

SECRET COMMISSIONS PREVENTION.

ANALYSIS.

Title.
1. Short Title.

2. Punishment of corrupt transactions with agents.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT for the Better Prevention of Corruption.

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 Secret Commissions Prevention Act, 1904." Short Title.

2. (1.) If any agent corruptly accepts or obtains, or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain, from any person, for himself or for any other person, any gift or consideration as an inducement or reward for doing or forbearing to do, or for having done or forborne to do, any act in relation to his principal's affairs or business, or for showing or forbearing to show favour or disfavour to any person in relation to his principal's affairs or business; or if any person corruptly gives or agrees to give, or offers any gift or consideration to any agent as an inducement or reward for doing or forbearing to do, or for having done or forborne to do, any act in relation to his principal's affairs or business, or for showing or forbearing to show favour or disfavour to any person in relation to his principal's affairs or business; or if any person knowingly gives to any agent, or if any agent knowingly uses with intent to deceive his principal, any receipt, account, or other document in respect of which the principal is interested, and which contains any statement which is false or erroneous or defective in any material particular, and which to his knowledge is intended to mislead the principal, he shall be guilty of an offence, and shall be liable on conviction on indictment to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding *two* years, or to a fine not exceeding *five hundred* pounds, or to both such imprisonment and such fine, or on summary conviction to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding *four* months, or to a fine not exceeding *fifty* pounds, or to both such imprisonment and such fine. Punishment of corrupt transactions with agents.

(2.) For the purposes of this Act the expression "consideration" includes valuable consideration of any kind; the expression "agent" includes any person employed by or acting for or being trustee for another; and the expression "principal" includes an employer or beneficiary under any trust.

(3.) A person serving under the Crown is an agent within the meaning of this Act.