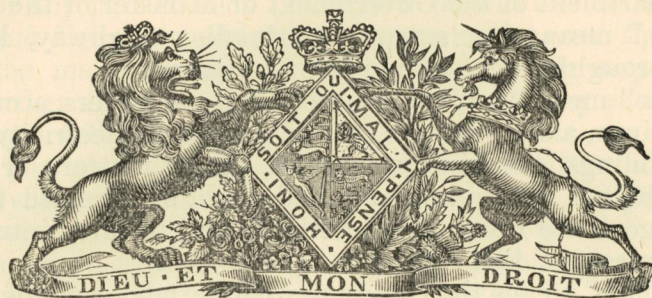


New South Wales.



ANNO SEXAGESIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. XXIII.

An Act to enable the Municipal Council of Sydney to light the streets also public and private places of the City of Sydney with the Electric Light, and also places outside the said city, and to exercise all powers necessary for such purposes, and for the generating and supply of electric power, and for the above purposes to raise by debentures the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds. [Assented to, 26th October, 1896.]

BE it enacted by the Queen'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 "Municipal Council of Sydney Short title.
Electric Lighting Act."

2. In this Act unless the context otherwise requires, the Interpretation.
expression

"Council" means the Municipal Council of Sydney.

"Electricity" means electricity, electric current, or any like agency.

"Electric line" means a wire or wires, conductor, or other means used or intended to be used for the purpose of applying, conveying, transmitting, or distributing electricity, and any casing,

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casing, coating, tube, pipe, or insulator wholly or partly enclosing, surrounding, or supporting the same or any part thereof, or any apparatus connected therewith for the purpose of conveying, transmitting, or distributing electricity.

“Private purposes” means any purposes whatever to which electricity may for the time being be applicable (not being public purposes) except the transmission of any telegram or telephonic message.

“Public purposes” means lighting any place or building belonging to or subject to the control of the Council or any street.

“Public work” means any work carried out by or under the supervision of or on account of the Government or any department of the Government or Minister of the Crown.

“Street” means any square, court, alley, highway, lane, road, thoroughfare or public place or passage.

“Works” means and includes electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, and apparatus for the supply of electricity, also any buildings, machinery, engines, plant, matters, or things of whatever description required, used, or intended to be used, to generate or supply electricity, and to carry into effect the purposes of this Act.

“Governor” means the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council.

Council may supply electricity.

3. It shall be lawful for the Council to generate and supply electricity for any public or private purposes, or for any public purposes, and any private purposes within the limits of the city of Sydney: Provided that electricity may be supplied outside the said limits in manner hereinafter set forth.

General powers of Council.

4. The Council, for the purpose of generating and supplying electricity, may use all or any lands now vested in them for any purpose, and may purchase, lease, acquire, and hold all other lands, and construct, purchase, and acquire all works, and purchase and acquire all interests in and licenses for the use of any patented or protected processes, inventions, machinery, apparatus, methods, and other things, and enter into all contracts, appoint officers and servants, and generally do all acts and things which they may deem necessary or desirable for the purpose of such generation and supply.

Power to sell, exchange, or lease lands.

5. It shall be lawful, with the approval of the Governor, for the Council to sell or exchange any lands acquired under the authority of this Act, or to lease the same upon such terms and conditions as to the Council may seem meet.

Corporate funds may be used for preliminary expenses.

6. The Council may use the ordinary corporate funds for the purpose of obtaining plans, estimates, or reports as to the cost of purchasing, leasing, acquiring, and constructing works for the generation and supply of electricity, and for the purpose of defraying the expenses incurred in connection with the preparation and introduction of the Bill for this Act: Provided that in the event of such works being proceeded with such preliminary expenditure shall be charged to a special account of the Council to be called the electric light account.

Special loans for works, &c.

7. The Council may for the purpose of constructing, purchasing, or acquiring works for the generation and supply of electricity, and otherwise for carrying out the purposes of this Act, borrow moneys by way of special loan in manner hereinafter provided, namely:—

Municipal Council empowered to borrow £250,000 for electric lighting and other purposes.

(1) It shall be lawful for the Council to borrow in manner hereinafter provided, and subject to the conditions hereinafter prescribed, a sum of money not exceeding two hundred and fifty thousand pounds, and all sums lawfully borrowed under this Act shall be deemed to be secured upon the corporate rates and revenues of the said Council from whatsoever source arising,

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arising, and shall be expended for the purpose of this Act and for no other purpose whatever. And the following conditions, qualifications, and provisions shall regulate the borrowing of money and the issue of debentures under this Act.

- (II) All moneys borrowed by the Council shall be raised by the sale of debentures to be issued in such series and at such times and in such manner as the Council shall think fit, and all such debentures shall have a currency not exceeding twenty-five years, and shall bear interest at a rate not exceeding four pounds per centum per annum, and shall be in the form in the Schedule hereto, and at the expiration of the said term of twenty-five years it shall be lawful for the Council to issue new debentures to retire or repay the said debentures or any part thereof (such new debentures to be numbered and distinguished in like manner as the ones then due), and the mayor of Sydney for the time being may fix the price either at above or below par, at which any such original or new debentures may be sold.
- (III) The said debentures may be issued either in London or Sydney, or partly in London and partly in Sydney, and the principal sum secured thereby shall be the sum of one hundred pounds or any less sum, such less sum to be ten pounds or some multiple of ten pounds.
- (IV) Every such series of debentures shall be numbered in regular ascending arithmetical progression, commencing with number one, whereof the common difference shall be one, and shall have annexed for every payment of interest to grow due thereon a coupon bearing the same number as the debenture. The series of debentures for one hundred pounds (and coupons) shall be distinguished by the letter A; that for ninety pounds by the letter B; that for eighty pounds by the letter C; that for seventy pounds by the letter D; that for sixty pounds by the letter E; that for fifty pounds by the letter F; that for forty pounds by the letter G; that for thirty pounds by the letter H; that for twenty pounds by the letter J; and that for ten pounds by the letter K.
- (V) Every such debenture shall name the principal sum secured thereby, the rate at which interest is payable thereon, and the time and place where such principal and interest are payable. And every such debenture shall be under the corporate seal of the Council, and be signed by the mayor and town clerk, and shall bear date on the day on which it is sealed, and shall be deemed to have been duly issued, and the holder thereof shall not be bound to inquire whether such issue was in fact duly authorised.
- (VI) Every such debenture, and any coupon, whether annexed thereto or not, may be transferred by simple delivery.
- (VII) If the said debentures are issued partly in Sydney and partly in London, a register shall be kept at the City Treasurer's Office, Town Hall, Sydney, and in London, which registers shall contain particulars showing the series, progressive number, amount, date, place of issue, and place of payment of principal and interest of every debenture issued under the authority of this Act. The said registers shall be open for inspection at all reasonable times by every holder of debentures issued hereunder or his agent or attorney.

8. The Council may discharge the whole or any of the said debentures at any time after the expiration of ten years from the date of such debentures by payment of the principal sums owing thereon respectively, Council may redeem debentures before due date.

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respectively, and interest up to and including the current half-year or at any earlier time with the consent of the holders of debentures willing to receive payment for same.

Payment of
debentures and
interest.

9. The holder of any debenture issued under the provisions of this Act shall be entitled to receive payment from the Council of the principal sum named therein upon presentation of such debenture on or after the due date thereof at the place where the same is expressed to be made payable. And the holder of any coupon originally annexed to a debenture, and whether separated therefrom or not, shall be entitled to receive payment in like manner of the interest mentioned in such coupon upon presentation of the same at the place where and on or after the date when interest is payable.

Provisions on default
of payment by
Council.

10. If default shall be made by the Council in making any payment, whether of principal or interest to the holder of any such debenture or coupon, the following provisions shall take effect, viz:—

- (I) The holder of such debenture or coupon shall have full power to make all necessary applications to, and to procure all necessary orders and directions from, the Supreme Court for and touching the appointment of a receiver, and the said Court shall have power to make all such orders for the appointment of a receiver, or for his removal and the appointment of another in his place as may be necessary, and to make any orders, and give any directions which the said Court may think proper. And such receiver shall be deemed to be an officer, and shall act under the direction of the Supreme Court.
- (II) Such receiver shall have power to make, levy, and collect all rates and revenues whatsoever payable to the Council for or in respect of which he shall have been appointed receiver, but the rates so to be made and levied shall not exceed the maximum limits permitted under the provisions of the law in force for the time being. And for such purposes such receiver shall be deemed the Municipal Council of Sydney, and may exercise all the powers thereof.
- (III) Such receiver shall be entitled to such commission, payable out of the city rates, as remuneration for his services as the Supreme Court may appoint.
- (IV) Such receiver shall subject to any order of the Supreme Court, pay over all moneys received by him to such holder, and if there be any balance in hand over and above the amount due, and payable to him under the provisions of this Act, the receiver shall pay such balance over to the Council.

Sinking fund to be
established to pay off
loan.

11. A sinking fund for the repayment of the principal sums borrowed under the authority of this Act and of the interest due on debentures issued thereunder shall, subject to conditions to be approved by the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council, be established by the said Council before they shall proceed to exercise the borrowing powers conferred by this Act; and in each and every year (commencing with the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven) during the currency of such debentures the Council shall pay into such sinking fund a sum of one pound for every one hundred pounds borrowed under the authority of this Act; and the sum so to be paid shall be invested in the purchase of Government securities or debentures, or securities of the said Council, or debentures or securities of any Municipality or Borough in the Colony of New South Wales, or of such other securities as the Governor by writing under his hand shall approve; and the produce of all such investments shall be reinvested in like manner. The Council may at any time after the expiration of ten years from the date of the said debentures or at any earlier

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earlier time, with the consent of holders of debentures willing to receive payment for same, apply the whole or any part of such sinking fund in or towards the discharge of any moneys borrowed under this Act, but they shall in every such case recoup the fund by paying into it half-yearly a sum equal to the interest which any sum so applied would have produced if left invested; if in any such year, as aforesaid, after the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, the Council shall not, within seven days after notice in that behalf under the hand of the Colonial Treasurer shall have been given to the town clerk, show to the satisfaction of the treasurer or an officer to be appointed by him that the annual payments and investments required by this Act for the formation of the said sinking fund have been duly complied with, it shall be lawful for the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, to apply to the Supreme Court for the appointment of a receiver of the rates and other revenue of the said Council, and in such case the said Court and the receiver so to be appointed shall have all such powers, *mutatis mutandis*, as are hereinbefore provided for the benefit of holders of unpaid debentures.

12. For all or any of the purposes aforesaid the Council may, ^{Electric light rate.} on the assessment made under the "Sydney Corporation Act of 1879" cause such lighting rate to be raised as to them may seem proper, not exceeding threepence in the pound upon the said assessment, and such rate shall be payable and recoverable at like time and place and in like manner as provided with regard to the city rate by the said Act.

13. A separate account to be called the "electric light account" ^{Separate account to be kept.} shall be kept of all moneys received from such lighting rate, and in respect of the supply of electricity and otherwise in pursuance of this Act, all which money shall be charged as follows:—

- (I) With the cost of maintaining the works in good repair, and all the expenses connected with generating and supplying electricity as herein provided and otherwise arising under this Act.
- (II) With such sums (to be transferred to an interest and sinking fund account) as shall be sufficient to satisfy the interest payable on any loan raised under the authority of this Act, and to meet the payments to the sinking fund hereinbefore provided.

14. The Council may open and break up the soil and pavement ^{Power to break up streets, and to open drains.} of any street, and open and break up any sewers, drains, or tunnels within or under such streets; and may construct subways and drains; and may lay down and place under or over any street any electric lines; and from time to time repair, alter, or remove the same; and for the purposes aforesaid may remove and use all earth and materials in and under such streets; and may in any such street erect any posts, pillars, standards, lamps, and other works, and do all other acts which they may from time to time reasonably deem necessary for supplying electricity; and may lay any electric line, branch, or other apparatus from any main or branch electric line into, through, or against any place or building for the purpose of lighting the same; and provide and set up any works in their opinion necessary for securing thereto a complete supply of electricity; and for measuring and ascertaining the extent of such supply: Provided that nothing herein shall authorise or empower the Council to construct or place any works into, through, against, or in any place, building, or land not dedicated to public use without the consent of the owners and occupiers thereof, except that the Council may at any time make entry, and construct and place any new works instead of such works as shall have been lawfully constructed or placed, and may repair or alter any works so constructed or placed.

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Power to alter
position of pipes,
wires, &c.

15. Subject to the provisions of this Act—
- (i) The Council may alter the position of any pipes, wires, sewers, drains, or tunnels being made under any street or place which may interfere with the exercise of their powers under this Act on previously making or securing such compensation to the owners of such pipes, wires, sewers, drains, or tunnels, and on complying with such conditions as to the mode of making such alterations as may before the commencement of such alterations be agreed upon between the Council and such owners, or in case of difference as may be determined by arbitration.
 - (ii) Any person or public authority lawfully competent so to do may in like manner alter the position of any works of the Council being under or over any such street or place as aforesaid which may interfere with the lawful exercise of any powers vested in such person or authority in relation to such street or place, subject to the like provisions, conditions, and restrictions as are in the first subsection of this section contained.

Streets, &c., to be
reinstated.

16. When the Council opens or breaks up the road or pavement of any street, or any sewer, drain, or tunnel, they shall with all possible speed complete the work for which the same shall have been opened or broken up, and fill in the ground and reinstate and make good the road or pavement, or the sewer, drain, or tunnel so opened or broken up, and carry away the rubbish occasioned thereby, and shall at all times whilst any such road or pavement shall be so opened or broken up cause the same to be fenced and guarded, and shall at night time cause a light sufficient for the warning of passengers to be set up and maintained against or near such road or pavement where the same shall be open or broken up.

Protection to tele-
graph and telephone
lines and other
public works.

17. The Council shall not, in the exercise of the powers conferred by this Act, construct, lay down, or place any works for the supply of electricity whereby any public telegraph or telephone line or other public work is, or may be injuriously affected. And the Council and its agents shall conform with such reasonable requirements, either general or special, as may from time to time be made by the Postmaster-General or Secretary for Public Works for the purpose of preventing any such telegraph or telephone line or other public work from being injuriously affected by the works of the Council, and on failure to conform with the said requirements or any of them, the Postmaster-General or Secretary for Public Works may forthwith remove any works of the Council for the supply of electricity by which any public telegraph or telephone line or other public work is or may be injuriously affected. Any difference which arises between the Postmaster-General or Secretary for Public Works and the Council or their agents with respect to any requirements so made shall be determined by arbitration. In the event of any contravention of this section by the Council or their agents the Council shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds for every day during which such contravention continues, or if the telegraphic or telephonic communication is wilfully interrupted not exceeding ten pounds for every day on which such interruption continues. For the purpose of this section a telegraph or telephone line or other public line shall be deemed to be injuriously affected if telegraphic or telephonic communication by means of such line, whether through induction or otherwise, is affected by any electric line or work of the Council, or by any use made of such electric line or work.

Notice of works with
plan to be served on
the Postmaster-
General.

18. One month at least before commencing the execution of any works which involve the placing of works in, under, along, or across any street, highway, or public bridge, on which any telegraph, telephone,

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telephone, or railway line may be (not being repairs to or renewals of then existing works of which the character and positions are not altered), the Council or its agents shall serve upon the Secretary for Public Works and Postmaster-General, the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, the Australian Gaslight Company, and such other person or corporation as the Secretary for Public Works may by writing under his hand addressed to the Council require to be notified, or leave at their respective offices addressed to them, notices describing the proposed works, and the gauge of any electric line and the current and potential to be carried, together with a plan of the proposed works showing the position of the said works and the mode in which the works are intended to be executed and the manner in which it is intended that the street, highway, or bridge shall be interfered with, and shall at the request of the Secretary for Public Works or Postmaster-General, made at any time, give them such further information with reference to the works as they may desire. If any works are commenced before the requirements of this section have been complied with, the Secretary for Public Works or Postmaster-General may cause the said works to be removed, and the Council shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds, which may be recovered before any stipendiary magistrate in a summary way.

19. In the exercise of its powers under this Act the Council shall cause as little detriment and inconvenience, and do as little damage as possible, and shall make full compensation to all persons for all damage sustained by them by reason or in consequence of the exercise of such powers, the amount of such compensation in case of difference to be determined by arbitration or action at law at the election of the party aggrieved: Provided that the Council may in all cases be at liberty to set up by way of defence or in mitigation of damages, as the case may be, that the person claiming compensation has by his own act, neglect, or default caused or contributed to the damages in respect of which he claims to be compensated. Compensation for damage.

20. The Governor may make regulations to be observed during the construction, alteration, repair or maintenance of works for securing the safety of persons and private or public property from injury from fire or otherwise, and may in those regulations impose any penalty not exceeding one hundred pounds for any breach of the same, which penalties may be recovered in a summary way before any stipendiary magistrate. Governor may make regulations for securing safety of public.

21. The Council may from time to time enter into any contract with any person for supplying with electricity any place or building, or for providing any person with electric lines, burners, meters, lamps, or other fittings and things, and for the repair thereof in such manner and upon such terms as to charges, place, and mode of payment and otherwise in security of the Council as shall be agreed upon. Power to contract for the supply of electricity and fittings.

22. The Council may let any meter for ascertaining the quantity of electricity consumed or supplied and any fittings thereto for such remuneration, and on such terms in respect of the repair of such meter and fittings, and for securing the safety and return thereof to the Council as may be agreed upon between the hirer and the Council, and such remuneration and other moneys payable under the terms agreed upon shall be recoverable in the same manner as charges due to the Council for electricity. Council may let meter.

23. The Council shall do all things reasonable to keep all meters on hire to any consumer in proper order for correctly registering the quantity of electricity supplied, and in default of the Council so doing the consumer shall not be liable to pay remuneration for the use of the same during such time as such default continues. Council to keep meters in repair.

24.

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Meter not to be interfered with and connections not to be made by unauthorised persons.

24. Every meter used for ascertaining the quantity of electricity supplied by the Council shall, during the continuance of such supply and until all charges in respect thereof have been paid, be under the sole control of the Council, whether such meter be the property of the Council or not, and no person shall be at liberty to cut, connect, tap, fix, alter, remove, or tamper with any electric line, lamp, meter, or fittings used in connection with the supply of electricity by the Council unless authorised in writing by the Council or its agents duly authorised in that behalf: Provided that nothing in this section shall affect the lawful exercise of any power in that behalf vested in any competent person or public authority.

Register of meter to be *prima facie* evidence.

25. The register of the meter used for ascertaining the quantity of electricity supplied by the Council shall be *prima facie* evidence of such quantity.

Council not to prescribe manner of using electricity.

26. The Council shall not be entitled to prescribe any special form of lamp or burner to be used by any person, or in any way to control or interfere with the manner in which electricity supplied by it in pursuance of this Act is used: Provided always that no person shall be at liberty to use any form of lamp or burner, or to use the electricity supplied to him for any purposes, or to deal with it in any manner so as to unduly or improperly interfere with the supply of electricity to any other person, and if any dispute or difference as to the matters aforesaid arises between the Council and any person entitled to be supplied with electricity in pursuance of this Act, such dispute or difference shall be determined by arbitration.

Obligation to supply electricity.

