

Ambulance Transport Service (Amendment) Bill, 1924.

EXPLANATORY NOTE.

THIS Bill amends the Ambulance Transport Service Act, 1919 (Act No. 5 of 1919), in several particulars, and is a Bill introduced at the instance of the Voluntary Board who have been administering the Act since it came into operation.

The principal amendments included in the Bill are :—

- (1) The addition to the Board of two direct representatives of the New South Wales District of Saint John Ambulance Brigade (Overseas), the organisation which is principally concerned with the administration of first-aid work (other than transport), and one elected representative from the Saint John Ambulance Association, New South Wales centre, which association is concerned with the teaching of ambulance and first-aid work.
- (2) An alteration in the provision as to the Central District. In the Act the Metropolitan Traffic Area is fixed as the Central District. It has been found that this would be too large an area, and would interfere too much with existing organisations which have been energetically and successfully carried on within that area ; and it is thought by the Board that better results can be obtained by smaller districts serving particular areas and operating in connection with various local bodies, a general supervisory control being reposed in the Board.
- (3) Provision for the nomination of "contributors" by the parties to industrial contribution schemes and by the promoters of undertakings for raising funds.
- (4) The omission of section twenty of the Act, which provides for a levy on the funds of each district of 10 per cent. This has been found to be impracticable.
- (5) The better control of collections for ambulance purposes. It has been reported that in certain cases doubt exists as to whether funds collected have been applied to the purposes for which they were collected. Moreover, certain cases of fraudulent collections by unauthorised persons have been from time to time reported to the Board.
- (6) The prevention of the carrying on of ambulance services for gain except in cases sanctioned by the Board.

The Bill also validates the reappointment from time to time of the first Board by the Governor for further terms, as it was considered that until this Bill is law the Act would not satisfactorily carry out the objects for which it was passed, and continues the Board in office until six months after the passing of the Bill, that the necessary arrangements for the election of the new Board may be made.

No. , 1924.

A BILL

To amend the Ambulance Transport Service Act, 1919, and certain other Acts; to validate the reappointment of the board by the Governor and their transactions; and for purposes connected therewith.

[MR. OAKES;—6 August, 1924.]

BE it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the "Ambulance Transport Service (Amendment) Act, 1924," and shall be read and construed with the Ambulance Transport Service Act, 1919, hereinafter referred to as the Principal Act.

Validation of
thereappoint-
ment of the
board.

2. (1) The reappointment by the Governor from time to time for further terms of the members of the board holding office prior to the twenty-fourth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three, is hereby validated; all transactions and proceedings of the board subsequent to the said day shall be deemed to be as valid and effectual as if the board had been duly appointed or elected. 5

(2) The members of the board holding office at the date of the commencement of this Act shall continue to hold office for a period of six months thereafter; and shall if otherwise qualified be eligible for reappointment or election. 10

Amendment
of Act No. 5,
1919.
Sec. 2.

3. The Principal Act is amended—

(a) by omitting from section two the definition of "contributor"; 15

(b) by inserting in the same section after the definition of "district committee" the following definition:—

"Industrial contribution scheme" means a scheme agreed upon by any employer and his employees, and approved by the district committee, and which has for its object the making of contributions to the funds of the district committee. 25

(c) by inserting in the same section after the definition of "life member" the following definition:—

"Public appeal" means any appeal made to the general public or to public bodies, business firms, or private individuals, whether by writing or through the press or by personal canvassing, and includes the raising of funds by means of art unions, carnivals, bazaars, or fancy fairs. 35

Sec. 5.

(d) by adding at the end of section five the following new paragraphs:—

(d) the officer-in-charge of the New South Wales District of the Saint John Ambulance Brigade (Overseas) and one member 40

member of the district staff of such brigade to be nominated by such officer-in-charge ;

- 5 (e) one member to be elected, as prescribed by the Saint John Ambulance Association, New South Wales centre.

- 10 (e) by omitting from section twelve all words following the words "Central District" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "and shall include within its area the City of Sydney. Sub-districts may be established with the sanction of the board and attached to any district. A sub-district shall be controlled and managed in the manner prescribed."

- 15 (f) by adding the following new sections after section fourteen :— New sections 14A and 14B.

14A. The following persons shall be contributors within the meaning of this Act :— Contributors.

