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GEORGII VI REGIS.

A.D. 1945.

No. 13 of 1945.

An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1931-1944.

[Assented to 15th November, 1945.]

BE IT ENACTED by the Governor of the State of South Australia, with the advice and consent of the Parliament thereof, as follows:

Short titles.

- 1. (1) This Act may be cited as the "Vermin Act Amendment Act, 1945".
- (2) The Vermin Act, 1931-1944, as amended by this Act, may be cited as the "Vermin Act, 1931-1945".
- (3) The Vermin Act, 1931-1944, is hereinafter referred to as "the principal Act".

Enactment of s. 22a of principal Act and consequential amendments of principal Act— Provision for

Provision for destruction of rabbit warrens.

- 2. (1) The following section is enacted and inserted in the principal Act after section 22 thereof:—
 - 22a. (1) When an authorized person finds any rabbit burrows upon any land (not being Crown lands) he may, by notice in writing, require the owner or occupier of the land within the time specified in the notice to fill in or destroy by any other means the burrows upon the said land, and upon the half-width of all roads adjoining the same.
 - (2) The said notice may be in the form No. 2 in the fifth schedule.
- (2) Section 22 of the principal Act is amended by inserting after the word "form" in the penultimate line thereof the passage "No. 1".

- (3) Section 23 of the principal Act is amended—
 - (a) by inserting after subsection (1) thereof the following subsection:—
 - (1a) The owner or occupier of any land upon whom notice is served pursuant to section 22a who does not comply with the requirements of that notice within the time specified in that notice, shall be liable to a penalty for a first offence of not less than two pounds nor more than five pounds, and for a second offence of not less than five pounds nor more than twenty pounds and for any subsequent offence of not less than twenty pounds nor more than fifty pounds: Provided that under this section it shall be a defence for a person to whom notice has been given to show that owing to the physical features of his land it is not practicable to comply with such notice;
 - (b) by striking out the passage "and No. 2" in the third line of subsection (2) thereof and by inserting in lieu thereof the passage "No. 2, or No. 2a".
- (4) Section 25 of the principal Act is amended—
 - (a) by inserting after the passage "section 22" in the second line thereof the passage "or section 22a";
 - (b) by inserting after the word "notice" in the last line of paragraph (b) thereof the words "or, as the case may be, to fill in or otherwise destroy rabbit burrows upon the land and roads or parts of roads mentioned in the notice";
 - (c) by inserting after the word "vermin" in the last line thereof "or, as the case may be, filling in or otherwise destroying the rabbit burrows".
- (5) The fifth schedule to the principal Act is amended—
 - (a) by inserting at the head of the form therein contained the heading "Form No. 1";
 - (b) by adding at the end thereof the following form :—

FORM No. 2. Vermin Act, 1931. Section 22a.

Notice to Destroy Rabbit Burrows.

To Mr. [Name of owner or occupier] of [his address and occupation]

Take notice that I, the undersigned, being an authorized person under the above Act, do hereby pursuant to the

provisions of the said Act, require you within [here specify time within which notice is to be complied with] from the service of this notice upon you to fill in or otherwise destroy all rabbit burrows upon the land occupied by you in [hundred or other locality of land] being [numbers of sections or other description of land] containing [area in acres or square miles], [if necessary add and also upon the half width of all roads adjoining the said land or any part thereof].

Dated this

day of

19

[Signature.]

Every notice under this Act is deemed to have been duly served upon the owner or occupier if left at his usual or last known place of abode in the State.

On neglect or failure to comply with this notice, the rabbit burrows upon the land and roads (if any) therein referred to will be filled in or otherwise destroyed by the [District Council, Vermin Board, Associated Board, or Minister of Lands, as the case may be], at the expense of the owner or occupier.

(6) The sixth schedule to the principal Act is amended by inserting therein after paragraph No. 2 therein the following form:—

Section 23.

FORM No. 2A.

Complaint.

South [Royal Arms] Australia.

(To wit.)

The complaint of

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an authorized person within the meaning of Part II. of the Vermin Act, 1931, taken this day of

Justice of the Peace in and for the State of South Australia, [upon oath or affirmation] states that

of being the owner [or occupier as the case may be] of certain land, namely [here sufficiently describe the land] did not after service of a notice under section 22a of the said Act and within the time specified in that notice, fill in or otherwise destroy all rabbit

burrows on the said land [if necessary, and upon the half width of all roads adjoining the same contrary to the provisions of the Vermin Act, 1931.

Taken [and sworn or affirmed] before me, the day and year abovementioned, at in the said State.

Justice of the Peace.

3. Section 120 of the principal Act is amended so as to read principal Act, follows:—

Amendment of principal Act, s. 120 as follows:-

120. The board shall not in any financial year expend expenditure for salaries payable to the secretary or any clerical officer, or for fees payable to the secretary, any clerical officer or the auditors, or for printing, advertising, stationery or office expenses a total amount which exceeds either seventy-five pounds or, if seventy-five pounds is less than an amount equivalent to the amount which would be derived from a rate of two shillings per square mile declared upon all the ratable property within the district, the amount which would be so derived.

4. The following section is enacted and inserted in Division Enactment of X. of Part III. of the principal Act after section 136 thereof:

136a. If any loan has been made to a board under Power to remit this Act or any repealed Act and if the Treasurer is satisfied that the amounts required to be paid in repayment of the principal or as interest upon the loan are such as to be unduly onerous upon ratepayers within the district of the board and are such as to retard the proper management for pastoral purposes of the land of the ratepayers, the Treasurer, upon the recommendation of the bank and the Pastoral Board, may do all or any of the following:-

- (a) remit in respect of such period as he directs the whole or any portion of any interest due and payable upon the loan:
- (b) direct that in respect of such period as he directs the whole or any portion of any interest to become due and payable upon the loan shall not be payable:
- (c) remit the whole or any part of the principal of the loan:

(d) postpone for such period as he directs the payment of the whole or any part of any instalment payable in respect of the loan.

Amendment of principal Act, s. 234—

Importation of vermin into Kangaroo Island or other islands.

- 5. Section 234 of the principal Act is amended—
 - (a) by striking out the word "one" in the eighth line thereof and by inserting in lieu thereof the word "five"; and
 - (b) by adding at the end thereof the following passage:—

 In this section, "vermin", in addition to having the meaning given thereto by section 4, includes hares.

Amendment of principal Act,

6. (1) Section 4 of the principal Act is amended—

Change of title of Minister.

the second

- (a) by striking out the definition of "Commissioner" therein;
- (b) by inserting therein after the definition of "member" the following definition:

 "Minister" means the Minister of Lands:
- (2) The principal Act is amended by striking out the words "Commissioner of Crown Lands" wherever they occur and by inserting in lieu thereof in every case the words "Minister of Lands".
- (3) The principal Act is amended by striking out the word "Commissioner" wherever it occurs (except in subsection (3) of section 40) and by inserting in lieu thereof in every case the word "Minister".

In the name and on behalf of His Majesty, I hereby assent to this Bill.

C. W. M. NORRIE, Governor.