27. Where a supply of electricity is provided in any locality for private purposes, all persons within such locality shall on application be entitled to a supply on the same terms as the terms on which any other person in such locality is under similar circumstances entitled to a corresponding supply.

Power to cut off supply.

28. If any person neglect to pay any electric light rate, or any charge for electricity, or any other sum due to the Council in respect of or incidental to the supply of electricity to such person, the Council may without notice cut off his supply of electricity, and for that purpose may cut, disconnect, or remove any works, and may, until such charge or other sum, together with any expenses incurred by the Council in cutting off such supply of electricity as aforesaid is fully paid, but no longer, discontinue the supply of electricity to such person.

Injuring works with intent to cut off supply.

29. Any person who unlawfully and maliciously cuts or injures any electric line or work erected in pursuance of this Act, with intent to cut off any supply of electricity, shall be guilty of felony, and be liable to be kept in penal servitude for any term not exceeding three years, or to be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding one year, but nothing in this section shall exempt a person in respect of any offence which is punishable under any other provision of this Act, or under any other Act, or at common law, so that no person be punished twice for the same offence.

Stealing electricity.

30. Any person who maliciously or fraudulently abstracts, causes to be wasted or diverted, consumes, or uses any electricity provided in pursuance of this Act, shall be guilty of simple larceny and punishable accordingly.

Penalty for removing electric line, &c.

31. Any person who wilfully and unlawfully removes, destroys, or damages any electric line or any pillar, post, lamp, meter or other works connected with or relating to the supply of electricity by the Council in pursuance of this Act, or who wilfully and unlawfully extinguishes any of the public lamps or lights maintained by the Council in pursuance of this Act, or wastes, or wilfully and wrongfully uses any of the electricity supplied by the Council in pursuance of this Act shall for each such offence forfeit to the Council a sum not exceeding fifty pounds in addition to the amount of damage done.

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32. Any person who carelessly or accidentally breaks, throws down, or damages any electric line, or any pillar, post, lamp or other works belonging to the Council, or under their control, shall forfeit and pay such sum of money by way of satisfaction to the Council for the damage done not exceeding fifty pounds as a stipendiary magistrate shall think reasonable: Provided that this section shall not effect any other remedy.

Penalty for breaking electric line, &c.

33. Any person who wilfully or fraudulently, or by culpable negligence, injures or suffers to be injured, any electric line, or any meter, fittings, or works belonging to the Council, or alters the index to any meter, or prevents any meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied, or fraudulently abstracts, consumes, or uses electricity supplied by the Council, shall, without prejudice to any other right or remedy for the protection of the Council, or the punishment of the offender, for every such offence, forfeit to the Council a sum not exceeding twenty-five pounds in addition to the amount of damage.

Penalty for tampering with meter, &c.

34. In any case in which any person has been convicted of wilfully or fraudulently injuring, or suffering to be injured, any electric line, or any meter, fittings, or works belonging to the Council, or altering the index to any meter, or preventing any meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied, the Council may also, until the matter complained of has been remedied, but no longer, discontinue the supply of electricity to the person so offending, notwithstanding any contract previously existing.

Supply of electricity may also be cut off.

35. The existence of artificial means for causing such alteration or prevention, or for abstracting, consuming, or using electricity supplied by the Council when the meter is under the custody or control of the consumer, shall be *prima facie* evidence that such alteration, prevention, abstraction, or consumption (as the case may be) was within the knowledge of the consumer.

Evidence that meter has been tampered with.

36. Any officer appointed by the Council in that behalf may, at all reasonable times, enter any place or building to which electricity is or has been supplied by the Council in pursuance of this Act for the purpose of inspecting and testing the electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, and works for the supply of electricity belonging to the Council, and of ascertaining the quantity of electricity consumed or supplied, or, where a supply of electricity is no longer required, or where the Council is authorised to take away and cut off the supply of electricity from any premises, for the purpose of removing any electric lines, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, or works belonging to the Council, and repairing all damage caused by such entry, inspection, or removal.

Power to enter premises and inspect or remove fittings, &c.

37. Where any electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, or works belonging to the Council are placed in or upon any place or building (not being in the possession of the Council) for the purpose of supplying electricity in pursuance of this Act, such electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, or works shall not be subject to distress or to the landlord's remedy for rent of the premises where the same may be, nor to be taken in execution under any process of a Court of law or equity, or any proceedings in bankruptcy against the person in whose possession the same may be: Provided that nothing in this section shall affect any distress or execution lawfully made or issued upon or against the Council.

Council's fittings not to be subject to distress, execution, &c.

38. All actions or other proceedings against the Council, their officers, agents, or servants, for anything done or reasonably supposed to have been done in pursuance of this Act, shall be commenced within twelve months after the matter complained of was committed and not otherwise; and notice in writing of any such action or proceedings

Limitation of action against the Council.

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and of the cause thereof shall be given to the defendant one month at least before the commencement of the proceeding; and in every such proceeding the defendant may plead the general issue and give this Act and the special matter in evidence at any trial to be had thereupon; and no plaintiff shall recover in any such proceeding if tender of such sufficient amends shall have been made before the same was commenced, or if a sufficient sum of money shall have been paid into a Court after such commencement by or on behalf of the defendant, together with costs as between party and party incurred up to that time. And if a verdict shall be entered for the defendant, or the plaintiff shall become non-suit or discontinue such proceeding, or if upon demurrer or otherwise judgment shall be given against the plaintiff, the defendant shall recover his costs and have the like remedy for the same as any defendant has in law in like cases.

Arbitrations.

39. Any arbitration in pursuance of this Act shall be conducted in accordance with and subject to the provisions of the Arbitration Act of 1892, and for the purposes of reference to arbitration thereunder this Act shall be deemed to be a submission between the parties within the meaning of the same. The arbitrator shall in every case have power to direct how and by whom the cost of the reference and award shall be paid.

Procedure for recovery of penalties, &c.

40. Whenever by any section of this Act any person is made liable to any fine or forfeiture or to pay any sum of money whether as compensation or in any other way, and the mode of recovering such fine, forfeiture, or sum is not specified the same may be recovered before any stipendiary magistrate, together with such costs as he may see fit to grant. And all sums of money ordered by any such magistrate to be paid, and all costs and expenses awarded by such magistrate may be recovered and enforced by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the person ordered to pay the same, and in default of sufficient distress such person shall be liable, in the event of the conviction being for an offence under this Act, to be imprisoned with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding three months unless such money, costs, or expenses be sooner paid: Provided that nothing in this section shall prevent proceedings for the recovery of any fine, forfeiture, or sum as aforesaid being taken in any other Court of competent jurisdiction when the amount sought to be recovered exceeds ten pounds.

Sums recovered to go to electric light account.

41. All fines, forfeitures, or other sums recovered by the Council in pursuance of this Act shall be carried to the credit of the electric light account.

Appeals from summary convictions, &c.

42. In any case in which any summary conviction has been had, or any order for the payment of money has been made, in pursuance of this Act before any stipendiary magistrate the defendant may appeal to the Court of Quarter Sessions. The provisions of the "Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1883" in respect of appeals from summary convictions thereunder shall apply and extend to all appeals under this section, and shall be observed in the making of every such appeal and all proceedings thereupon.

Council may make by-laws, &c.

43. The Council may for the purposes of this Act, but subject nevertheless to any regulations made by the Governor as herein provided, make all such by-laws, and do all such other necessary matters and things as may be necessary for carrying out the objects of this Act. And the Council may by any such by-laws fix the maximum penalty for every offence against such by-laws or any of them, not exceeding the penalty, if any, already lawfully fixed for the same offence, and in any other case not exceeding ten pounds: Provided that no by-laws made as aforesaid shall have any force unless they have been first approved of by the Governor.

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44. It shall be lawful for the Council to supply electricity outside the limits of the City of Sydney, and for such purpose to exercise any power conferred upon it by this Act (other than the power to raise a lighting rate) within or without the limits of any Borough adjoining the City of Sydney, subject, however, to the following provisions :—

- (I) The aforesaid powers shall not be exercised within the limits of any such Borough except with the consent of the Council thereof (which consent it is hereby empowered to give), and upon such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon.
- (II) The supply of electricity for the purpose of lighting any place, building, or street belonging to or subject to the control of the Council of such Borough shall for the purposes of this Act be deemed to be a supply for private purposes or use, and all provisions of this Act in such behalf shall extend and apply thereto.
- (III) The Council of such Borough shall for the purposes of this section have power to enter into all such contracts, and to levy all such rates, as it is by law empowered to enter into, or levy in respect of a supply of gas.

45. Nothing in this Act shall authorise or enable the Council, its officers, agents, or servants to transmit any telegram, or telephonic message, or to perform any of the incidental services of receiving, collecting, or delivering telegrams, or telephonic messages, or give to the Council, its officers, agents, or servants any power, authority, or facility of any kind whatever in connection with such transmission or performance as aforesaid. Any person holding any civic office under the "Sydney Corporation Act of 1879" is hereby empowered to contract directly or indirectly for the supply to him of electricity under the provisions of this Act, and shall not be liable in respect of such contract to any fine, penalty, or disqualification, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding. Saving clause.

46. No alteration in any telegraphic line or telephonic line or work of the Postmaster-General shall be made by the Council or its agents, except with the written permission of the Postmaster-General, or in any other public work except with the written permission of the Secretary for Public Works, and subject to such reasonable conditions as may be imposed in such permission. And nothing in this Act contained shall exempt the Council from the provisions of any public Act which may be passed by the Parliament of New South Wales, applying generally to the manufacture or generating of electricity, or the sale or supply of the same, or to the method of installation or distribution thereof. No alteration of public lines without permission.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

SCHEDULE.

No.	Series	Debenture £
Issued by the Municipal Council of Sydney under the provisions of the "Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Act."		

TRANSFERABLE BY DELIVERY.

This Debenture was issued by the above-named Council in pursuance of the provisions of the above-mentioned Act, and is to secure to the bearer a principal sum of

payable at the on the day of

Interest at the rate of pounds per centum per annum on such principal sum

in the meanwhile is payable by equal half-yearly payments on the day

of and the day of at and a coupon is annexed

for each payment which entitles the bearer of such coupon thereto.

Dated this day of A.D.

G.H. [Mayor] (L.S.)
C.W. Town Clerk.

By Authority : CHARLES POTTER, Government Printer, Sydney, 1896.

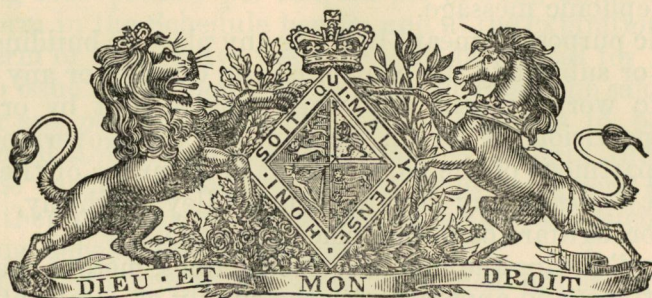
[9d.]

I Certify that this PUBLIC BILL, which originated in the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, has finally passed the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL and the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY of NEW SOUTH WALES.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 16 October, 1896, A.M. }*

*F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.*

New South Wales.



ANNO SEXAGESIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. XXIII.

An Act to enable the Municipal Council of Sydney to light the streets also public and private places of the City of Sydney with the Electric Light, and also places outside the said city, and to exercise all powers necessary for such purposes, and for the generating and supply of electric power, and for the above purposes to raise by debentures the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds. [Assented to, 26th October, 1896.]

BE it enacted by the Queen'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 "Municipal Council of Sydney Short title. Electric Lighting Act."

2. In this Act unless the context otherwise requires, the Interpretation. expression

"Council" means the Municipal Council of Sydney.

"Electricity" means electricity, electric current, or any like agency.

"Electric line" means a wire or wires, conductor, or other means used or intended to be used for the purpose of applying, conveying, transmitting, or distributing electricity, and any casing,

I have examined this Bill, and find it to correspond in all respects with the Bill as finally passed by both Houses.

*WILLIAM McCOURT,
Chairman of Committees of the Legislative Assembly.*

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

casing, coating, tube, pipe, or insulator wholly or partly enclosing, surrounding, or supporting the same or any part thereof, or any apparatus connected therewith for the purpose of conveying, transmitting, or distributing electricity.

“Private purposes” means any purposes whatever to which electricity may for the time being be applicable (not being public purposes) except the transmission of any telegram or telephonic message.

“Public purposes” means lighting any place or building belonging to or subject to the control of the Council or any street.

“Public work” means any work carried out by or under the supervision of or on account of the Government or any department of the Government or Minister of the Crown.

“Street” means any square, court, alley, highway, lane, road, thoroughfare or public place or passage.

“Works” means and includes electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, and apparatus for the supply of electricity, also any buildings, machinery, engines, plant, matters, or things of whatever description required, used, or intended to be used, to generate or supply electricity, and to carry into effect the purposes of this Act.

“Governor” means the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council.

Council may supply electricity.

3. It shall be lawful for the Council to generate and supply electricity for any public or private purposes, or for any public purposes, and any private purposes within the limits of the city of Sydney: Provided that electricity may be supplied outside the said limits in manner hereinafter set forth.

General powers of Council.

4. The Council, for the purpose of generating and supplying electricity, may use all or any lands now vested in them for any purpose, and may purchase, lease, acquire, and hold all other lands, and construct, purchase, and acquire all works, and purchase and acquire all interests in and licenses for the use of any patented or protected processes, inventions, machinery, apparatus, methods, and other things, and enter into all contracts, appoint officers and servants, and generally do all acts and things which they may deem necessary or desirable for the purpose of such generation and supply.

Power to sell, exchange, or lease lands.

5. It shall be lawful, with the approval of the Governor, for the Council to sell or exchange any lands acquired under the authority of this Act, or to lease the same upon such terms and conditions as to the Council may seem meet.

Corporate funds may be used for preliminary expenses.

6. The Council may use the ordinary corporate funds for the purpose of obtaining plans, estimates, or reports as to the cost of purchasing, leasing, acquiring, and constructing works for the generation and supply of electricity, and for the purpose of defraying the expenses incurred in connection with the preparation and introduction of the Bill for this Act: Provided that in the event of such works being proceeded with such preliminary expenditure shall be charged to a special account of the Council to be called the electric light account.

Special loans for works, &c.

7. The Council may for the purpose of constructing, purchasing, or acquiring works for the generation and supply of electricity, and otherwise for carrying out the purposes of this Act, borrow moneys by way of special loan in manner hereinafter provided, namely:—

Municipal Council empowered to borrow £250,000 for electric lighting and other purposes.

(1) It shall be lawful for the Council to borrow in manner hereinafter provided, and subject to the conditions hereinafter prescribed, a sum of money not exceeding two hundred and fifty thousand pounds, and all sums lawfully borrowed under this Act shall be deemed to be secured upon the corporate rates and revenues of the said Council from whatsoever source arising,

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

arising, and shall be expended for the purpose of this Act and for no other purpose whatever. And the following conditions, qualifications, and provisions shall regulate the borrowing of money and the issue of debentures under this Act.

- (II) All moneys borrowed by the Council shall be raised by the sale of debentures to be issued in such series and at such times and in such manner as the Council shall think fit, and all such debentures shall have a currency not exceeding twenty-five years, and shall bear interest at a rate not exceeding four pounds per centum per annum, and shall be in the form in the Schedule hereto, and at the expiration of the said term of twenty-five years it shall be lawful for the Council to issue new debentures to retire or repay the said debentures or any part thereof (such new debentures to be numbered and distinguished in like manner as the ones then due), and the mayor of Sydney for the time being may fix the price either at above or below par, at which any such original or new debentures may be sold.
- (III) The said debentures may be issued either in London or Sydney, or partly in London and partly in Sydney, and the principal sum secured thereby shall be the sum of one hundred pounds or any less sum, such less sum to be ten pounds or some multiple of ten pounds.
- (IV) Every such series of debentures shall be numbered in regular ascending arithmetical progression, commencing with number one, whereof the common difference shall be one, and shall have annexed for every payment of interest to grow due thereon a coupon bearing the same number as the debenture. The series of debentures for one hundred pounds (and coupons) shall be distinguished by the letter A; that for ninety pounds by the letter B; that for eighty pounds by the letter C; that for seventy pounds by the letter D; that for sixty pounds by the letter E; that for fifty pounds by the letter F; that for forty pounds by the letter G; that for thirty pounds by the letter H; that for twenty pounds by the letter J; and that for ten pounds by the letter K.
- (V) Every such debenture shall name the principal sum secured thereby, the rate at which interest is payable thereon, and the time and place where such principal and interest are payable. And every such debenture shall be under the corporate seal of the Council, and be signed by the mayor and town clerk, and shall bear date on the day on which it is sealed, and shall be deemed to have been duly issued, and the holder thereof shall not be bound to inquire whether such issue was in fact duly authorised.
- (VI) Every such debenture, and any coupon, whether annexed thereto or not, may be transferred by simple delivery.
- (VII) If the said debentures are issued partly in Sydney and partly in London, a register shall be kept at the City Treasurer's Office, Town Hall, Sydney, and in London, which registers shall contain particulars showing the series, progressive number, amount, date, place of issue, and place of payment of principal and interest of every debenture issued under the authority of this Act. The said registers shall be open for inspection at all reasonable times by every holder of debentures issued hereunder or his agent or attorney.

8. The Council may discharge the whole or any of the said debentures at any time after the expiration of ten years from the date of such debentures by payment of the principal sums owing thereon respectively,

Council may redeem
debentures before
due date.

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respectively, and interest up to and including the current half-year or at any earlier time with the consent of the holders of debentures willing to receive payment for same.

Payment of
debentures and
interest.

9. The holder of any debenture issued under the provisions of this Act shall be entitled to receive payment from the Council of the principal sum named therein upon presentation of such debenture on or after the due date thereof at the place where the same is expressed to be made payable. And the holder of any coupon originally annexed to a debenture, and whether separated therefrom or not, shall be entitled to receive payment in like manner of the interest mentioned in such coupon upon presentation of the same at the place where and on or after the date when interest is payable.

Provisions on default
of payment by
Council.

10. If default shall be made by the Council in making any payment, whether of principal or interest to the holder of any such debenture or coupon, the following provisions shall take effect, viz:—

- (I) The holder of such debenture or coupon shall have full power to make all necessary applications to, and to procure all necessary orders and directions from, the Supreme Court for and touching the appointment of a receiver, and the said Court shall have power to make all such orders for the appointment of a receiver, or for his removal and the appointment of another in his place as may be necessary, and to make any orders, and give any directions which the said Court may think proper. And such receiver shall be deemed to be an officer, and shall act under the direction of the Supreme Court.
- (II) Such receiver shall have power to make, levy, and collect all rates and revenues whatsoever payable to the Council for or in respect of which he shall have been appointed receiver, but the rates so to be made and levied shall not exceed the maximum limits permitted under the provisions of the law in force for the time being. And for such purposes such receiver shall be deemed the Municipal Council of Sydney, and may exercise all the powers thereof.
- (III) Such receiver shall be entitled to such commission, payable out of the city rates, as remuneration for his services as the Supreme Court may appoint.
- (IV) Such receiver shall subject to any order of the Supreme Court, pay over all moneys received by him to such holder, and if there be any balance in hand over and above the amount due, and payable to him under the provisions of this Act, the receiver shall pay such balance over to the Council.

