

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,
8th July, 1898.*

Rt. Hon. R. J. Seddon.

[AS AMENDED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.]

WAGES PROTECTION.

ANALYSIS.

Title.	
Preamble.	
1. Short Title.	4. Moneys so received or deducted may be recovered.
2. Interpretation.	5. Consent of worker no defence.
3. No money to be received or deducted from wages for accident insurance policies.	6. Section 6 of "The Truck Act, 1891," amended.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to better secure to Workers the Payment in full of their Title.
Wages.

WHEREAS there has lately grown up amongst certain employers a Preamble.
5 practice of taking out accident insurance policies, to insure their workmen against accident and themselves against liability under the Employers' Liability Acts, and of compelling or inducing their workmen to contribute, as premium for such insurance, sums at a rate proportionate to their wages: And whereas such practice is oppressive, and it is expedient to prevent the same: And whereas it is
10 also expedient to make other provisions for the protection of wages:

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

15 1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Wages Protection Act, 1898," and it shall form part of and be read together with "The Truck Act, 1891" (hereinafter called "the principal Act"). Short Title.

20 2. In this Act, if not inconsistent with the context,— Interpretation.
"Employer" means any person, company, or local authority, employing any worker for hire or reward to perform any kind of skilled or unskilled manual labour, and includes "employer" as defined by the principal Act:

25 "Employers' Liability Acts" means "The Employers' Liability Act, 1882," and includes any other Act now or hereafter in operation under which the employer is liable to pay compensation or damages in respect of personal injury to the worker by accident arising out of and in the course of the worker's employment:

30 "Worker" means any person of any age or either sex employed for hire or reward to perform any kind of skilled or unskilled manual labour, and includes "workman," as defined by the principal Act.

when communicated to him, he may submit himself for examination to one of the medical practitioners appointed by the Governor for the purposes of this Act, and the certificate of that medical practitioner as to the condition of the worker at the time of the examination shall be given to the employer and worker, and shall be conclusive evidence of that condition.

Sec. (12).

8. If the worker refuses to submit himself to such examination, or in any way obstructs the same, his right to such weekly payments shall be suspended until such examination takes place.

Sec. (13).

9. Any weekly payment may be reviewed at the request either of the employer or of the worker, and, on such review, may be ended, diminished, or increased, subject to the maximum above provided.

10. Where any weekly payment has been continued for not less than six months, the liability therefor may, on the application by or on behalf of the employer, be redeemed by the payment of a lump sum to be agreed on by the parties, or in default of agreement; to be determined as an industrial dispute under the Industrial Arbitration Act, and such lump sum may be ordered to be invested or otherwise applied as above mentioned.

Sec. (14).

11. No money paid or payable in respect of compensation under this Act shall be capable of being assigned, charged, taken in execution, or attached, nor shall the same pass to any other person by operation of law, nor shall any claim be set off against the same.

SECOND SCHEDULE.

ENACTMENTS REPEALED.

1891, No. 33.—“The Mining Act, 1891.” In part—namely, sections 333 and 334.

1891, No. 46.—“The Coal-mines Act, 1891.” In part—namely, sections 52 and 53.