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TRADING-COUPONS BILL.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM.

THIS Bill deals only with the issue and redemption of trading-coupons in connection with the sale and purchase of goods, and, in particular, does not deal with the practice adopted by some traders of making so-called "gifts" of other articles to purchasers of their goods.

With respect to trading-coupons, the Bill provides as follows :—

- (1) It prohibits their issue after the passing of the Act by any persons other than the manufacturers, packers, importers, distributors, and sellers of goods.
- (2) It provides that after the 30th April, 1932, trading-coupons shall be redeemable only for money. Up to that date (unless their issue was in contravention of the Trading-stamps Prohibition and Discount-stamps Issue Act, 1908) trading-coupons may be redeemed in accordance with the terms of their issue.
- (3) It restricts their redemption after that date to the issuer of the coupons and to the seller of the goods.

It is proposed to repeal the Trading-stamps Prohibition and Discount-stamps Issue Act, 1908. So far as trading-stamps and trading-stamp companies are concerned, the restrictions imposed by the Bill cover the restrictions imposed by the Act now proposed to be repealed; the provisions of that Act authorizing the issue of discount-stamps have not been availed of to any considerable extent, and it is considered that no good purpose is served by their retention on the statute-book.

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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
22nd October, 1931.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton.

TRADING-COUPONS.

ANALYSIS.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title. 1. Short Title. 2. Interpretation. 3. Right to issue trading-coupons restricted. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Redemption of trading-coupons. 5. Offences. 6. Penalty for offences. 7. Prosecutions to be with consent of Minister. 8. Repeal. |
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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to restrict the Issue of Trading-coupons.

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 Trading-coupons Act, 1931.

Short Title.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

Interpretation.

“Minister” means the Minister of Industries and Commerce :

“Trading-coupon” includes any coupon, stamp, token, cover, package, document, or other thing issued for delivery, either directly or indirectly, to the user of any goods which, by itself or with any other trading-coupon or trading-coupons, or with any other act or thing, entitles or purports to entitle the holder thereof to receive in respect of the purchase of such goods any discount or any other gift, allowance, concession, or benefit of any kind whatsoever :

“Seller”, in relation to any goods, means the person by whom such goods are sold to the user :

“User”, in relation to any goods, means the purchaser of such goods for any purpose other than resale.

3. Every person is guilty of an offence against this Act who, not being the manufacturer, packer, importer, distributor, or seller of any goods, issues, after the passing of this Act, any trading-coupon in connection with the sale or purchase of such goods.

Right to issue trading-coupons restricted.

4. (1) Any trading-coupon (not being a trading-coupon issued in contravention of the last preceding section or a trading-stamp issued in contravention of the Trading-stamps Prohibition and Discount-stamps Issue Act, 1908) may be redeemed on or before the thirtieth day of April, nineteen hundred and thirty-two, in accordance with the terms appearing thereon or otherwise applicable thereto, but shall not be redeemed after that date otherwise than for money.

Redemption of trading-coupons.

(2) Any trading-coupons issued by the manufacturer, packer, importer, distributor, or seller of any goods, whether so issued before or after the passing of this Act, shall, notwithstanding anything to the contrary appearing on such trading-coupons or included in any conditions relating to the issue thereof, be redeemable after the *thirtieth* 5 day of April, nineteen hundred and thirty-two, only as follows:—

(a) Trading-coupons issued by the manufacturer, packer, importer, or distributor of any goods may be redeemed by the issuer thereof or by his agent authorized in that behalf (not being in any case the seller of such goods), but by no other person, 10 and if so redeemed shall be redeemed unconditionally and only for money.

(b) Trading-coupons issued by the seller of any goods may be redeemed by the seller, but by no other person, and if so redeemed shall be redeemed unconditionally and only for 15 money.

Offences

5. Every person is guilty of an offence against this Act who redeems any trading-coupon issued in contravention of section *three* hereof, or who redeems any other trading-coupon otherwise than in conformity with the provisions of the *last preceding* section. 20

Penalty for offences.

6. Every person who is guilty of an offence against this Act shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of *two hundred* pounds.

Prosecutions to be with consent of Minister.

7. No prosecution shall be commenced in respect of any offence against this Act except with the consent of the Minister.

Repeal.

8. The Trading-stamps Prohibition and Discount-stamps Issue Act, 25 1908, is hereby repealed.