Sinking fund to be
established to pay off
loan.

11. A sinking fund for the repayment of the principal sums borrowed under the authority of this Act and of the interest due on debentures issued thereunder shall, subject to conditions to be approved by the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council, be established by the said Council before they shall proceed to exercise the borrowing powers conferred by this Act; and in each and every year (commencing with the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven) during the currency of such debentures the Council shall pay into such sinking fund a sum of one pound for every one hundred pounds borrowed under the authority of this Act; and the sum so to be paid shall be invested in the purchase of Government securities or debentures, or securities of the said Council, or debentures or securities of any Municipality or Borough in the Colony of New South Wales, or of such other securities as the Governor by writing under his hand shall approve; and the produce of all such investments shall be reinvested in like manner. The Council may at any time after the expiration of ten years from the date of the said debentures or at any earlier

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

earlier time, with the consent of holders of debentures willing to receive payment for same, apply the whole or any part of such sinking fund in or towards the discharge of any moneys borrowed under this Act, but they shall in every such case recoup the fund by paying into it half-yearly a sum equal to the interest which any sum so applied would have produced if left invested; if in any such year, as aforesaid, after the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, the Council shall not, within seven days after notice in that behalf under the hand of the Colonial Treasurer shall have been given to the town clerk, show to the satisfaction of the treasurer or an officer to be appointed by him that the annual payments and investments required by this Act for the formation of the said sinking fund have been duly complied with, it shall be lawful for the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, to apply to the Supreme Court for the appointment of a receiver of the rates and other revenue of the said Council, and in such case the said Court and the receiver so to be appointed shall have all such powers, *mutatis mutandis*, as are hereinbefore provided for the benefit of holders of unpaid debentures.

12. For all or any of the purposes aforesaid the Council may, ^{Electric light rate.} on the assessment made under the "Sydney Corporation Act of 1879" cause such lighting rate to be raised as to them may seem proper, not exceeding threepence in the pound upon the said assessment, and such rate shall be payable and recoverable at like time and place and in like manner as provided with regard to the city rate by the said Act.

13. A separate account to be called the "electric light account" ^{Separate account to be kept.} shall be kept of all moneys received from such lighting rate, and in respect of the supply of electricity and otherwise in pursuance of this Act, all which money shall be charged as follows:—

- (I) With the cost of maintaining the works in good repair, and all the expenses connected with generating and supplying electricity as herein provided and otherwise arising under this Act.
- (II) With such sums (to be transferred to an interest and sinking fund account) as shall be sufficient to satisfy the interest payable on any loan raised under the authority of this Act, and to meet the payments to the sinking fund hereinbefore provided.

14. The Council may open and break up the soil and pavement ^{Power to break up streets, and to open drains.} of any street, and open and break up any sewers, drains, or tunnels within or under such streets; and may construct subways and drains; and may lay down and place under or over any street any electric lines; and from time to time repair, alter, or remove the same; and for the purposes aforesaid may remove and use all earth and materials in and under such streets; and may in any such street erect any posts, pillars, standards, lamps, and other works, and do all other acts which they may from time to time reasonably deem necessary for supplying electricity; and may lay any electric line, branch, or other apparatus from any main or branch electric line into, through, or against any place or building for the purpose of lighting the same; and provide and set up any works in their opinion necessary for securing thereto a complete supply of electricity; and for measuring and ascertaining the extent of such supply: Provided that nothing herein shall authorise or empower the Council to construct or place any works into, through, against, or in any place, building, or land not dedicated to public use without the consent of the owners and occupiers thereof, except that the Council may at any time make entry, and construct and place any new works instead of such works as shall have been lawfully constructed or placed, and may repair or alter any works so constructed or placed.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

Power to alter
position of pipes,
wires, &c.

15. Subject to the provisions of this Act—

- (I) The Council may alter the position of any pipes, wires, sewers, drains, or tunnels being made under any street or place which may interfere with the exercise of their powers under this Act on previously making or securing such compensation to the owners of such pipes, wires, sewers, drains, or tunnels, and on complying with such conditions as to the mode of making such alterations as may before the commencement of such alterations be agreed upon between the Council and such owners, or in case of difference as may be determined by arbitration.
- (II) Any person or public authority lawfully competent so to do may in like manner alter the position of any works of the Council being under or over any such street or place as aforesaid which may interfere with the lawful exercise of any powers vested in such person or authority in relation to such street or place, subject to the like provisions, conditions, and restrictions as are in the first subsection of this section contained.

Streets, &c., to be
reinstated.

16. When the Council opens or breaks up the road or pavement of any street, or any sewer, drain, or tunnel, they shall with all possible speed complete the work for which the same shall have been opened or broken up, and fill in the ground and reinstate and make good the road or pavement, or the sewer, drain, or tunnel so opened or broken up, and carry away the rubbish occasioned thereby, and shall at all times whilst any such road or pavement shall be so opened or broken up cause the same to be fenced and guarded, and shall at night time cause a light sufficient for the warning of passengers to be set up and maintained against or near such road or pavement where the same shall be open or broken up.

Protection to tele-
graph and telephone
lines and other
public works.

17. The Council shall not, in the exercise of the powers conferred by this Act, construct, lay down, or place any works for the supply of electricity whereby any public telegraph or telephone line or other public work is, or may be injuriously affected. And the Council and its agents shall conform with such reasonable requirements, either general or special, as may from time to time be made by the Postmaster-General or Secretary for Public Works for the purpose of preventing any such telegraph or telephone line or other public work from being injuriously affected by the works of the Council, and on failure to conform with the said requirements or any of them, the Postmaster-General or Secretary for Public Works may forthwith remove any works of the Council for the supply of electricity by which any public telegraph or telephone line or other public work is or may be injuriously affected. Any difference which arises between the Postmaster-General or Secretary for Public Works and the Council or their agents with respect to any requirements so made shall be determined by arbitration. In the event of any contravention of this section by the Council or their agents the Council shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds for every day during which such contravention continues, or if the telegraphic or telephonic communication is wilfully interrupted not exceeding ten pounds for every day on which such interruption continues. For the purpose of this section a telegraph or telephone line or other public line shall be deemed to be injuriously affected if telegraphic or telephonic communication by means of such line, whether through induction or otherwise, is affected by any electric line or work of the Council, or by any use made of such electric line or work.

Notice of works with
plan to be served on
the Postmaster-
General.

18. One month at least before commencing the execution of any works which involve the placing of works in, under, along, or across any street, highway, or public bridge, on which any telegraph, telephone,

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telephone, or railway line may be (not being repairs to or renewals of then existing works of which the character and positions are not altered), the Council or its agents shall serve upon the Secretary for Public Works and Postmaster-General, the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, the Australian Gaslight Company, and such other person or corporation as the Secretary for Public Works may by writing under his hand addressed to the Council require to be notified, or leave at their respective offices addressed to them, notices describing the proposed works, and the gauge of any electric line and the current and potential to be carried, together with a plan of the proposed works showing the position of the said works and the mode in which the works are intended to be executed and the manner in which it is intended that the street, highway, or bridge shall be interfered with, and shall at the request of the Secretary for Public Works or Postmaster-General, made at any time, give them such further information with reference to the works as they may desire. If any works are commenced before the requirements of this section have been complied with, the Secretary for Public Works or Postmaster-General may cause the said works to be removed, and the Council shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds, which may be recovered before any stipendiary magistrate in a summary way.

19. In the exercise of its powers under this Act the Council shall cause as little detriment and inconvenience, and do as little damage as possible, and shall make full compensation to all persons for all damage sustained by them by reason or in consequence of the exercise of such powers, the amount of such compensation in case of difference to be determined by arbitration or action at law at the election of the party aggrieved: Provided that the Council may in all cases be at liberty to set up by way of defence or in mitigation of damages, as the case may be, that the person claiming compensation has by his own act, neglect, or default caused or contributed to the damages in respect of which he claims to be compensated. Compensation for damage.

20. The Governor may make regulations to be observed during the construction, alteration, repair or maintenance of works for securing the safety of persons and private or public property from injury from fire or otherwise, and may in those regulations impose any penalty not exceeding one hundred pounds for any breach of the same, which penalties may be recovered in a summary way before any stipendiary magistrate. Governor may make regulations for securing safety of public.

21. The Council may from time to time enter into any contract with any person for supplying with electricity any place or building, or for providing any person with electric lines, burners, meters, lamps, or other fittings and things, and for the repair thereof in such manner and upon such terms as to charges, place, and mode of payment and otherwise in security of the Council as shall be agreed upon. Power to contract for the supply of electricity and fittings.

22. The Council may let any meter for ascertaining the quantity of electricity consumed or supplied and any fittings thereto for such remuneration, and on such terms in respect of the repair of such meter and fittings, and for securing the safety and return thereof to the Council as may be agreed upon between the hirer and the Council, and such remuneration and other moneys payable under the terms agreed upon shall be recoverable in the same manner as charges due to the Council for electricity. Council may let meter.

23. The Council shall do all things reasonable to keep all meters on hire to any consumer in proper order for correctly registering the quantity of electricity supplied, and in default of the Council so doing the consumer shall not be liable to pay remuneration for the use of the same during such time as such default continues. Council to keep meters in repair.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

Meter not to be interfered with and connections not to be made by unauthorised persons.

24. Every meter used for ascertaining the quantity of electricity supplied by the Council shall, during the continuance of such supply and until all charges in respect thereof have been paid, be under the sole control of the Council, whether such meter be the property of the Council or not, and no person shall be at liberty to cut, connect, tap, fix, alter, remove, or tamper with any electric line, lamp, meter, or fittings used in connection with the supply of electricity by the Council unless authorised in writing by the Council or its agents duly authorised in that behalf: Provided that nothing in this section shall affect the lawful exercise of any power in that behalf vested in any competent person or public authority.

Register of meter to be *primâ facie* evidence.

25. The register of the meter used for ascertaining the quantity of electricity supplied by the Council shall be *primâ facie* evidence of such quantity.

Council not to prescribe manner of using electricity.

26. The Council shall not be entitled to prescribe any special form of lamp or burner to be used by any person, or in any way to control or interfere with the manner in which electricity supplied by it in pursuance of this Act is used: Provided always that no person shall be at liberty to use any form of lamp or burner, or to use the electricity supplied to him for any purposes, or to deal with it in any manner so as to unduly or improperly interfere with the supply of electricity to any other person, and if any dispute or difference as to the matters aforesaid arises between the Council and any person entitled to be supplied with electricity in pursuance of this Act, such dispute or difference shall be determined by arbitration.

Obligation to supply electricity.

27. Where a supply of electricity is provided in any locality for private purposes, all persons within such locality shall on application be entitled to a supply on the same terms as the terms on which any other person in such locality is under similar circumstances entitled to a corresponding supply.

Power to cut off supply.

28. If any person neglect to pay any electric light rate, or any charge for electricity, or any other sum due to the Council in respect of or incidental to the supply of electricity to such person, the Council may without notice cut off his supply of electricity, and for that purpose may cut, disconnect, or remove any works, and may, until such charge or other sum, together with any expenses incurred by the Council in cutting off such supply of electricity as aforesaid is fully paid, but no longer, discontinue the supply of electricity to such person.

Injuring works with intent to cut off supply.

29. Any person who unlawfully and maliciously cuts or injures any electric line or work erected in pursuance of this Act, with intent to cut off any supply of electricity, shall be guilty of felony, and be liable to be kept in penal servitude for any term not exceeding three years, or to be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding one year, but nothing in this section shall exempt a person in respect of any offence which is punishable under any other provision of this Act, or under any other Act, or at common law, so that no person be punished twice for the same offence.

Stealing electricity.

30. Any person who maliciously or fraudulently abstracts, causes to be wasted or diverted, consumes, or uses any electricity provided in pursuance of this Act, shall be guilty of simple larceny and punishable accordingly.

Penalty for removing electric line, &c.

31. Any person who wilfully and unlawfully removes, destroys, or damages any electric line or any pillar, post, lamp, meter or other works connected with or relating to the supply of electricity by the Council in pursuance of this Act, or who wilfully and unlawfully extinguishes any of the public lamps or lights maintained by the Council in pursuance of this Act, or wastes, or wilfully and wrongfully uses any of the electricity supplied by the Council in pursuance of this Act shall for each such offence forfeit to the Council a sum not exceeding fifty pounds in addition to the amount of damage done.

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32. Any person who carelessly or accidentally breaks, throws down, or damages any electric line, or any pillar, post, lamp or other works belonging to the Council, or under their control, shall forfeit and pay such sum of money by way of satisfaction to the Council for the damage done not exceeding fifty pounds as a stipendiary magistrate shall think reasonable: Provided that this section shall not effect any other remedy. Penalty for breaking electric line, &c.

33. Any person who wilfully or fraudulently, or by culpable negligence, injures or suffers to be injured, any electric line, or any meter, fittings, or works belonging to the Council, or alters the index to any meter, or prevents any meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied, or fraudulently abstracts, consumes, or uses electricity supplied by the Council, shall, without prejudice to any other right or remedy for the protection of the Council, or the punishment of the offender, for every such offence, forfeit to the Council a sum not exceeding twenty-five pounds in addition to the amount of damage. Penalty for tampering with meter, &c.

34. In any case in which any person has been convicted of wilfully or fraudulently injuring, or suffering to be injured, any electric line, or any meter, fittings, or works belonging to the Council, or altering the index to any meter, or preventing any meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied, the Council may also, until the matter complained of has been remedied, but no longer, discontinue the supply of electricity to the person so offending, notwithstanding any contract previously existing. Supply of electricity may also be cut off.

35. The existence of artificial means for causing such alteration or prevention, or for abstracting, consuming, or using electricity supplied by the Council when the meter is under the custody or control of the consumer, shall be *prima facie* evidence that such alteration, prevention, abstraction, or consumption (as the case may be) was within the knowledge of the consumer. Evidence that meter has been tampered with.

36. Any officer appointed by the Council in that behalf may, at all reasonable times, enter any place or building to which electricity is or has been supplied by the Council in pursuance of this Act for the purpose of inspecting and testing the electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, and works for the supply of electricity belonging to the Council, and of ascertaining the quantity of electricity consumed or supplied, or, where a supply of electricity is no longer required, or where the Council is authorised to take away and cut off the supply of electricity from any premises, for the purpose of removing any electric lines, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, or works belonging to the Council, and repairing all damage caused by such entry, inspection, or removal. Power to enter premises and inspect or remove fittings, &c.

37. Where any electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, or works belonging to the Council are placed in or upon any place or building (not being in the possession of the Council) for the purpose of supplying electricity in pursuance of this Act, such electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, or works shall not be subject to distress or to the landlord's remedy for rent of the premises where the same may be, nor to be taken in execution under any process of a Court of law or equity, or any proceedings in bankruptcy against the person in whose possession the same may be: Provided that nothing in this section shall affect any distress or execution lawfully made or issued upon or against the Council. Council's fittings not to be subject to distress, &c.

38. All actions or other proceedings against the Council, their officers, agents, or servants, for anything done or reasonably supposed to have been done in pursuance of this Act, shall be commenced within twelve months after the matter complained of was committed and not otherwise; and notice in writing of any such action or proceedings and

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and of the cause thereof shall be given to the defendant one month at least before the commencement of the proceeding; and in every such proceeding the defendant may plead the general issue and give this Act and the special matter in evidence at any trial to be had thereupon; and no plaintiff shall recover in any such proceeding if tender of such sufficient amends shall have been made before the same was commenced, or if a sufficient sum of money shall have been paid into a Court after such commencement by or on behalf of the defendant, together with costs as between party and party incurred up to that time. And if a verdict shall be entered for the defendant, or the plaintiff shall become non-suit or discontinue such proceeding, or if upon demurrer or otherwise judgment shall be given against the plaintiff, the defendant shall recover his costs and have the like remedy for the same as any defendant has in law in like cases.

Arbitrations.

39. Any arbitration in pursuance of this Act shall be conducted in accordance with and subject to the provisions of the Arbitration Act of 1892, and for the purposes of reference to arbitration thereunder this Act shall be deemed to be a submission between the parties within the meaning of the same. The arbitrator shall in every case have power to direct how and by whom the cost of the reference and award shall be paid.

Procedure for recovery of penalties, &c.

40. Whenever by any section of this Act any person is made liable to any fine or forfeiture or to pay any sum of money whether as compensation or in any other way, and the mode of recovering such fine, forfeiture, or sum is not specified the same may be recovered before any stipendiary magistrate, together with such costs as he may see fit to grant. And all sums of money ordered by any such magistrate to be paid, and all costs and expenses awarded by such magistrate may be recovered and enforced by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the person ordered to pay the same, and in default of sufficient distress such person shall be liable, in the event of the conviction being for an offence under this Act, to be imprisoned with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding three months unless such money, costs, or expenses be sooner paid: Provided that nothing in this section shall prevent proceedings for the recovery of any fine, forfeiture, or sum as aforesaid being taken in any other Court of competent jurisdiction when the amount sought to be recovered exceeds ten pounds.

Sums recovered to go to electric light account.

41. All fines, forfeitures, or other sums recovered by the Council in pursuance of this Act shall be carried to the credit of the electric light account.

Appeals from summary convictions, &c.

42. In any case in which any summary conviction has been had, or any order for the payment of money has been made, in pursuance of this Act before any stipendiary magistrate the defendant may appeal to the Court of Quarter Sessions. The provisions of the "Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1883" in respect of appeals from summary convictions thereunder shall apply and extend to all appeals under this section, and shall be observed in the making of every such appeal and all proceedings thereupon.

Council may make by-laws, &c.

43. The Council may for the purposes of this Act, but subject nevertheless to any regulations made by the Governor as herein provided, make all such by-laws, and do all such other necessary matters and things as may be necessary for carrying out the objects of this Act. And the Council may by any such by-laws fix the maximum penalty for every offence against such by-laws or any of them, not exceeding the penalty, if any, already lawfully fixed for the same offence, and in any other case not exceeding ten pounds: Provided that no by-laws made as aforesaid shall have any force unless they have been first approved of by the Governor.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

44. It shall be lawful for the Council to supply electricity outside the limits of the City of Sydney, and for such purpose to exercise any power conferred upon it by this Act (other than the power to raise a lighting rate) within or without the limits of any Borough adjoining the City of Sydney, subject, however, to the following provisions :—

Council may extend operations into other Municipalities with consent.

- (I) The aforesaid powers shall not be exercised within the limits of any such Borough except with the consent of the Council thereof (which consent it is hereby empowered to give), and upon such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon.
- (II) The supply of electricity for the purpose of lighting any place, building, or street belonging to or subject to the control of the Council of such Borough shall for the purposes of this Act be deemed to be a supply for private purposes or use, and all provisions of this Act in such behalf shall extend and apply thereto.
- (III) The Council of such Borough shall for the purposes of this section have power to enter into all such contracts, and to levy all such rates, as it is by law empowered to enter into, or levy in respect of a supply of gas.

