authorized so to do by a meat-export license issued under this Act. Offence to carry on business of meat-exporter without license.

25 4. (1.) Any person, firm, or company desirous of carrying on, or of continuing to carry on, the business of a meat-exporter may apply to the Minister of Agriculture for a meat-export license. Provisions as to issue of licenses.

(2.) The Minister may, in his absolute discretion, grant or refuse any such application as he thinks fit.

(3.) Every meat-export license under this Act shall be issued for a term of one year from the date thereof, but may be revoked by the Minister at any time before the due date of the expiry thereof, if the Minister is of opinion on such evidence as he deems sufficient that the licensee has committed a breach of the terms of his license, or is carrying on business under the license in a manner contrary to the public interest. 5

Penalties for offences against Act.

5. (1.) Every person, firm, or company who carries on, or continues to carry on, the business of a meat-exporter contrary to the provisions of this Act shall be liable to a fine of *five hundred* pounds, and to an additional fine of *one hundred* pounds for every day during which such business is carried on after service of a notice, under the hand of the Minister of Agriculture, requiring such business to be discontinued. 10 15

(2.) All meat shipped or attempted to be shipped for export from New Zealand by any person, firm, or company carrying on business as a meat-exporter contrary to the provisions of this Act shall be forfeited to His Majesty, and may be sold or otherwise disposed of in such manner as the Minister directs. 20

Regulations.

6. The Governor-General may by Order in Council make regulations—

- (a.) Prescribing the forms of meat-export licenses to be issued under this Act; 25
- (b.) Prescribing the terms and conditions of such licenses, including conditions as to the revocation thereof by the Minister pursuant to the provisions of this Act; and
- (c.) Prescribing the fees to be paid for licenses issued under this Act. 30

Restrictions on the grant, renewal, and transfer of a meat-export slaughterhouse license.

7. (1.) No license under the principal Act shall be granted, renewed, or transferred in respect of any meat-export slaughterhouse without the consent of the Minister of Agriculture.

(2.) Without in any manner restricting the discretionary power conferred on the Minister by the principal Act, he may refuse his consent under this section if he is of opinion, on such grounds as in his discretion he deems sufficient, that the business of the meat-export slaughterhouse has been carried on, or is about to be carried on, in a manner contrary to the public interest. 35