- 20 (1) A life member, as and from the first day of July next following the date upon which he becomes a life member.
- (2) Any person who in any year between the first day of July and the thirtieth day of June next following has contributed to the funds of the board or of a district committee a sum of not less than ten shillings.

25 Such person shall be deemed to be a contributor as and from the first day of July next following the last-mentioned date, and for a period of twelve months thereafter.

- 30 (3) Any person nominated in the manner prescribed by the parties to any industrial contribution scheme or by the promoters of any undertaking for raising funds for the board or for a district committee.

35 Nominations may be made only in respect of sums contributed in any year between the first day of July and the thirtieth day of June next

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next following. They shall be made prior to the last-mentioned date and in accordance with the following provisions:—

- (a) Where the sum contributed exceeds ten pounds, and does not exceed fifty pounds, 5 one person may be nominated.
- (b) Where the sum contributed exceeds fifty pounds, but does not exceed one hundred pounds, two persons may be nominated. 10
- (c) Where the sum contributed exceeds one hundred pounds, but does not exceed two hundred pounds, three persons may be nominated.
- (d) For every one hundred pounds, or part 15 thereof in excess of two hundred pounds contributed, one additional person may be nominated.

Any person so nominated shall be deemed to be a contributor as and from the first day of 20 July next following the date of his nomination, and for a period of twelve months thereafter.

14B. The provisions of the Truck Act, 1900, or of section forty-nine of the Industrial Arbitration Act, 1912, or of any Act amending 25 or replacing those provisions shall not apply in respect of deductions from the remuneration of an employee made under any industrial contribution scheme.

Truck Act,
1900, and
s. 49 of
Industrial
Arbitration
Act, 1912,
not to apply
to deductions.

Sec. 16.

- (g) by omitting section sixteen and inserting the 30 following section in lieu thereof:—

16. (1) Any real or personal property which is at the commencement of the Ambulance Transport Service (Amendment) Act, 1924, vested in or held by any person for or on behalf 35 of any of the ambulance brigades mentioned in section four of this Act, or for ambulance transport purposes, is hereby vested in the board.

Vesting of
property in
board.

(2)

5 (2) Any real or personal property which after the commencement of the Ambulance Transport Service (Amendment) Act, 1924, is acquired by a district committee, or by any person, and held in trust for or on behalf of a district committee or for ambulance transport or first aid purposes, shall, if the board so requires, be forthwith assured to and vested in the board or as the board may direct.

10 (3) Upon the appointment and delimitation of a district in pursuance of section twelve of this Act, and thereafter from time to time, the board may set apart any portion of the property vested in it under this section for the use of that district. Such property shall be under the control and management of the district committee.

15 (4) The board may, upon the request of any district committee, mortgage the whole or any part of the property set apart as aforesaid for the use of such district, and pay the money so raised to the district committee.

20 (h) by omitting from section nineteen the words "subject to the next succeeding section"; Sec. 19.

25 (i) by omitting section twenty; Sec. 20.

(j) by omitting at the end of section twenty-one the words "transport work" and inserting in lieu thereof the following:— Sec. 21.

30 (a) Transport work.

(b) The collection of funds by public appeal, unless with the previous sanction of the board.

35 (c) The opening or carrying on of first-aid stations in any district appointed and delimited by the board.

(k) by inserting after section twenty-one the following new sections:— New sections 21A, 21B, 21C.

40 21A. It shall be unlawful for any person to collect funds by public appeal for any ambulance, ambulance transport, first aid, or teaching of first aid purposes, except with the sanction of the board. Collection of funds without sanction of board.

Using ambulance vehicle without sanction of board.

21B. It shall be unlawful for any person to conduct a public ambulance transport service for gain in any area which has not been appointed and delimited as a district, except with the sanction of the board.

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Offences and penalties.

21C. Any person who commits a breach of any of the provisions of the last three preceding sections shall be guilty of an offence, and shall upon conviction before a police or stipendiary magistrate, or two or more justices of the peace, be liable to a penalty not exceeding *fifty* pounds.

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Sec. 22.

(1) by inserting in subsection one of section twenty-two the following new paragraph next before paragraph (i) :—

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(h1) for regulating and controlling, either generally or in respect of particular districts, the collection of contributions under an industrial contribution scheme.