45. Nothing in this Act shall authorise or enable the Council, its officers, agents, or servants to transmit any telegram, or telephonic message, or to perform any of the incidental services of receiving, collecting, or delivering telegrams, or telephonic messages, or give to the Council, its officers, agents, or servants any power, authority, or facility of any kind whatever in connection with such transmission or performance as aforesaid. Any person holding any civic office under the "Sydney Corporation Act of 1879" is hereby empowered to contract directly or indirectly for the supply to him of electricity under the provisions of this Act, and shall not be liable in respect of such contract to any fine, penalty, or disqualification, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Saving clause.

46. No alteration in any telegraphic line or telephonic line or work of the Postmaster-General shall be made by the Council or its agents, except with the written permission of the Postmaster-General, or in any other public work except with the written permission of the Secretary for Public Works, and subject to such reasonable conditions as may be imposed in such permission. And nothing in this Act contained shall exempt the Council from the provisions of any public Act which may be passed by the Parliament of New South Wales, applying generally to the manufacture or generating of electricity, or the sale or supply of the same, or to the method of installation or distribution thereof.

No alteration of public lines without permission.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

SCHEDULE.

No.	Series	Debenture £
Issued by the Municipal Council of Sydney under the provisions of the "Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Act."		

TRANSFERABLE BY DELIVERY.

THIS Debenture was issued by the above-named Council in pursuance of the provisions of the above-mentioned Act, and is to secure to the bearer a principal sum of _____ payable at the _____ on the _____ day of _____ Interest at the rate of _____ pounds per centum per annum on such principal sum in the meanwhile is payable by equal half-yearly payments on the _____ day of _____ and the _____ day of _____ at _____ and a coupon is annexed for each payment which entitles the bearer of such coupon thereto.

Dated this _____ day of _____ A.D.

G.H. [Mayor] (L.S.)
C.W. Town Clerk.

In the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty I assent to this Act.

Government House,
Sydney, 26th October, 1896.

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SYDNEY ELECTRIC LIGHTING BILL.

SCHEDULE showing the Legislative Assembly's Disagreement from the Legislative Council's Amendments, referred to in Message of 13th October, 1896.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Page 2, clause 2, lines 5 to 9. *Reinsert* "any purposes whatever to which electricity
" may for the time being be applicable (not being public purposes) except
" the transmission of any telegram or telephonic message" *omit* "lighting
" any place or building not belonging to or subject to the control of the
" Council"

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SYDNEY ELECTRIC LIGHTING BILL.

SCHEDULE of Amendments referred to in Message of 30th September, 1896.

- Page 2, clause 2, lines 5 to 8. *Omit* "any purposes whatever to which electricity may for the time being be applicable (not being public purposes) except the transmission of any telegram or telephonic message" *insert* "lighting any place or building not belonging to or subject to the control of the Council"
- Page 2, clause 2. *After* line 11 *insert* "'Public work' means any work carried out by or under the supervision of or on account of the Government or any department of the Government or Minister of the Crown"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 23. *After* "means" *insert* "the Governor"
- Page 2, clause 3, lines 28 and 29. *Omit* "and such contracts may be made with any person, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding"
- Page 3, clause 7, line 46. *After* "sealed" *insert* "and shall be deemed to have been duly issued, and the holder thereof shall not be bound to inquire whether such issue was in fact duly authorised"
- Page 5, clause 11, line 15. *Omit* "not"
- Page 6, clause 17, line 40. *After* "Postmaster-General" *insert* "or Secretary for Public Works"
- Page 6, clause 17, line 41. *After* "line" *insert* "or other public work"
- Page 6, clause 17, line 42. *Omit* "said"
- Page 6, clause 17, line 42. *After* "works" *insert* "of the Council, and on failure to conform with the said requirements or any of them, the Postmaster-General or Secretary for Public Works may forthwith remove any works of the Council for the supply of electricity by which any public telegraph or telephone line or other public work is or may be injuriously affected"
- Page 6, clause 17, line 48. *After* "Postmaster-General" *insert* "or Secretary for Public Works"
- Page 6, clause 17, line 56. *After* "line" *insert* "or other public line"
- Page 6. *After* clause 17, *insert* new clause 18.
- Page 7. *After* clause 18, *insert* new clause 20.
- Page 10, clause 37, 39, lines 18 and 19. *Omit* "by a single arbitrator, and shall be"
- Page 10, clause 41, 43, line 53. *After* "Act" *insert* "but subject nevertheless to any regulations made by the Governor as herein provided"
- Page 10, clause 41, 43. At end of clause *add* "and the Council may by any such by-laws fix the maximum penalty for every offence against such by-laws, or any of them, not exceeding the penalty, if any, already lawfully fixed for the same offence, and in any other case not exceeding ten pounds: Provided that no by-laws made as aforesaid shall have any force unless they have been first approved of by the Governor"
- Page 11, clause 44, 46, line 38. *After* "Postmaster-General" *insert* "or in any other public work except with the written permission of the Secretary for Public Works"
- Page 11, clause 44, 46, line 41. *Omit* "by him"
- Page 11, clause 44, 46. At end of clause *add* "And nothing in this Act contained shall exempt the Council from the provisions of any public Act which may be passed by the Parliament of New South Wales applying generally to the manufacture or generating of electricity, or the sale or supply of the same, or to the method of installation or distribution thereof"
- Page 12, Schedule, line 2. *After* "No." *insert* "Series"

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This PUBLIC BILL originated in the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, and, having this day passed, is now ready for presentation to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 5 August, 1896. }*

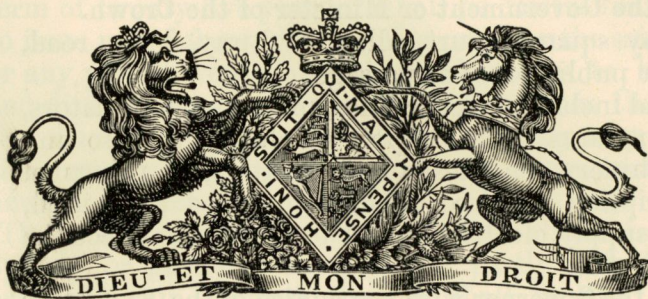
*F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.*

The LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL has this day agreed to this Bill with Amendments.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th September, 1896. }*

*JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.*

New South Wales.



ANNO SEXAGESIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. .

An Act to enable the Municipal Council of Sydney to light the streets also public and private places of the City of Sydney with the Electric Light, and also places outside the said city, and to exercise all powers necessary for such purposes, and for the generating and supply of electric power, and for the above purposes to raise by debentures the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds.

BE it enacted by the Queen'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:—

5 1. This Act may be cited as the “Municipal Council of Sydney Short title. Electric Lighting Act.”

2. In this Act unless the context otherwise requires, the Interpretation, expression

“Council” means the Municipal Council of Sydney.

10 “Electricity” means electricity, electric current, or any like agency.

“Electric line” means a wire or wires, conductor, or other means used or intended to be used for the purpose of applying, conveying, transmitting, or distributing electricity, and any casing,

283—A

(176)

casing,

NOTE.—The words to be omitted are ruled through; those to be inserted are printed in black letter.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

casing, coating, tube, pipe, or insulator wholly or partly enclosing, surrounding, or supporting the same or any part thereof, or any apparatus connected therewith for the purpose of conveying, transmitting, or distributing electricity.

5 "Private purposes" means ~~any purposes whatever to which~~ electricity may for the time being be applicable (not being public purposes) except the transmission of any telegram or telephonic message. **lighting any place or building not belonging to or subject to the control of the Council.**

10 "Public purposes" means lighting any place or building belonging to or subject to the control of the Council or any street.

"Public work" means any work carried out by or under the supervision of or on account of the Government or any department of the Government or Minister of the Crown.

15 "Street" means any square, court, alley, highway, lane, road, thoroughfare or public place or passage.

"Works" means and includes electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, and apparatus for the supply of electricity, also any buildings, machinery, engines, plant, matters, or things of
20 whatever description required, used, or intended to be used, to generate or supply electricity, and to carry into effect the purposes of this Act.

"Governor" means the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council.

25 3. It shall be lawful for the Council to generate and supply electricity for any public or private purposes, or for any public purposes, and any private purposes within the limits of the city of Sydney, ~~and such contracts may be made with any person, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding:~~ **Provided that electricity may be supplied** Council may supply electricity.
30 outside the said limits in manner hereinafter set forth.

4. The Council, for the purpose of generating and supplying electricity, may use all or any lands now vested in them for any purpose, and may purchase, lease, acquire, and hold all other lands, and construct, purchase, and acquire all works, and purchase and
35 acquire all interests in and licenses for the use of any patented or protected processes, inventions, machinery, apparatus, methods, and other things, and enter into all contracts, appoint officers and servants, and generally do all acts and things which they may deem necessary or desirable for the purpose of such generation and supply. General powers of Council.

40 5. It shall be lawful, with the approval of the Governor, for the Council to sell or exchange any lands acquired under the authority of this Act, or to lease the same upon such terms and conditions as to the Council may seem meet. Power to sell, exchange, or lease lands.

6. The Council may use the ordinary corporate funds for the
45 purpose of obtaining plans, estimates, or reports as to the cost of purchasing, leasing, acquiring, and constructing works for the generation and supply of electricity, and for the purpose of defraying the expenses incurred in connection with the preparation and introduction of the Bill for this Act: **Provided that in the event of such works** Corporate funds may be used for preliminary expenses.
50 being proceeded with such preliminary expenditure shall be charged to a special account of the Council to be called the electric light account.

7. The Council may for the purpose of constructing, purchasing, or acquiring works for the generation and supply of electricity, and otherwise for carrying out the purposes of this Act, borrow moneys
55 by way of special loan in manner hereinafter provided, namely:— Special loans for works, &c.

(1) It shall be lawful for the Council to borrow in manner hereinafter provided, and subject to the conditions hereinafter prescribed, a sum of money not exceeding two hundred and
fifty Municipal Council empowered to borrow £250,000 for electric lighting and other purposes.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

- fifty thousand pounds, and all sums lawfully borrowed under this Act shall be deemed to be secured upon the corporate rates and revenues of the said Council from whatsoever source arising, and shall be expended for the purpose of this Act and for no other purpose whatever. And the following conditions, qualifications, and provisions shall regulate the borrowing of money and the issue of debentures under this Act.
- 5 (II) All moneys borrowed by the Council shall be raised by the sale of debentures to be issued in such series and at such times and in such manner as the Council shall think fit, and all such debentures shall have a currency not exceeding twenty-five years, and shall bear interest at a rate not exceeding four pounds per centum per annum, and shall be in the form in the Schedule hereto, and at the expiration of the said term of twenty-five years it shall be lawful for the Council to issue new debentures to retire or repay the said debentures or any part thereof (such new debentures to be numbered and distinguished in like manner as the ones then due), and the mayor of Sydney for the time being may fix the price either at above or below par, at which any such original or new debentures may be sold.
- 10 (III) The said debentures may be issued either in London or Sydney, or partly in London and partly in Sydney, and the principal sum secured thereby shall be the sum of one hundred pounds or any less sum, such less sum to be ten pounds or some multiple of ten pounds.
- 15 (IV) Every such series of debentures shall be numbered in regular ascending arithmetical progression, commencing with number one, whereof the common difference shall be one, and shall have annexed for every payment of interest to grow due thereon a coupon bearing the same number as the debenture. The series of debentures for one hundred pounds (and coupons) shall be distinguished by the letter A; that for ninety pounds by the letter B; that for eighty pounds by the letter C; that for seventy pounds by the letter D; that for sixty pounds by the letter E; that for fifty pounds by the letter F; that for forty pounds by the letter G; that for thirty pounds by the letter H; that for twenty pounds by the letter J; and that for ten pounds by the letter K.
- 20 (V) Every such debenture shall name the principal sum secured thereby, the rate at which interest is payable thereon, and the time and place where such principal and interest are payable. And every such debenture shall be under the corporate seal of the Council, and be signed by the mayor and town clerk, and shall bear date on the day on which it is sealed, and shall be deemed to have been duly issued, and the holder thereof shall not be bound to inquire whether such issue was in fact duly authorised.
- 25 (VI) Every such debenture, and any coupon, whether annexed thereto or not, may be transferred by simple delivery.
- 30 (VII) If the said debentures are issued partly in Sydney and partly in London, a register shall be kept at the City Treasurer's Office, Town Hall, Sydney, and in London, which registers shall contain particulars showing the series, progressive number, amount, date, place of issue and place of payment of principal and interest of every debenture issued under the authority of this Act. The said registers shall be open for inspection at all reasonable times by every holder of debentures issued hereunder or his agent or attorney.
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Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

8. The Council may discharge the whole or any of the said debentures at any time after the expiration of ten years from the date of such debentures by payment of the principal sums owing thereon respectively, and interest up to and including the current half-year or at any earlier time with the consent of the holders of debentures willing to receive payment for same. Council may redeem debentures before due date.

9. The holder of any debenture issued under the provisions of this Act shall be entitled to receive payment from the Council of the principal sum named therein upon presentation of such debenture on or after the due date thereof at the place where the same is expressed to be made payable. And the holder of any coupon originally annexed to a debenture, and whether separated therefrom or not, shall be entitled to receive payment in like manner of the interest mentioned in such coupon upon presentation of the same at the place where and on or after the date when interest is payable. Payment of debentures and interest.

10. If default shall be made by the Council in making any payment, whether of principal or interest to the holder of any such debenture or coupon, the following provisions shall take effect, viz:— Provisions on default of payment by Council.

(I) The holder of such debenture or coupon shall have full power to make all necessary applications to, and to procure all necessary orders and directions from, the Supreme Court for and touching the appointment of a receiver, and the said Court shall have power to make all such orders for the appointment of a receiver, or for his removal and the appointment of another in his place as may be necessary, and to make any orders, and give any directions which the said Court may think proper. And such receiver shall be deemed to be an officer, and shall act under the direction of the Supreme Court.

(II) Such receiver shall have power to make, levy, and collect all rates and revenues whatsoever payable to the Council for or in respect of which he shall have been appointed receiver, but the rates so to be made and levied shall not exceed the maximum limits permitted under the provisions of the law in force for the time being. And for such purposes such receiver shall be deemed the Municipal Council of Sydney, and may exercise all the powers thereof.

(III) Such receiver shall be entitled to such commission, payable out of the city rates, as remuneration for his services as the Supreme Court may appoint.

(IV) Such receiver shall subject to any order of the Supreme Court, pay over all moneys received by him to such holder, and if there be any balance in hand over and above the amount due, and payable to him under the provisions of this Act, the receiver shall pay such balance over to the Council.

11. A sinking fund for the repayment of the principal sums borrowed under the authority of this Act and of the interest due on debentures issued thereunder shall, subject to conditions to be approved by the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council, be established by the said Council before they shall proceed to exercise the borrowing powers conferred by this Act; and in each and every year (commencing with the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven) during the currency of such debentures the Council shall pay into such sinking fund a sum of one pound for every one hundred pounds borrowed under the authority of this Act; and the sum so to be paid shall be invested in the purchase of Government securities or debentures, or securities of the said Council, or debentures or securities of any Municipality or Borough in the Colony of New South Wales, or of such other securities as the Governor by writing under his hand shall Sinking fund to be established to pay off loan.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

shall approve; and the produce of all such investments shall be reinvested in like manner. The Council may at any time after the expiration of ten years from the date of the said debentures or at any earlier time, with the consent of holders of debentures willing to
 5 receive payment for same, apply the whole or any part of such sinking fund in or towards the discharge of any moneys borrowed under this Act, but they shall in every such case recoup the fund by paying into it half-yearly a sum equal to the interest which any sum so applied would have produced if left invested; if in any such year, as aforesaid, after the
 10 year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, the Council shall not, within seven days after notice in that behalf under the hand of the Colonial Treasurer shall have been given to the town clerk, show to the satisfaction of the treasurer or an officer to be appointed by him that the annual payments and investments required by this Act for the
 15 formation of the said sinking fund have not been duly complied with, it shall be lawful for the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, to apply to the Supreme Court for the appointment of a receiver of the rates and other revenue of the said Council, and in such case the said Court and the receiver so to be appointed shall have all
 20 such powers, *mutatis mutandis*, as are hereinbefore provided for the benefit of holders of unpaid debentures.

12. For all or any of the purposes aforesaid the Council may, Electric light rate. on the assessment made under the "Sydney Corporation Act of 1879" cause such lighting rate to be raised as to them may seem proper, not
 25 exceeding threepence in the pound upon the said assessment, and such rate shall be payable and recoverable at like time and place and in like manner as provided with regard to the city rate by the said Act.

13. A separate account to be called the "electric light account" Separate account to be kept. shall be kept of all moneys received from such lighting rate, and in
 30 respect of the supply of electricity and otherwise in pursuance of this Act, all which money shall be charged as follows:—

(I) With the cost of maintaining the works in good repair, and all the expenses connected with generating and supplying electricity as herein provided and otherwise arising under this
 35 Act.

(II) With such sums (to be transferred to an interest and sinking fund account) as shall be sufficient to satisfy the interest payable on any loan raised under the authority of this Act, and to meet the payments to the sinking fund hereinbefore
 40 provided.

14. The Council may open and break up the soil and pavement Power to break up streets, and to open drains. of any street, and open and break up any sewers, drains, or tunnels within or under such streets; and may construct subways and drains; and may lay down and place under or over any street any
 45 electric lines; and from time to time repair, alter, or remove the same; and for the purposes aforesaid may remove and use all earth and materials in and under such streets; and may in any such street erect any posts, pillars, standards, lamps, and other works, and do all other acts which they may from time to time reasonably deem necessary for
 50 supplying electricity; and may lay any electric line, branch, or other apparatus from any main or branch electric line into, through, or against any place or building for the purpose of lighting the same; and provide and set up any works in their opinion necessary for securing thereto a complete supply of electricity; and for measuring and ascer-
 55 taining the extent of such supply: Provided that nothing herein shall authorise or empower the Council to construct or place any works into, through, against, or in any place, building, or land not dedicated to public use without the consent of the owners and occupiers thereof, except that the Council may at any time make entry, and construct
 and

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

and place any new works instead of such works as shall have been lawfully constructed or placed, and may repair or alter any works so constructed or placed.

15. Subject to the provisions of this Act—

- 5 (I) The Council may alter the position of any pipes, wires, sewers, drains, or tunnels being made under any street or place which may interfere with the exercise of their powers under this Act on previously making or securing such compensation to the owners of such pipes, wires, sewers, drains, or tunnels, and on
10 complying with such conditions as to the mode of making such alterations as may before the commencement of such alterations be agreed upon between the Council and such owners, or in case of difference as may be determined by arbitration.
- 15 (II) Any person or public authority lawfully competent so to do may in like manner alter the position of any works of the Council being under or over any such street or place as aforesaid which may interfere with the lawful exercise of any powers vested in such person or authority in relation to such
20 street or place, subject to the like provisions, conditions, and restrictions as are in the first subsection of this section contained.

Power to alter position of pipes, wires, &c.

16. When the Council opens or breaks up the road or pavement of any street, or any sewer, drain, or tunnel, they shall with all possible
25 speed complete the work for which the same shall have been opened or broken up, and fill in the ground and reinstate and make good the road or pavement, or the sewer, drain, or tunnel so opened or broken up, and carry away the rubbish occasioned thereby, and shall at all times whilst any such road or pavement shall be so opened or broken
30 up cause the same to be fenced and guarded, and shall at night time cause a light sufficient for the warning of passengers to be set up and maintained against or near such road or pavement where the same shall be open or broken up.

Streets, &c., to be reinstated.

17. The Council shall not, in the exercise of the powers conferred by this Act, construct, lay down, or place any works for the supply of electricity whereby any public telegraph or telephone line or other public work is, or may be injuriously affected. And the Council and its agents shall conform with such reasonable requirements, either general or special, as may from time to time be made by the Postmaster-General or Secretary for Public Works for the purpose of preventing any such telegraph or telephone line or other public work from being injuriously affected by the said works of the Council, and on failure to conform with the said requirements or any of them, the Postmaster-General or Secretary for Public Works may forthwith
45 remove any works of the Council for the supply of electricity by which any public telegraph or telephone line or other public work is or may be injuriously affected. Any difference which arises between the Postmaster-General or Secretary for Public Works and the Council or their agents with respect to any requirements so made shall be
50 determined by arbitration. In the event of any contravention of this section by the Council or their agents the Council shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds for every day during which such contravention continues, or if the telegraphic or telephonic communication is wilfully interrupted not exceeding ten pounds for every day on
55 which such interruption continues. For the purpose of this section a telegraph or telephone line or other public line shall be deemed to be injuriously affected if telegraphic or telephonic communication by means of such line, whether through induction or otherwise, is affected by any electric line or work of the Council, or by any use
60 made of such electric line or work.

Protection to telegraph and telephone lines and other public works.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

18. One month at least before commencing the execution of any works which involve the placing of works in, under, along, or across any street, highway, or public bridge, on which any telegraph, telephone, or railway line may be (not being repairs to or renewals of then existing works of which the character and positions are not altered), the Council or its agents shall serve upon the Secretary for Public Works and Postmaster-General, the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, the Australian Gaslight Company, and such other person or corporation as the Secretary for Public Works may by writing under his hand addressed to the Council require to be notified, or leave at their respective offices addressed to them, notices describing the proposed works, and the gauge of any electric line, and the current and potential to be carried, together with a plan of the proposed works showing the position of the said works and the mode in which the works are intended to be executed and the manner in which it is intended that the street, highway, or bridge shall be interfered with, and shall at the request of the Secretary for Public Works or Postmaster-General, made at any time, give them such further information with reference to the works as they may desire.
20. If any works are commenced before the requirements of this section have been complied with, the Secretary for Public Works or Postmaster-General may cause the said works to be removed, and the Council shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds, which may be recovered before any stipendiary magistrate in a summary way.
25. 18. 19. In the exercise of its powers under this Act the Council shall cause as little detriment and inconvenience, and do as little damage as possible, and shall make full compensation to all persons for all damage sustained by them by reason or in consequence of the exercise of such powers, the amount of such compensation in case of difference to be determined by arbitration or action at law at the election of the party aggrieved: Provided that the Council may in all cases be at liberty to set up by way of defence or in mitigation of damages, as the case may be, that the person claiming compensation has by his own act, neglect, or default caused or contributed to the damages in respect of which he claims to be compensated.
30. 20. The Governor may make regulations to be observed during the construction, alteration, repair or maintenance of works for securing the safety of persons and private or public property from injury from fire or otherwise, and may in those regulations impose any penalty not exceeding one hundred pounds for any breach of the same, which penalties may be recovered in a summary way before any stipendiary magistrate.
35. 19. 21. The Council may from time to time enter into any contract with any person for supplying with electricity any place or building, or for providing any person with electric lines, burners, meters, lamps, or other fittings and things, and for the repair thereof in such manner and upon such terms as to charges, place, and mode of payment and otherwise in security of the Council as shall be agreed upon.
40. 22. The Council may let any meter for ascertaining the quantity of electricity consumed or supplied and any fittings thereto for such remuneration, and on such terms in respect of the repair of such meter and fittings, and for securing the safety and return thereof to the Council as may be agreed upon between the hirer and the Council, and such remuneration and other moneys payable under the terms agreed upon shall be recoverable in the same manner as charges due to the Council for electricity.
45. 23. The Council shall do all things reasonable to keep all meters on hire to any consumer in proper order for correctly registering the
50. Notice of works with plan to be served on the Postmaster-General.
55. Compensation for damage.
60. Governor may make regulations for securing safety of public.
65. Power to contract for the supply of electricity and fittings.
70. Council may let meter.
75. Council to keep meters in repair.

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the quantity of electricity supplied, and in default of the Council so doing the consumer shall not be liable to pay remuneration for the use of the same during such time as such default continues.

22- 24. Every meter used for ascertaining the quantity of electricity supplied by the Council shall, during the continuance of such supply and until all charges in respect thereof have been paid, be under the sole control of the Council, whether such meter be the property of the Council or not, and no person shall be at liberty to cut, connect, tap, fix, alter, remove, or tamper with any electric line, lamp, meter, or fittings used in connection with the supply of electricity by the Council unless authorised in writing by the Council or its agents duly authorised in that behalf: Provided that nothing in this section shall affect the lawful exercise of any power in that behalf vested in any competent person or public authority.

Meter not to be interfered with and connections not to be made by unauthorised persons.

15 23- 25. The register of the meter used for ascertaining the quantity of electricity supplied by the Council shall be *prima facie* evidence of such quantity.

Register of meter to be *prima facie* evidence.

24- 26. The Council shall not be entitled to prescribe any special form of lamp or burner to be used by any person, or in any way to control or interfere with the manner in which electricity supplied by it in pursuance of this Act is used: Provided always that no person shall be at liberty to use any form of lamp or burner, or to use the electricity supplied to him for any purposes, or to deal with it in any manner so as to unduly or improperly interfere with the supply of electricity to any other person, and if any dispute or difference as to the matters aforesaid arises between the Council and any person entitled to be supplied with electricity in pursuance of this Act, such dispute or difference shall be determined by arbitration.

Council not to prescribe manner of using electricity.

25- 27. Where a supply of electricity is provided in any locality for private purposes, all persons within such locality shall on application be entitled to a supply on the same terms as the terms on which any other person in such locality is under similar circumstances entitled to a corresponding supply.

Obligation to supply electricity.

26- 28. If any person neglect to pay any electric light rate, or any charge for electricity, or any other sum due to the Council in respect of or incidental to the supply of electricity to such person, the Council may without notice cut off his supply of electricity, and for that purpose may cut, disconnect, or remove any works, and may, until such charge or other sum, together with any expenses incurred by the Council in cutting off such supply of electricity as aforesaid is fully paid, but no longer, discontinue the supply of electricity to such person.

Power to cut off supply.

27- 29. Any person who unlawfully and maliciously cuts or injures any electric line or work erected in pursuance of this Act, with intent to cut off any supply of electricity, shall be guilty of felony, and be liable to be kept in penal servitude for any term not exceeding three years, or to be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding one year, but nothing in this section shall exempt a person in respect of any offence which is punishable under any other provision of this Act, or under any other Act, or at common law, so that no person be punished twice for the same offence.

Injuring works with intent to cut off supply.

28- 30. Any person who maliciously or fraudulently abstracts, causes to be wasted or diverted, consumes, or uses any electricity provided in pursuance of this Act, shall be guilty of simple larceny and punishable accordingly.

Stealing electricity.

29- 31. Any person who wilfully and unlawfully removes, destroys, or damages any electric line or any pillar, post, lamp, meter or other works connected with or relating to the supply of electricity by the Council in pursuance of this Act, or who wilfully and unlawfully extinguishes any of the public lamps or lights maintained by the Council

Penalty for removing electric line, &c.

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Council in pursuance of this Act, or wastes, or wilfully and wrongfully uses any of the electricity supplied by the Council in pursuance of this Act shall for each such offence forfeit to the Council a sum not exceeding fifty pounds in addition to the amount of damage done.

- 5 30. 32. Any person who carelessly or accidentally breaks, throws down, or damages any electric line, or any pillar, post, lamp or other works belonging to the Council, or under their control, shall forfeit and pay such sum of money by way of satisfaction to the Council for the damage done not exceeding fifty pounds as a stipendiary magistrate shall think reasonable: Provided that this section shall not effect any other remedy.

Penalty for breaking electric line, &c.

- 15 31. 33. Any person who wilfully or fraudulently, or by culpable negligence, injures or suffers to be injured, any electric line, or any meter, fittings, or works belonging to the Council, or alters the index to any meter, or prevents any meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied, or fraudulently abstracts, consumes, or uses electricity supplied by the Council, shall, without prejudice to any other right or remedy for the protection of the Council, or the punishment of the offender, for every such offence, forfeit to the Council a sum not exceeding twenty-five pounds in addition to the amount of damage.

Penalty for tampering with meter, &c.

- 25 32. 34. In any case in which any person has been convicted of wilfully or fraudulently injuring, or suffering to be injured, any electric line, or any meter, fittings, or works belonging to the Council, or altering the index to any meter, or preventing any meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied, the Council may also, until the matter complained of has been remedied, but no longer, discontinue the supply of electricity to the person so offending, notwithstanding any contract previously existing.

Supply of electricity may also be cut off.

- 30 33. 35. The existence of artificial means for causing such alteration or prevention, or for abstracting, consuming, or using electricity supplied by the Council when the meter is under the custody or control of the consumer, shall be *prima facie* evidence that such alteration, prevention, abstraction, or consumption (as the case may be) was within the knowledge of the consumer.

Evidence that meter has been tampered with.

34. 36. Any officer appointed by the Council in that behalf may, at all reasonable times, enter any place or building to which electricity is or has been supplied by the Council in pursuance of this Act for the purpose of inspecting and testing the electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, and works for the supply of electricity belonging to the Council, and of ascertaining the quantity of electricity consumed or supplied, or, where a supply of electricity is no longer required, or where the Council is authorised to take away and cut off the supply of electricity from any premises, for the purpose of removing any electric lines, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, or works belonging to the Council, and repairing all damage caused by such entry, inspection, or removal.

Power to enter premises and inspect or remove fittings, &c.

35. 37. Where any electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, or works belonging to the Council are placed in or upon any place or building (not being in the possession of the Council) for the purpose of supplying electricity in pursuance of this Act, such electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, or works shall not be subject to distress or to the landlord's remedy for rent of the premises where the same may be, nor to be taken in execution under any process of a Court of law or equity, or any proceedings in bankruptcy against the person in whose possession the same may be: Provided that nothing in this section shall affect any distress or execution lawfully made or issued upon or against the Council.

Council's fittings not to be subject to distress, execution, &c.

36. 38. All actions or other proceedings against the Council, their officers, agents, or servants, for anything done or reasonably supposed

Limitation of action against the Council.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

to have been done in pursuance of this Act, shall be commenced within twelve months after the matter complained of was committed and not otherwise; and notice in writing of any such action or proceedings and of the cause thereof shall be given to the defendant one month at
 5 least before the commencement of the proceeding; and in every such proceeding the defendant may plead the general issue and give this Act and the special matter in evidence at any trial to be had thereupon; and no plaintiff shall recover in any such proceeding if tender of such sufficient amends shall have been made before the same was
 10 commenced, or if a sufficient sum of money shall have been paid into a Court after such commencement by or on behalf of the defendant, together with costs as between party and party incurred up to that time. And if a verdict shall be entered for the defendant, or the plaintiff shall become non-suit or discontinue such proceeding, or if
 15 upon demurrer or otherwise judgment shall be given against the plaintiff, the defendant shall recover his costs and have the like remedy for the same as any defendant has in law in like cases.

~~37.~~ 39. Any arbitration in pursuance of this Act shall be by a Arbitrations.
 single arbitrator, and shall be conducted in accordance with and subject
 20 to the provisions of the Arbitration Act of 1892, and for the purposes of reference to arbitration thereunder this Act shall be deemed to be a submission between the parties within the meaning of the same. The arbitrator shall in every case have power to direct how and by whom the cost of the reference and award shall be paid.

25 ~~38.~~ 40. Whenever by any section of this Act any person is made liable to any fine or forfeiture or to pay any sum of money whether as compensation or in any other way, and the mode of recovering such fine, forfeiture, or sum is not specified the same may be recovered before any stipendiary magistrate, together with such costs as he may
 30 see fit to grant. And all sums of money ordered by any such magistrate to be paid, and all costs and expenses awarded by such magistrate may be recovered and enforced by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the person ordered to pay the same, and in default of sufficient distress such person shall be liable, in the event of the conviction being
 35 for an offence under this Act, to be imprisoned with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding three months unless such money, costs, or expenses be sooner paid: Provided that nothing in this section shall prevent proceedings for the recovery of any fine, forfeiture, or sum as aforesaid being taken in any other Court of
 40 competent jurisdiction when the amount sought to be recovered exceeds ten pounds.

39. 41. All fines, forfeitures, or other sums recovered by the Council in pursuance of this Act shall be carried to the credit of the electric light account. Sums recovered to go to electric light account.

45 ~~40.~~ 42. In any case in which any summary conviction has been had, or any order for the payment of money has been made, in pursuance of this Act before any stipendiary magistrate the defendant may appeal to the Court of Quarter Sessions. The provisions of the "Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1883" in respect of appeals from
 50 summary convictions thereunder shall apply and extend to all appeals under this section, and shall be observed in the making of every such appeal and all proceedings thereupon. Appeals from summary convictions, &c.

~~41.~~ 43. The Council may for the purposes of this Act but subject nevertheless to any regulations made by the Governor as herein
 55 provided, make all such by-laws, and do all such other necessary matters and things as may be necessary for carrying out the objects of this Act: And the Council may by any such by-laws fix the maximum penalty for every offence against such by-laws or any of them not exceeding the penalty, if any, already lawfully fixed for the same Council may make by-laws, &c.

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same offence and in any other case not exceeding ten pounds: Provided that no by-laws made as aforesaid shall have any force unless they have been first approved of by the Governor.

5 42. 44. It shall be lawful for the Council to supply electricity outside the limits of the City of Sydney, and for such purpose to exercise any power conferred upon it by this Act (other than the power to raise a lighting rate) within or without the limits of any Borough adjoining the City of Sydney, subject, however, to the following provisions:—

Council may extend operations into other Municipalities with consent.

10 (I) The aforesaid powers shall not be exercised within the limits of any such Borough except with the consent of the Council thereof (which consent it is hereby empowered to give), and upon such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon.

15 (II) The supply of electricity for the purpose of lighting any place, building, or street belonging to or subject to the control of the Council of such Borough shall for the purposes of this Act be deemed to be a supply for private purposes or use, and all provisions of this Act in such behalf shall extend and apply thereto.

20 (III) The Council of such Borough shall for the purposes of this section have power to enter into all such contracts, and to levy all such rates, as it is by law empowered to enter into, or levy in respect of a supply of gas.

25 43. 45. Nothing in this Act shall authorise or enable the Council, Saving clause.

its officers, agents, or servants to transmit any telegram, or telephonic message, or to perform any of the incidental services of receiving, collecting, or delivering telegrams, or telephonic messages, or give to the Council, its officers, agents, or servants any power, authority, or facility of any kind whatever in connection with such transmission or performance as aforesaid. Any person holding any civic office under the "Sydney Corporation Act of 1879" is hereby empowered to contract directly or indirectly for the supply to him of electricity under the provisions of this Act, and shall not be liable in respect of such contract to any fine, penalty, or disqualification, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

44. 46. No alteration in any telegraphic line or telephonic line or work of the Postmaster-General shall be made by the Council or its agents, except with the written permission of the Postmaster-General, No alteration of public lines without permission.

40 or in any other public work, except with the written permission of the Secretary for Public Works, and subject to such reasonable conditions as may be imposed by him in such permission. And nothing in this Act contained shall exempt the Council from the provisions of any public Act which may be passed by the Parliament of New

45 South Wales applying generally to the manufacture or generating of electricity, or the sale or supply of the same, or to the method of installation or distribution thereof.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

SCHEDULE.

No. Series Debenture £
Issued by the Municipal Council of Sydney under the provisions of the "Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Act."

5 TRANSFERABLE BY DELIVERY.

THIS Debenture was issued by the above-named Council in pursuance of the provisions of the above-mentioned Act, and is to secure to the bearer a principal sum of payable at the on the day of

Interest at the rate of pounds per centum per annum on such principal sum 10 in the meanwhile is payable by equal half-yearly payments on the day of and the day of at and a coupon is annexed for each payment which entitles the bearer of such coupon thereto.

Dated this day of A.D.

G.H. [Mayor] (L.S.)
C.W. Town Clerk.

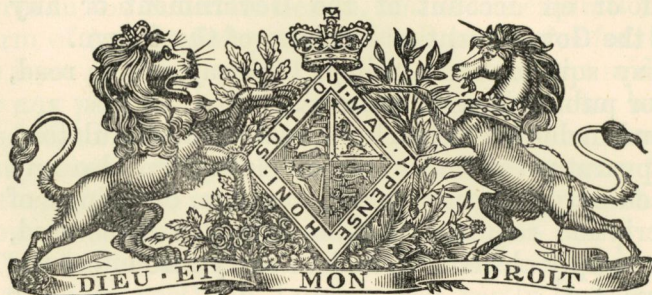
15

This PUBLIC BILL originated in the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, and, having this day passed, is now ready for presentation to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 5 August, 1896. }

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

New South Wales.



ANNO SEXAGESIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. .

An Act to enable the Municipal Council of Sydney to light the streets also public and private places of the City of Sydney with the Electric Light, and also places outside the said city, and to exercise all powers necessary for such purposes, and for the generating and supply of electric power, and for the above purposes to raise by debentures the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds.

(As amended and agreed to in Committee of the Whole.)

BE it enacted by the Queen'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:—

5 1. This Act may be cited as the "Municipal Council of Sydney Short title. Electric Lighting Act."

2. In this Act unless the context otherwise requires, the Interpretation. expression

"Council" means the Municipal Council of Sydney.

10 "Electricity" means electricity, electric current, or any like agency.

283—A (176)

"Electric

NOTE.—The words to be omitted are ruled through; those to be inserted are printed in black letter.

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5 “Electric line” means a wire or wires, conductor, or other means used or intended to be used for the purpose of applying, conveying, transmitting, or distributing electricity, and any casing, coating, tube, pipe, or insulator wholly or partly enclosing, surrounding, or supporting the same or any part thereof, or any apparatus connected therewith for the purpose of conveying, transmitting, or distributing electricity.

10 “Private purposes” means any purposes whatever to which electricity may for the time being be applicable (not being public purposes) except the transmission of any telegram or telephonic message.

“Public purposes” means lighting any place or building belonging to or subject to the control of the Council or any street.

15 “Public work” means any work carried out by or under the supervision of or on account of the Government or any department of the Government or Minister of the Crown.

“Street” means any square, court, alley, highway, lane, road, thoroughfare or public place or passage.

20 “Works” means and includes electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, and apparatus for the supply of electricity, also any buildings, machinery, engines, plant, matters, or things of whatever description required, used, or intended to be used, to generate or supply electricity, and to carry into effect the purposes of this Act.

25 “Governor” means with the advice of the Executive Council.

3. It shall be lawful for the Council to generate and supply Council may supply electricity for any public or private purposes, or for any public purposes, and any private purposes within the limits of the city of Sydney, ~~and such contracts may be made with any person, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding~~ : Provided that electricity may be supplied outside the said limits in manner hereinafter set forth.

4. The Council, for the purpose of generating and supplying General powers of Council. electricity, may use all or any lands now vested in them for any purpose, and may purchase, lease, acquire, and hold all other lands, 35 and construct, purchase, and acquire all works, and purchase and acquire all interests in and licenses for the use of any patented or protected processes, inventions, machinery, apparatus, methods, and other things, and enter into all contracts, appoint officers and servants, and generally do all acts and things which they may deem necessary 40 or desirable for the purpose of such generation and supply.

5. It shall be lawful, with the approval of the Governor, for Power to sell, exchange, or lease lands. the Council to sell or exchange any lands acquired under the authority of this Act, or to lease the same upon such terms and conditions as to the Council may seem meet.

45 6. The Council may use the ordinary corporate funds for the purpose of obtaining plans, estimates, or reports as to the cost of purchasing, leasing, acquiring, and constructing works for the generation and supply of electricity, and for the purpose of defraying the expenses incurred in connection with the preparation and introduction 50 of the Bill for this Act: Provided that in the event of such works being proceeded with such preliminary expenditure shall be charged to a special account of the Council to be called the electric light account.

7. The Council may for the purpose of constructing, purchasing, Special loans for works, &c. or acquiring works for the generation and supply of electricity, and 55 otherwise for carrying out the purposes of this Act, borrow moneys by way of special loan in manner hereinafter provided, namely :—

(1) It shall be lawful for the Council to borrow in manner Municipal Council empowered to borrow £250,000 for electric lighting and other purposes. hereinafter provided, and subject to the conditions hereinafter prescribed, a sum of money not exceeding two hundred and fifty

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- fifty thousand pounds, and all sums lawfully borrowed under this Act shall be deemed to be secured upon the corporate rates and revenues of the said Council from whatsoever source arising, and shall be expended for the purpose of this Act and for no other purpose whatever. And the following conditions, qualifications, and provisions shall regulate the borrowing of money and the issue of debentures under this Act.
- 5 (II) All moneys borrowed by the Council shall be raised by the sale of debentures to be issued in such series and at such times and in such manner as the Council shall think fit, and 10 all such debentures shall have a currency not exceeding twenty-five years, and shall bear interest at a rate not exceeding four pounds per centum per annum, and shall be in the form in the Schedule hereto, and at the expiration of the said 15 term of twenty-five years it shall be lawful for the Council to issue new debentures to retire or repay the said debentures or any part thereof (such new debentures to be numbered and distinguished in like manner as the ones then due), and the mayor of Sydney for the time being may fix the price 20 either at above or below par, at which any such original or new debentures may be sold.
- (III) The said debentures may be issued either in London or Sydney, or partly in London and partly in Sydney, and the principal sum secured thereby shall be the sum of one 25 hundred pounds or any less sum, such less sum to be ten pounds or some multiple of ten pounds.
- (IV) Every such series of debentures shall be numbered in regular ascending arithmetical progression, commencing with number one, whereof the common difference shall be one, and shall 30 have annexed for every payment of interest to grow due thereon a coupon bearing the same number as the debenture. The series of debentures for one hundred pounds (and coupons) shall be distinguished by the letter A; that for 35 ninety pounds by the letter B; that for eighty pounds by the letter C; that for seventy pounds by the letter D; that for sixty pounds by the letter E; that for fifty pounds by the letter F; that for forty pounds by the letter G; that for thirty pounds by the letter H; that for twenty pounds by the letter J; and that for ten pounds by the letter K.
- 40 (V) Every such debenture shall name the principal sum secured thereby, the rate at which interest is payable thereon, and the time and place where such principal and interest are payable. And every such debenture shall be under the 45 corporate seal of the Council, and be signed by the mayor and town clerk, and shall bear date on the day on which it is sealed, and shall be deemed to have been duly issued, and the holder thereof shall not be bound to inquire whether such issue was in fact duly authorised.
- (VI) Every such debenture, and any coupon, whether annexed 50 thereto or not, may be transferred by simple delivery.
- (VII) If the said debentures are issued partly in Sydney and partly in London, a register shall be kept at the City Treasurer's Office, Town Hall, Sydney, and in London, which registers shall contain particulars showing the series, progressive 55 number, amount, date, place of issue and place of payment of principal and interest of every debenture issued under the authority of this Act. The said registers shall be open for inspection at all reasonable times by every holder of debentures issued hereunder or his agent or attorney.

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8. The Council may discharge the whole or any of the said debentures at any time after the expiration of ten years from the date of such debentures by payment of the principal sums owing thereon respectively, and interest up to and including the current half-year or at any earlier time with the consent of the holders of debentures willing to receive payment for same.

Council may redeem debentures before due date.

9. The holder of any debenture issued under the provisions of this Act shall be entitled to receive payment from the Council of the principal sum named therein upon presentation of such debenture on or after the due date thereof at the place where the same is expressed to be made payable. And the holder of any coupon originally annexed to a debenture, and whether separated therefrom or not, shall be entitled to receive payment in like manner of the interest mentioned in such coupon upon presentation of the same at the place where and on or after the date when interest is payable.

Payment of debentures and interest.

10. If default shall be made by the Council in making any payment, whether of principal or interest to the holder of any such debenture or coupon, the following provisions shall take effect, viz:—

Provisions on default of payment by Council.

(I) The holder of such debenture or coupon shall have full power to make all necessary applications to, and to procure all necessary orders and directions from, the Supreme Court for and touching the appointment of a receiver, and the said Court shall have power to make all such orders for the appointment of a receiver, or for his removal and the appointment of another in his place as may be necessary, and to make any orders, and give any directions which the said Court may think proper. And such receiver shall be deemed to be an officer, and shall act under the direction of the Supreme Court.

(II) Such receiver shall have power to make, levy, and collect all rates and revenues whatsoever payable to the Council for or in respect of which he shall have been appointed receiver, but the rates so to be made and levied shall not exceed the maximum limits permitted under the provisions of the law in force for the time being. And for such purposes such receiver shall be deemed the Municipal Council of Sydney, and may exercise all the powers thereof.

(III) Such receiver shall be entitled to such commission, payable out of the city rates, as remuneration for his services as the Supreme Court may appoint.

(IV) Such receiver shall subject to any order of the Supreme Court, pay over all moneys received by him to such holder, and if there be any balance in hand over and above the amount due, and payable to him under the provisions of this Act, the receiver shall pay such balance over to the Council.

11. A sinking fund for the repayment of the principal sums borrowed under the authority of this Act and of the interest due on debentures issued thereunder shall, subject to conditions to be approved by the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council, be established by the said Council before they shall proceed to exercise the borrowing powers conferred by this Act; and in each and every year (commencing with the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven) during the currency of such debentures the Council shall pay into such sinking fund a sum of one pound for every one hundred pounds borrowed under the authority of this Act; and the sum so to be paid shall be invested in the purchase of Government securities or debentures, or securities of the said Council, or debentures or securities of any Municipality or Borough in the Colony of New South Wales, or of such other securities as the Governor by writing under his hand shall

Sinking fund to be established to pay off loan.

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shall approve; and the produce of all such investments shall be reinvested in like manner. The Council may at any time after the expiration of ten years from the date of the said debentures or at any earlier time, with the consent of holders of debentures willing to
 5 receive payment for same, apply the whole or any part of such sinking fund in or towards the discharge of any moneys borrowed under this Act, but they shall in every such case recoup the fund by paying into it half-yearly a sum equal to the interest which any sum so applied would have produced if left invested; if in any such year, as aforesaid, after the
 10 year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, the Council shall not, within seven days after notice in that behalf under the hand of the Colonial Treasurer shall have been given to the town clerk, show to the satisfaction of the treasurer or an officer to be appointed by him that the annual payments and investments required by this Act for the
 15 formation of the said sinking fund have not been duly complied with, it shall be lawful for the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, to apply to the Supreme Court for the appointment of a receiver of the rates and other revenue of the said Council, and in such case the said Court and the receiver so to be appointed shall have all
 20 such powers, *mutatis mutandis*, as are hereinbefore provided for the benefit of holders of unpaid debentures.

12. For all or any of the purposes aforesaid the Council may, ^{Electric light rate.} on the assessment made under the "Sydney Corporation Act of 1879" cause such lighting rate to be raised as to them may seem proper, not
 25 exceeding threepence in the pound upon the said assessment, and such rate shall be payable and recoverable at like time and place and in like manner as provided with regard to the city rate by the said Act.

13. A separate account to be called the "electric light account" ^{Separate account to be kept.} shall be kept of all moneys received from such lighting rate, and in
 30 respect of the supply of electricity and otherwise in pursuance of this Act, all which money shall be charged as follows:—

(I) With the cost of maintaining the works in good repair, and all the expenses connected with generating and supplying electricity as herein provided and otherwise arising under this
 35 Act.

(II) With such sums (to be transferred to an interest and sinking fund account) as shall be sufficient to satisfy the interest payable on any loan raised under the authority of this Act, and to meet the payments to the sinking fund hereinbefore
 40 provided.

14. The Council may open and break up the soil and pavement ^{Power to break up streets, and to open drains.} of any street, and open and break up any sewers, drains, or tunnels within or under such streets; and may construct subways and drains; and may lay down and place under or over any street any
 45 electric lines; and from time to time repair, alter, or remove the same; and for the purposes aforesaid may remove and use all earth and materials in and under such streets; and may in any such street erect any posts, pillars, standards, lamps, and other works, and do all other acts which they may from time to time reasonably deem necessary for
 50 supplying electricity; and may lay any electric line, branch, or other apparatus from any main or branch electric line into, through, or against any place or building for the purpose of lighting the same; and provide and set up any works in their opinion necessary for securing thereto a complete supply of electricity; and for measuring and ascer-
 55 taining the extent of such supply: Provided that nothing herein shall authorise or empower the Council to construct or place any works into, through, against, or in any place, building, or land not dedicated to public use without the consent of the owners and occupiers thereof, except that the Council may at any time make entry, and construct
 and

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and place any new works instead of such works as shall have been lawfully constructed or placed, and may repair or alter any works so constructed or placed.

15. Subject to the provisions of this Act—

5 (I) The Council may alter the position of any pipes, wires, sewers, drains, or tunnels being made under any street or place which may interfere with the exercise of their powers under this Act on previously making or securing such compensation to the owners of such pipes, wires, sewers, drains, or tunnels, and on
10 complying with such conditions as to the mode of making such alterations as may before the commencement of such alterations be agreed upon between the Council and such owners, or in case of difference as may be determined by arbitration.

Power to alter position of pipes, wires, &c.

15 (II) Any person or public authority lawfully competent so to do may in like manner alter the position of any works of the Council being under or over any such street or place as aforesaid which may interfere with the lawful exercise of any powers vested in such person or authority in relation to such
20 street or place, subject to the like provisions, conditions, and restrictions as are in the first subsection of this section contained.

16. When the Council opens or breaks up the road or pavement of any street, or any sewer, drain, or tunnel, they shall with all possible
25 speed complete the work for which the same shall have been opened or broken up, and fill in the ground and reinstate and make good the road or pavement, or the sewer, drain, or tunnel so opened or broken up, and carry away the rubbish occasioned thereby, and shall at all times whilst any such road or pavement shall be so opened or broken
30 up cause the same to be fenced and guarded, and shall at night time cause a light sufficient for the warning of passengers to be set up and maintained against or near such road or pavement where the same shall be open or broken up.

Streets, &c., to be reinstated.

17. The Council shall not, in the exercise of the powers conferred by this Act, construct, lay down, or place any works for the supply of electricity whereby any public telegraph or telephone line or other public work is, or may be injuriously affected. And the Council and its agents shall conform with such reasonable requirements, either general or special, as may from time to time be made by the Post-
40 master-General or Secretary for Public Works for the purpose of preventing any such telegraph or telephone line or other public work from being injuriously affected by the said works of the Council, and on failure to conform with the said requirements or any of them, the Postmaster-General or Secretary for Public Works may forthwith
45 remove any works of the Council for the supply of electricity by which any public telegraph or telephone line or other public work is or may be injuriously affected. Any difference which arises between the Postmaster-General or Secretary for Public Works and the Council or their agents with respect to any requirements so made shall be
50 determined by arbitration. In the event of any contravention of this section by the Council or their agents the Council shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds for every day during which such contravention continues, or if the telegraphic or telephonic communication is wilfully interrupted not exceeding ten pounds for every day on
55 which such interruption continues. For the purpose of this section a telegraph or telephone line or other public line shall be deemed to be injuriously affected if telegraphic or telephonic communication by means of such line, whether through induction or otherwise, is affected by any electric line or work of the Council, or by any use
60 made of such electric line or work.

Protection to telegraph and telephone lines and other public works.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

18. One month at least before commencing the execution of any works which involve the placing of works in, under, along, or across any street, highway, or public bridge, on which any telegraph, telephone, or railway line may be (not being repairs to or renewals of then existing works of which the character and positions are not altered), the Council or its agents shall serve upon the Secretary for Public Works and Postmaster-General, the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, the Australian Gaslight Company, and such other person or corporation as the Secretary for Public Works may by writing under his hand addressed to the Council require to be notified, or leave at their respective offices addressed to them, notices describing the proposed works, and the gauge of any electric line, and the current and potential to be carried, together with a plan of the proposed works showing the position of the said works and the mode in which the works are intended to be executed and the manner in which it is intended that the street, highway, or bridge shall be interfered with, and shall at the request of the Secretary for Public Works or Postmaster-General, made at any time, give them such further information with reference to the works as they may desire.
- 20 If any works are commenced before the requirements of this section have been complied with, the Secretary for Public Works or Postmaster-General may cause the said works to be removed, and the Council shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds, which may be recovered before any stipendiary magistrate in a summary way.
- 25 18. 19. In the exercise of its powers under this Act the Council shall cause as little detriment and inconvenience, and do as little damage as possible, and shall make full compensation to all persons for all damage sustained by them by reason or in consequence of the exercise of such powers, the amount of such compensation in case of difference to be determined by arbitration or action at law at the election of the party aggrieved: Provided that the Council may in all cases be at liberty to set up by way of defence or in mitigation of damages, as the case may be, that the person claiming compensation has by his own act, neglect, or default caused or contributed to the damages in respect of which he claims to be compensated.
- 35 19. 20. The Council may from time to time enter into any contract with any person for supplying with electricity any place or building, or for providing any person with electric lines, burners, meters, lamps, or other fittings and things, and for the repair thereof in such manner and upon such terms as to charges, place, and mode of payment and otherwise in security of the Council as shall be agreed upon.
- 40 20. 21. The Council may let any meter for ascertaining the quantity of electricity consumed or supplied and any fittings thereto for such remuneration, and on such terms in respect of the repair of such meter and fittings, and for securing the safety and return thereof to the Council as may be agreed upon between the hirer and the Council, and such remuneration and other moneys payable under the terms agreed upon shall be recoverable in the same manner as charges due to the Council for electricity.
- 50 21. 22. The Council shall do all things reasonable to keep all meters on hire to any consumer in proper order for correctly registering the quantity of electricity supplied, and in default of the Council so doing the consumer shall not be liable to pay remuneration for the use of the same during such time as such default continues.
- 55 22. 23. Every meter used for ascertaining the quantity of electricity supplied by the Council shall, during the continuance of such supply and until all charges in respect thereof have been paid, be under the sole control of the Council, whether such meter be the property of the Council or not, and no person shall be at liberty to cut, connect, tap, fix,

Notice of works with plan to be served on the Postmaster-General.

Compensation for damage.

Power to contract for the supply of electricity and fittings.

Council may let meter.

Council to keep meters in repair.

Meter not to be interfered with and connections not to be made by unauthorised persons.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

fix, alter, remove, or tamper with any electric line, lamp, meter, or fittings used in connection with the supply of electricity by the Council unless authorised in writing by the Council or its agents duly authorised in that behalf: Provided that nothing in this section shall affect the lawful exercise of any power in that behalf vested in any competent person or public authority.

23. 24. The register of the meter used for ascertaining the quantity of electricity supplied by the Council shall be *prima facie* evidence of such quantity. Register of meter to be *prima facie* evidence.

10 24. 25. The Council shall not be entitled to prescribe any special form of lamp or burner to be used by any person, or in any way to control or interfere with the manner in which electricity supplied by it in pursuance of this Act is used: Provided always that no person shall be at liberty to use any form of lamp or burner, or to use the

15 electricity supplied to him for any purposes, or to deal with it in any manner so as to unduly or improperly interfere with the supply of electricity to any other person, and if any dispute or difference as to the matters aforesaid arises between the Council and any person entitled to be supplied with electricity in pursuance of this Act, such

20 dispute or difference shall be determined by arbitration.

25. 26. Where a supply of electricity is provided in any locality for private purposes, all persons within such locality shall on application be entitled to a supply on the same terms as the terms on which any other person in such locality is under similar circumstances

25 entitled to a corresponding supply.

26. 27. If any person neglect to pay any electric light rate, or any charge for electricity, or any other sum due to the Council in respect of or incidental to the supply of electricity to such person, the Council may without notice cut off his supply of electricity, and for that purpose may cut, disconnect, or remove any works, and may, until such charge or other sum, together with any expenses incurred by the Council in cutting off such supply of electricity as aforesaid is fully paid, but no longer, discontinue the supply of electricity to such person.

27. 28. Any person who unlawfully and maliciously cuts or injures any electric line or work erected in pursuance of this Act, with intent to cut off any supply of electricity, shall be guilty of felony, and be liable to be kept in penal servitude for any term not exceeding three years, or to be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding one year, but nothing in this section shall exempt a person in respect of any offence which is punishable under any other provision of this Act, or under any other Act, or at common law, so that no person be punished twice for the same offence.

28. 29. Any person who maliciously or fraudulently abstracts, causes to be wasted or diverted, consumes, or uses any electricity provided in pursuance of this Act, shall be guilty of simple larceny and punishable accordingly. Stealing electricity.

29. 30. Any person who wilfully and unlawfully removes, destroys, or damages any electric line or any pillar, post, lamp, meter or other works connected with or relating to the supply of electricity by the Council in pursuance of this Act, or who wilfully and unlawfully extinguishes any of the public lamps or lights maintained by the Council in pursuance of this Act, or wastes, or wilfully and wrongfully uses any of the electricity supplied by the Council in pursuance of this Act shall for each such offence forfeit to the Council a sum not exceeding fifty pounds in addition to the amount of damage done. Penalty for removing electric line, &c.

30. 31. Any person who carelessly or accidentally breaks, throws down, or damages any electric line, or any pillar, post, lamp or other works belonging to the Council, or under their control, shall forfeit and pay such sum of money by way of satisfaction to the Council for the damage Penalty for breaking electric line, &c.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

damage done not exceeding fifty pounds as a stipendiary magistrate shall think reasonable: Provided that this section shall not effect any other remedy.

31. 32. Any person who wilfully or fraudulently, or by culpable negligence, injures or suffers to be injured, any electric line, or any meter, fittings, or works belonging to the Council, or alters the index to any meter, or prevents any meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied, or fraudulently abstracts, consumes, or uses electricity supplied by the Council, shall, without prejudice to any other right or remedy for the protection of the Council, or the punishment of the offender, for every such offence, forfeit to the Council a sum not exceeding twenty-five pounds in addition to the amount of damage. Penalty for tampering with meter, &c.

32. 33. In any case in which any person has been convicted of wilfully or fraudulently injuring, or suffering to be injured, any electric line, or any meter, fittings, or works belonging to the Council, or altering the index to any meter, or preventing any meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied, the Council may also, until the matter complained of has been remedied, but no longer, discontinue the supply of electricity to the person so offending, notwithstanding any contract previously existing. Supply of electricity may also be cut off.

33. 34. The existence of artificial means for causing such alteration or prevention, or for abstracting, consuming, or using electricity supplied by the Council when the meter is under the custody or control of the consumer, shall be *prima facie* evidence that such alteration, prevention, abstraction, or consumption (as the case may be) was within the knowledge of the consumer. Evidence that meter has been tampered with.

34. 35. Any officer appointed by the Council in that behalf may, at all reasonable times, enter any place or building to which electricity is or has been supplied by the Council in pursuance of this Act for the purpose of inspecting and testing the electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, and works for the supply of electricity belonging to the Council, and of ascertaining the quantity of electricity consumed or supplied, or, where a supply of electricity is no longer required, or where the Council is authorised to take away and cut off the supply of electricity from any premises, for the purpose of removing any electric lines, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, or works belonging to the Council, and repairing all damage caused by such entry, inspection, or removal. Power to enter premises and inspect or remove fittings, &c.

35. 36. Where any electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, or works belonging to the Council are placed in or upon any place or building (not being in the possession of the Council) for the purpose of supplying electricity in pursuance of this Act, such electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, or works shall not be subject to distress or to the landlord's remedy for rent of the premises where the same may be, nor to be taken in execution under any process of a Court of law or equity, or any proceedings in bankruptcy against the person in whose possession the same may be: Provided that nothing in this section shall affect any distress or execution lawfully made or issued upon or against the Council. Council's fittings not to be subject to distress, execution, &c.

36. 37. All actions or other proceedings against the Council, their officers, agents, or servants, for anything done or reasonably supposed to have been done in pursuance of this Act, shall be commenced within twelve months after the matter complained of was committed and not otherwise; and notice in writing of any such action or proceedings and of the cause thereof shall be given to the defendant one month at least before the commencement of the proceeding; and in every such proceeding the defendant may plead the general issue and give this Act and the special matter in evidence at any trial to be had thereupon; and no plaintiff shall recover in any such proceeding if tender of

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

of such sufficient amends shall have been made before the same was commenced, or if a sufficient sum of money shall have been paid into a Court after such commencement by or on behalf of the defendant, together with costs as between party and party incurred up to that time. And if a verdict shall be entered for the defendant, or the plaintiff shall become non-suit or discontinue such proceeding, or if upon demurrer or otherwise judgment shall be given against the plaintiff, the defendant shall recover his costs and have the like remedy for the same as any defendant has in law in like cases.

10 37. 38. Any arbitration in pursuance of this Act shall be by a Arbitrations.
single arbitrator, and shall be conducted in accordance with and subject to the provisions of the Arbitration Act of 1892, and for the purposes of reference to arbitration thereunder this Act shall be deemed to be a submission between the parties within the meaning of the
15 same. The arbitrator shall in every case have power to direct how and by whom the cost of the reference and award shall be paid.

38. 39. Whenever by any section of this Act any person is made Procedure for
liable to any fine or forfeiture or to pay any sum of money whether as recovery of penalties,
compensation or in any other way, and the mode of recovering such &c.
20 fine, forfeiture, or sum is not specified the same may be recovered before any stipendiary magistrate, together with such costs as he may see fit to grant. And all sums of money ordered by any such magistrate to be paid, and all costs and expenses awarded by such magistrate may be recovered and enforced by distress and sale of the goods and chattels
25 of the person ordered to pay the same, and in default of sufficient distress such person shall be liable, in the event of the conviction being for an offence under this Act, to be imprisoned with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding three months unless such money, costs, or expenses be sooner paid: Provided that nothing in
30 this section shall prevent proceedings for the recovery of any fine, forfeiture, or sum as aforesaid being taken in any other Court of competent jurisdiction when the amount sought to be recovered exceeds ten pounds.

39. 40. All fines, forfeitures, or other sums recovered by the Sums recovered to
35 Council in pursuance of this Act shall be carried to the credit of the go to electric light
electric light account.

40. 41. In any case in which any summary conviction has been Appeals from sum-
had, or any order for the payment of money has been made, in pur- mary convictions, &c.
suance of this Act before any stipendiary magistrate the defendant
40 may appeal to the Court of Quarter Sessions. The provisions of the "Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1883" in respect of appeals from summary convictions thereunder shall apply and extend to all appeals under this section, and shall be observed in the making of every such appeal and all proceedings thereupon.

45 41. 42. The Council may for the purposes of this Act make all such Council may make
by-laws, and do all such other necessary matters and things as may be by-laws, &c.
necessary for carrying out the objects of this Act: Provided that no
by-laws made as aforesaid shall have any force unless they have been first approved of by the Governor with the advice of the Executive
50 Council.

42. 43. It shall be lawful for the Council to supply electricity Council may extend
outside the limits of the City of Sydney, and for such purpose to operations into other
exercise any power conferred upon it by this Act (other than the Municipalities with
power to raise a lighting rate) within or without the limits of any consent.
55 Borough adjoining the City of Sydney, subject, however, to the following provisions:—

(I) The aforesaid powers shall not be exercised within the limits of any such Borough except with the consent of the Council thereof (which consent it is hereby empowered to give), and upon such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon.
60 (II)

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

(II) The supply of electricity for the purpose of lighting any place, building, or street belonging to or subject to the control of the Council of such Borough shall for the purposes of this Act be deemed to be a supply for private purposes or use, and all provisions of this Act in such behalf shall extend and apply thereto.

(III) The Council of such Borough shall for the purposes of this section have power to enter into all such contracts, and to levy all such rates, as it is by law empowered to enter into, or levy in respect of a supply of gas.

43. 44. Nothing in this Act shall authorise or enable the Council, its officers, agents, or servants to transmit any telegram, or telephonic message, or to perform any of the incidental services of receiving, collecting, or delivering telegrams, or telephonic messages, or give to the Council, its officers, agents, or servants any power, authority, or facility of any kind whatever in connection with such transmission or performance as aforesaid. Any person holding any civic office under the "Sydney Corporation Act of 1879" is hereby empowered to contract directly or indirectly for the supply to him of electricity under the provisions of this Act, and shall not be liable in respect of such contract to any fine, penalty, or disqualification, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

44. 45. No alteration in any telegraphic line or telephonic line or work of the Postmaster-General shall be made by the Council or its agents, except with the written permission of the Postmaster-General and subject to such reasonable conditions as may be imposed by him in such permission.

SCHEDULE.

No.	Debenture £
30	Issued by the Municipal Council of Sydney under the provisions of the "Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Act."

TRANSFERABLE BY DELIVERY.

THIS Debenture was issued by the above-named Council in pursuance of the provisions of the above-mentioned Act, and is to secure to the bearer a principal sum of

35 payable at the on the day of

Interest at the rate of pounds per centum per annum on such principal sum in the meanwhile is payable by equal half-yearly payments on the day of and the day of at and a coupon is annexed for each payment which entitles the bearer of such coupon thereto.

40 Dated this day of A.D.

G.H. [Mayor] (L.S.)
C.W. Town Clerk.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Light

- (11) The supply of electricity for the purpose of lighting any place, building or street belonging to or subject to the control of the Council of such Borough shall for the purpose of this Act be deemed to be a supply for private purposes or use and all provisions of this Act in such behalf shall extend and apply thereto.
- (12) The Council of such Borough shall for the purpose of this section have power to enter into all such contracts and to levy all such rates as it is law empowered to enter into or levy in respect of a supply of electricity.
42. 44. Nothing in this Act shall authorize or enable the Council to make any contract or agreement for the transmission or telephonic message, or to perform any of the incidental services of receiving, collecting or delivering telegrams, or telephonic messages or give to the Council, the officers, agents or servants any power, authority or facility of any kind whatever in connection with such transmission or performance as aforesaid. Any person holding any office under the Sydney Corporation Act of 1879 is hereby empowered to contract directly or indirectly for the supply to him of electricity under the provisions of this Act, and shall not be liable in respect of such contract to any fine, penalty or disqualification, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding.
44. 45. No alteration in any telegraphic line or telephonic line or work of the Postmaster-General shall be made by the Council or its agents except with the written permission of the Postmaster-General and subject to such reasonable conditions as may be imposed by him in such permission to alter, to be observed by the Council or its agents.
45. 46. The Council shall not be liable in respect of any such contract to any fine, penalty or disqualification, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding.
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1896.

Legislative Council.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SYDNEY ELECTRIC LIGHTING
BILL.

*(Amendment to be proposed in Committee of the Whole by
MR. KATER.)*

Page 3, clause 7. At end of subclause (v) *add* “and shall be deemed
“ to have been duly issued, and the holder thereof shall not
“ be bound to inquire whether such issue was in fact duly
“ authorised ”

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SYDNEY ELECTRIC
LIGHTING BILL.

(*Amendments to be proposed in Committee of the Whole.*)

Page 2, clause 3. *After* line 13 *add* “ ‘Public work’ means any work
“ carried out by or under the supervision of or on account of
“ the Government or any department of the Government or
“ Minister of the Crown”

Page 6, clause 17, line 34. *After* “Postmaster-General” *add* “or
“ Secretary for Public Works”

Page 6, clause 17, line 35. *After* “line” *insert* “or other public
“ work”

Page 6, clause 17, line 35. *Omit* “said” *after* “works” *insert* “of
“ the Council, and on failure to conform with the said require-
“ ments or any of them, the Postmaster-General or Secretary
“ for Public Works may forthwith remove any works of the
“ Council for the supply of electricity by which any public
“ telegraph or telephone line or other public work is or may
“ be injuriously affected”

Page 6, clause 17, line 36. *After* “Postmaster-General” *add* “or
“ Secretary for Public Works”

Page 6. *Add* new clauses—

18. One month at least before commencing the execution of any works which involve the placing of works in, under, along, or across any street, highway, or public bridge (not being repairs to or renewals of then existing works of which the character and positions are not altered), the Council or its agents shall serve upon the Secretary for Public Works, and Postmaster-General, the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, the Australian Gaslight Company (Limited), and such other person or corporation as the Secretary for Public Works may by writing under his hand addressed to the Council require to be notified, or leave at their respective offices addressed to them, notices describing the proposed works, and the gauge of any electric line and the current and potential to be carried, together with a plan of the proposed works showing the position of the said works and the mode in which the works are intended to be executed and the manner in which it is intended that the street, highway, or bridge shall be interfered with, and shall at the request of the Secretary for Public Works or Postmaster-General, made at any time, give them such further information with reference to the works as they may desire. If any works are commenced before the requirements of this section have been complied with, the Secretary for Public Works or Postmaster-General may cause the said works to be removed, and the Council shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding *fifty* pounds, which may be recovered before any stipendiary magistrate in a summary way.

Notice of works with
plan to be served on
the Postmaster-
General.

19. The Governor with the advice of the Executive Council may make regulations to be observed during the construction, alteration, repair, or maintenance of works for securing the safety of the persons and property of the public from injury from fire or otherwise, and may in those regulations impose any penalty not exceeding *one hundred* pounds for any breach of the same, which penalties may be recovered in a summary way before any stipendiary magistrate.

Governor may make
regulations for
securing safety of
public.

Page 10, clause 41, line 12. *After* “Act” *insert* “but subject never-
“ theless to any regulations made by the Governor as
“ hereinafter provided”

Page 10, clause 41, line 14. *After* “Act” *add* “Provided that no
“ by-laws made as aforesaid shall have any force unless they
“ have been first approved of by the Governor with the
“ advice of the Executive Council”

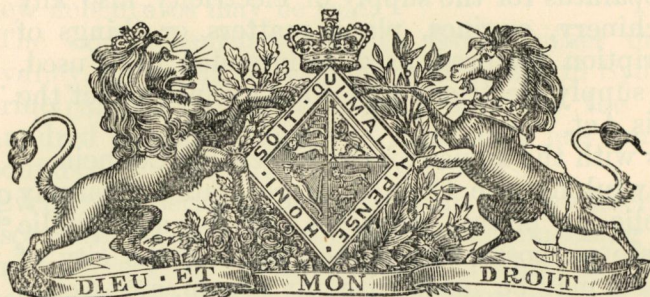
27

This PUBLIC BILL originated in the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, and, having this day passed, is now ready for presentation to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 5 August, 1896.* }

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

New South Wales.



ANNO SEXAGESIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. .

An Act to enable the Municipal Council of Sydney to light the streets also public and private places of the City of Sydney with the Electric Light, and also places outside the said city, and to exercise all powers necessary for such purposes, and for the generating and supply of electric power, and for the above purposes to raise by debentures the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds.

BE it enacted by the Queen'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:—

5 1. This Act may be cited as the "Municipal Council of Sydney Short title.
Electric Lighting Act."

2. In this Act unless the context otherwise requires, the Interpretation,
expression

"Council" means the Municipal Council of Sydney.

10 "Electricity" means electricity, electric current, or any like
agency.

283—A (176)

"Electric

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

5 “Electric line” means a wire or wires, conductor, or other means used or intended to be used for the purpose of applying, conveying, transmitting, or distributing electricity, and any casing, coating, tube, pipe, or insulator wholly or partly enclosing, surrounding, or supporting the same or any part thereof, or any apparatus connected therewith for the purpose of conveying, transmitting, or distributing electricity.

10 “Private purposes” means any purposes whatever to which electricity may for the time being be applicable (not being public purposes) except the transmission of any telegram or telephonic message.

“Public purposes” means lighting any place or building belonging to or subject to the control of the Council or any street.

15 “Street” means any square, court, alley, highway, lane, road, thoroughfare or public place or passage.

20 “Works” means and includes electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, and apparatus for the supply of electricity, also any buildings, machinery, engines, plant, matters or things of whatever description required, used, or intended to be used, to generate or supply electricity and to carry into effect the purposes of this Act.

“Governor” means with the advice of the Executive Council.

3. It shall be lawful for the Council to generate and supply electricity for any public or private purposes, or for any public purposes, and any private purposes within the limits of the city of Sydney, and such contracts may be made with any person, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding: Provided that electricity may be supplied outside the said limits in manner hereinafter set forth.

4. The Council, for the purpose of generating and supplying electricity, may use all or any lands now vested in them for any purpose, and may purchase, lease, acquire, and hold all other lands, and construct, purchase, and acquire all works, and purchase and acquire all interests in and licenses for the use of any patented or protected processes, inventions, machinery, apparatus, methods, and other things, and enter into all contracts, appoint officers and servants, and generally do all acts and things which they may deem necessary or desirable for the purpose of such generation and supply.

5. It shall be lawful, with the approval of the Governor, for the Council to sell or exchange any lands acquired under the authority of this Act, or to lease the same upon such terms and conditions as to the Council may seem meet.

6. The Council may use the ordinary corporate funds for the purpose of obtaining plans, estimates, or reports as to the cost of purchasing, leasing, acquiring, and constructing works for the generation and supply of electricity, and for the purpose of defraying the expenses incurred in connection with the preparation and introduction of the Bill for this Act: Provided that in the event of such works being proceeded with such preliminary expenditure shall be charged to a special account of the Council to be called the electric light account.

7. The Council may for the purpose of constructing, purchasing, or acquiring works for the generation and supply of electricity, and otherwise for carrying out the purposes of this Act, borrow moneys by way of special loan in manner hereinafter provided, namely:—

(i) It shall be lawful for the Council to borrow in manner hereinafter provided, and subject to the conditions hereinafter prescribed, a sum of money not exceeding two hundred and fifty thousand pounds, and all sums lawfully borrowed under this Act shall be deemed to be secured upon the corporate rates and revenues of the said Council from whatsoever source arising,

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arising, and shall be expended for the purpose of this Act and for no other purpose whatever. And the following conditions, qualifications, and provisions shall regulate the borrowing of money and the issue of debentures under this Act.

- 5 (II) All moneys borrowed by the Council shall be raised by the sale of debentures to be issued in such series and at such times and in such manner as the Council shall think fit, and all such debentures shall have a currency not exceeding
10 twenty-five years, and shall bear interest at a rate not exceeding four pounds per centum per annum, and shall be in the form in the Schedule hereto, and at the expiration of the said term of twenty-five years it shall be lawful for the Council to issue new debentures to retire or repay the said debentures or any part thereof (such new debentures to be numbered and distinguished in like manner as the ones then due), and
15 the mayor of Sydney for the time being may fix the price either at above or below par, at which any such original or new debentures may be sold.
- (III) The said debentures may be issued either in London or
20 Sydney, or partly in London and partly in Sydney, and the principal sum secured thereby shall be the sum of one hundred pounds or any less sum, such less sum to be ten pounds or some multiple of ten pounds.
- (IV) Every such series of debentures shall be numbered in regular
25 ascending arithmetical progression, commencing with number one, whereof the common difference shall be one, and shall have annexed for every payment of interest to grow due thereon a coupon bearing the same number as the debenture. The series of debentures for one hundred pounds (and
30 coupons) shall be distinguished by the letter A; that for ninety pounds by the letter B; that for eighty pounds by the letter C; that for seventy pounds by the letter D; that for sixty pounds by the letter E; that for fifty pounds by the letter F; that for forty pounds by the letter G; that for
35 thirty pounds by the letter H; that for twenty pounds by the letter J; and that for ten pounds by the letter K.
- (V) Every such debenture shall name the principal sum secured thereby, the rate at which interest is payable thereon, and the time and place where such principal and interest are payable. And every such debenture shall be under the
40 corporate seal of the Council, and be signed by the mayor and town clerk, and shall bear date on the day on which it is sealed.
- (VI) Every such debenture, and any coupon, whether annexed thereto or not, may be transferred by simple delivery.
- (VII) If the said debentures are issued partly in Sydney and partly
45 in London, a register shall be kept at the City Treasurer's Office, Town Hall, Sydney, and in London, which registers shall contain particulars showing the series, progressive number, amount, date, place of issue and place of payment of principal and interest of every debenture issued under the authority of this Act. The said registers shall be open for
50 inspection at all reasonable times by every holder of debentures issued hereunder or his agent or attorney.

55 8. The Council may discharge the whole or any of the said debentures at any time after the expiration of ten years from the date of such debentures by payment of the principal sums owing thereon respectively, and interest up to and including the current half-year or at any earlier time with the consent of the holders of debentures
60 willing to receive payment for same. 9.

Council may redeem debentures before due date.

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9. The holder of any debenture issued under the provisions of this Act shall be entitled to receive payment from the Council of the principal sum named therein upon presentation of such debenture on or after the due date thereof at the place where the same is expressed to be made payable. And the holder of any coupon originally annexed to a debenture, and whether separated therefrom or not, shall be entitled to receive payment in like manner of the interest mentioned in such coupon upon presentation of the same at the place where and on or after the date when interest is payable.

Payment of
debentures and
interest.

10 10. If default shall be made by the Council in making any payment, whether of principal or interest to the holder of any such debenture or coupon, the following provisions shall take effect, viz:—

Provisions on default
of payment by
Council.

(I) The holder of such debenture or coupon shall have full power to make all necessary applications to, and to procure all necessary orders and directions from, the Supreme Court for and touching the appointment of a receiver, and the said Court shall have power to make all such orders for the appointment of a receiver, or for his removal and the appointment of another in his place as may be necessary, and to make any orders, and give any directions which the said Court may think proper. And such receiver shall be deemed to be an officer, and shall act under the direction of the Supreme Court.

(II) Such receiver shall have power to make, levy, and collect all rates and revenues whatsoever payable to the Council for or in respect of which he shall have been appointed receiver, but the rates so to be made and levied shall not exceed the maximum limits permitted under the provisions of the law in force for the time being. And for such purposes such receiver shall be deemed the Municipal Council of Sydney, and may exercise all the powers thereof.

(III) Such receiver shall be entitled to such commission, payable out of the city rates, as remuneration for his services as the Supreme Court may appoint.

(IV) Such receiver shall subject to any order of the Supreme Court, pay over all moneys received by him to such holder, and if there be any balance in hand over and above the amount due, and payable to him under the provisions of this Act, the receiver shall pay such balance over to the Council.

11. A sinking fund for the repayment of the principal sums borrowed under the authority of this Act and of the interest due on debentures issued thereunder shall, subject to conditions to be approved by the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council, be established by the said Council before they shall proceed to exercise the borrowing powers conferred by this Act; and in each and every year (commencing with the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven) during the currency of such debentures the Council shall pay into such sinking fund a sum of one pound for every one hundred pounds borrowed under the authority of this Act; and the sum so to be paid shall be invested in the purchase of Government securities or debentures, or securities of the said Council, or debentures or securities of any Municipality or Borough in the Colony of New South Wales, or of such other securities as the Governor by writing under his hand shall approve; and the produce of all such investments shall be reinvested in like manner. The Council may at any time after the expiration of ten years from the date of the said debentures or at any earlier time, with the consent of holders of debentures willing to receive payment for same, apply the whole or any part of such sinking fund in or towards the discharge of any moneys borrowed under this

Sinking fund to be
established to pay off
loan.

Act,

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Act, but they shall in every such case recoup the fund by paying into it half-yearly a sum equal to the interest which any sum so applied would have produced if left invested; if in any such year, as aforesaid, after the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, the Council shall
 5 not, within seven days after notice in that behalf under the hand of the Colonial Treasurer shall have been given to the town clerk, show to the satisfaction of the treasurer or an officer to be appointed by him that the annual payments and investments required by this Act for the formation of the said sinking fund have not been duly complied with,
 10 it shall be lawful for the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, to apply to the Supreme Court for the appointment of a receiver of the rates and other revenue of the said Council, and in such case the said Court and the receiver so to be appointed shall have all such powers, *mutatis mutandis*, as are hereinbefore provided for the
 15 benefit of holders of unpaid debentures.

12. For all or any of the purposes aforesaid the Council may, ^{Electric light rate.} on the assessment made under the "Sydney Corporation Act of 1879" cause such lighting rate to be raised as to them may seem proper, not exceeding threepence in the pound upon the said assessment, and such
 20 rate shall be payable and recoverable at like time and place and in like manner as provided with regard to the city rate by the said Act.

13. A separate account to be called the "electric light account" ^{Separate account to be kept.} shall be kept of all moneys received from such lighting rate, and in respect of the supply of electricity and otherwise in pursuance of this
 25 Act, all which money shall be charged as follows:—

- (I) With the cost of maintaining the works in good repair, and all the expenses connected with generating and supplying electricity as herein provided and otherwise arising under this Act.
- 30 (II) With such sums (to be transferred to an interest and sinking fund account) as shall be sufficient to satisfy the interest payable on any loan raised under the authority of this Act, and to meet the payments to the sinking fund hereinbefore provided.

14. The Council may open and break up the soil and pavement ^{Power to break up streets, and to open drains.} of any street; and open and break up any sewers, drains, or tunnels within or under such streets; and may construct subways and drains; and may lay down and place under or over any street any electric lines; and from time to time repair, alter, or remove the same;
 40 and for the purposes aforesaid may remove and use all earth and materials in and under such streets; and may in any such street erect any posts, pillars, standards, lamps, and other works, and do all other acts which they may from time to time reasonably deem necessary for supplying electricity; and may lay any electric line, branch, or
 45 other apparatus from any main or branch electric line into, through, or against any place or building for the purpose of lighting the same; and provide and set up any works in their opinion necessary for securing thereto a complete supply of electricity; and for measuring and ascertaining the extent of such supply: Provided that nothing herein shall
 50 authorise or empower the Council to construct or place any works into, through, against, or in any place, building, or land not dedicated to public use without the consent of the owners and occupiers thereof, except that the Council may at any time make entry, and construct and place any new works instead of such works as shall have been
 55 lawfully constructed or placed, and may repair or alter any works so constructed or placed.

15. Subject to the provisions of this Act—

- (I) The Council may alter the position of any pipes, wires, sewers, ^{Power to alter position of pipes, wires, &c.} drains, or tunnels being made under any street or place which
 may

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5 may interfere with the exercise of their powers under this Act on previously making or securing such compensation to the owners of such pipes, wires, sewers, drains, or tunnels, and on complying with such conditions as to the mode of making such alterations as may before the commencement of such alterations be agreed upon between the Council and such owners, or in case of difference as may be determined by arbitration.

10 (II) Any person or public authority lawfully competent so to do may in like manner alter the position of any works of the Council being under or over any such street or place as aforesaid which may interfere with the lawful exercise of any powers vested in such person or authority in relation to such street or place, subject to the like provisions, conditions, and
15 restrictions as are in the first subsection of this section contained.

16. When the Council opens or breaks up the road or pavement of any street, or any sewer, drain, or tunnel, they shall with all possible speed complete the work for which the same shall have been opened
20 or broken up, and fill in the ground and reinstate and make good the road or pavement, or the sewer, drain, or tunnel so opened or broken up, and carry away the rubbish occasioned thereby, and shall at all times whilst any such road or pavement shall be so opened or broken up cause the same to be fenced and guarded, and shall at night time
25 cause a light sufficient for the warning of passengers to be set up and maintained against or near such road or pavement where the same shall be open or broken up.

Streets, &c., to be reinstated.

17. The Council shall not, in the exercise of the powers conferred by this Act, construct, lay down, or place any works for the
30 supply of electricity whereby any public telegraph or telephone line or other public work is, or may be injuriously affected. And the Council and its agents shall conform with such reasonable requirements, either general or special, as may from time to time be made by the Postmaster-General for the purpose of preventing any such telegraph or
35 telephone line from being injuriously affected by the said works. Any difference which arises between the Postmaster-General and the Council or their agents with respect to any requirements so made shall be determined by arbitration. In the event of any
40 contravention of this section by the Council or their agents the Council shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds for every day during which such contravention continues, or if the telegraphic or telephonic communication is wilfully interrupted not exceeding ten pounds for every day on which such interruption continues. For the
45 purpose of this section a telegraph or telephone line shall be deemed to be injuriously affected if telegraphic or telephonic communication by means of such line, whether through induction or otherwise, is affected by any electric line or work of the Council, or by any use made of such electric line or work.

Protection to telegraph and telephone lines.

18. In the exercise of its powers under this Act the Council
50 shall cause as little detriment and inconvenience, and do as little damage as possible, and shall make full compensation to all persons for all damage sustained by them by reason or in consequence of the exercise of such powers, the amount of such compensation in case of difference to be determined by arbitration or action at law at the
55 election of the party aggrieved: Provided that the Council may in all cases be at liberty to set up by way of defence or in mitigation of damages, as the case may be, that the person claiming compensation has by his own act, neglect, or default caused or contributed to the damages in respect of which he claims to be compensated.

Compensation for damage.

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19. The Council may from time to time enter into any contract with any person for supplying with electricity any place or building, or for providing any person with electric lines, burners, meters, lamps, or other fittings and things, and for the repair thereof in such manner and upon such terms as to charges, place, and mode of payment and otherwise in security of the Council as shall be agreed upon.

Power to contract for the supply of electricity and fittings.

20. The Council may let any meter for ascertaining the quantity of electricity consumed or supplied and any fittings thereto for such remuneration, and on such terms in respect of the repair of such meter and fittings, and for securing the safety and return thereof to the Council as may be agreed upon between the hirer and the Council, and such remuneration and other moneys payable under the terms agreed upon shall be recoverable in the same manner as charges due to the Council for electricity.

Council may let meter.

21. The Council shall do all things reasonable to keep all meters on hire to any consumer in proper order for correctly registering the quantity of electricity supplied, and in default of the Council so doing the consumer shall not be liable to pay remuneration for the use of the same during such time as such default continues.

Council to keep meters in repair.

22. Every meter used for ascertaining the quantity of electricity supplied by the Council shall, during the continuance of such supply and until all charges in respect thereof have been paid, be under the sole control of the Council, whether such meter be the property of the Council or not, and no person shall be at liberty to cut, connect, tap, fix, alter, remove, or tamper with any electric line, lamp, meter, or fittings used in connection with the supply of electricity by the Council unless authorised in writing by the Council or its agents duly authorised in that behalf: Provided that nothing in this section shall affect the lawful exercise of any power in that behalf vested in any competent person or public authority.

Meter not to be interfered with and connections not to be made by unauthorised persons.

23. The register of the meter used for ascertaining the quantity of electricity supplied by the Council shall be *primâ facie* evidence of such quantity.

Register of meter to be *primâ facie* evidence.

24. The Council shall not be entitled to prescribe any special form of lamp or burner to be used by any person, or in any way to control or interfere with the manner in which electricity supplied by it in pursuance of this Act is used: Provided always that no person shall be at liberty to use any form of lamp or burner, or to use the electricity supplied to him for any purposes, or to deal with it in any manner so as to unduly or improperly interfere with the supply of electricity to any other person, and if any dispute or difference as to the matters aforesaid arises between the Council and any person entitled to be supplied with electricity in pursuance of this Act, such dispute or difference shall be determined by arbitration.

Council not to prescribe manner of using electricity.

25. Where a supply of electricity is provided in any locality for private purposes, all persons within such locality shall on application be entitled to a supply on the same terms as the terms on which any other person in such locality is under similar circumstances entitled to a corresponding supply.

Obligation to supply electricity.

26. If any person neglect to pay any electric light rate, or any charge for electricity, or any other sum due to the Council in respect of or incidental to the supply of electricity to such person, the Council may without notice cut off his supply of electricity, and for that purpose may cut, disconnect, or remove any works, and may, until such charge or other sum, together with any expenses incurred by the Council in cutting off such supply of electricity as aforesaid is fully paid, but no longer, discontinue the supply of electricity to such person.

Power to cut off supply.

27. Any person who unlawfully and maliciously cuts or injures any electric line or work erected in pursuance of this Act, with intent to

Injuring works with intent to cut off supply.

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to cut off any supply of electricity, shall be guilty of felony, and be liable to be kept in penal servitude for any term not exceeding three years, or to be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding one year, but nothing in this section shall exempt a
 5 person in respect of any offence which is punishable under any other provision of this Act, or under any other Act, or at common law, so that no person be punished twice for the same offence.

28. Any person who maliciously or fraudulently abstracts, causes to be wasted or diverted, consumes, or uses any electricity
 10 provided in pursuance of this Act, shall be guilty of simple larceny and punishable accordingly. Stealing electricity.

29. Any person who wilfully and unlawfully removes, destroys, or damages any electric line or any pillar, post, lamp, meter or other works connected with or relating to the supply of electricity by the
 15 Council in pursuance of this Act, or who wilfully and unlawfully extinguishes any of the public lamps or lights maintained by the Council in pursuance of this Act, or wastes, or wilfully and wrongfully uses any of the electricity supplied by the Council in pursuance of this Act shall for each such offence forfeit to the Council a sum not
 20 exceeding fifty pounds in addition to the amount of damage done. Penalty for removing electric line, &c.

30. Any person who carelessly or accidentally breaks, throws down, or damages any electric line, or any pillar, post, lamp or other works belonging to the Council, or under their control, shall forfeit and pay such sum of money by way of satisfaction to the Council for the
 25 damage done not exceeding fifty pounds as a stipendiary magistrate shall think reasonable: Provided that this section shall not effect any other remedy. Penalty for breaking electric line, &c.

31. Any person who wilfully or fraudulently, or by culpable negligence, injures or suffers to be injured, any electric line, or any
 30 meter, fittings, or works belonging to the Council, or alters the index to any meter, or prevents any meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied, or fraudulently abstracts, consumes or uses electricity supplied by the Council, shall, without prejudice to any other right or remedy for the protection of the Council, or the punish-
 35 ment of the offender, for every such offence, forfeit to the Council a sum not exceeding twenty-five pounds in addition to the amount of damage. Penalty for tampering with meter, &c.

32. In any case in which any person has been convicted of wilfully or fraudulently injuring, or suffering to be injured, any
 40 electric line, or any meter, fittings, or works belonging to the Council, or altering the index to any meter, or preventing any meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied, the Council may also, until the matter complained of has been remedied, but no longer, discontinue the supply of electricity to the person so offending, not-
 45 withstanding any contract previously existing. Supply of electricity may also be cut off.

33. The existence of artificial means for causing such alteration or prevention, or for abstracting, consuming, or using electricity supplied by the Council when the meter is under the custody or control
 50 of the consumer, shall be *prima facie* evidence that such alteration, prevention, abstraction, or consumption (as the case may be) was within the knowledge of the consumer. Evidence that meter has been tampered with.

34. Any officer appointed by the Council in that behalf may, at all reasonable times, enter any place or building to which electricity
 is or has been supplied by the Council in pursuance of this Act for the
 55 purpose of inspecting and testing the electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, and works for the supply of electricity belonging to the Council, and of ascertaining the quantity of electricity consumed or supplied, or, where a supply of electricity is no longer required, or where the Council is authorised to take away and cut off the supply
 of

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of electricity from any premises, for the purpose of removing any electric lines, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, or works belonging to the Council, and repairing all damage caused by such entry, inspection, or removal.

- 5 35. Where any electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, or works belonging to the Council are placed in or upon any place or building (not being in the possession of the Council) for the purpose of supplying electricity in pursuance of this Act, such electric lines, meters, accumulators, fittings, apparatus, or works shall
 10 not be subject to distress or to the landlord's remedy for rent of the premises where the same may be, nor to be taken in execution under any process of a Court of law or equity, or any proceedings in bankruptcy against the person in whose possession the same may be: Provided that nothing in this section shall affect any distress or
 15 execution lawfully made or issued upon or against the Council.

Council's fittings
not to be subject
to distress,
execution, &c.

36. All actions or other proceedings against the Council, their officers, agents, or servants, for anything done or reasonably supposed to have been done in pursuance of this Act, shall be commenced within twelve months after the matter complained of was committed and not
 20 otherwise; and notice in writing of any such action or proceedings and of the cause thereof shall be given to the defendant one month at least before the commencement of the proceeding; and in every such proceeding the defendant may plead the general issue and give this Act and the special matter in evidence at any trial to be had there-
 25 upon; and no plaintiff shall recover in any such proceeding if tender of such sufficient amends shall have been made before the same was commenced, or if a sufficient sum of money shall have been paid into a Court after such commencement by or on behalf of the defendant, together with costs as between party and party incurred up to that
 30 time. And if a verdict shall be entered for the defendant, or the plaintiff shall become non-suit or discontinue such proceeding, or if upon demurrer or otherwise judgment shall be given against the plaintiff, the defendant shall recover his costs and have the like remedy for the same as any defendant has in law in like cases.

Limitation of action
against the Council.

- 35 37. Any arbitration in pursuance of this Act shall be by a single arbitrator, and shall be conducted in accordance with and subject to the provisions of the "Arbitration Act of 1892," and for the purposes of reference to arbitration thereunder this Act shall be deemed to be a submission between the parties within the meaning of the
 40 same. The arbitrator shall in every case have power to direct how and by whom the cost of the reference and award shall be paid.

Arbitrations.

38. Whenever by any section of this Act any person is made liable to any fine or forfeiture or to pay any sum of money whether as compensation or in any other way, and the mode of recovering such
 45 fine, forfeiture, or sum is not specified the same may be recovered before any stipendiary magistrate, together with such costs as he may see fit to grant. And all sums of money ordered by any such magistrate to be paid and all costs and expenses awarded by such magistrate may be recovered and enforced by distress and sale of the goods and chattels
 50 of the person ordered to pay the same, and in default of sufficient distress such person shall be liable, in the event of the conviction being for an offence under this Act, to be imprisoned with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding three months unless such money, costs, or expenses be sooner paid: Provided that nothing in
 55 this section shall prevent proceedings for the recovery of any fine, forfeiture, or sum as aforesaid being taken in any other Court of competent jurisdiction when the amount sought to be recovered exceeds ten pounds.

Procedure for
recovery of penalties,
&c.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

39. All fines, forfeitures, or other sums recovered by the Council in pursuance of this Act shall be carried to the credit of the electric light account. Sums recovered to go to electric light account.

40. In any case in which any summary conviction has been had, or any order for the payment of money has been made, in pursuance of this Act before any stipendiary magistrate the defendant may appeal to the Court of Quarter Sessions. The provisions of the "Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1883" in respect of appeals from summary convictions thereunder shall apply and extend to all appeals under this section, and shall be observed in the making of every such appeal and all proceedings thereupon. Appeals from summary convictions, &c.

41. The Council may for the purposes of this Act make all such by-laws, and do all such other necessary matters and things as may be necessary for carrying out the objects of this Act. Council may make by-laws, &c.

42. It shall be lawful for the Council to supply electricity outside the limits of the City of Sydney, and for such purpose to exercise any power conferred upon it by this Act (other than the power to raise a lighting rate) within or without the limits of any Borough adjoining the City of Sydney, subject, however, to the following provisions:— Council may extend operations into other Municipalities with consent.

(I) The aforesaid powers shall not be exercised within the limits of any such Borough except with the consent of the Council thereof (which consent it is hereby empowered to give), and upon such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon.

(II) The supply of electricity for the purpose of lighting any place, building, or street belonging to or subject to the control of the Council of such Borough shall for the purposes of this Act be deemed to be a supply for private purposes or use, and all provisions of this Act in such behalf shall extend and apply thereto.

(III) The Council of such Borough shall for the purposes of this section have power to enter into all such contracts, and to levy all such rates, as it is by law empowered to enter into, or levy in respect of a supply of gas.

43. Nothing in this Act shall authorise or enable the Council, its officers, agents, or servants to transmit any telegram, or telephonic message, or to perform any of the incidental services of receiving, collecting, or delivering telegrams, or telephonic messages, or give to the Council, its officers, agents, or servants any power, authority, or facility of any kind whatever in connection with such transmission or performance as aforesaid. Any person holding any civic office under the "Sydney Corporation Act of 1879" is hereby empowered to contract directly or indirectly for the supply to him of electricity under the provisions of this Act, and shall not be liable in respect of such contract to any fine, penalty, or disqualification, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding. Saving clause.

44. No alteration in any telegraphic line or telephonic line or work of the Postmaster-General shall be made by the Council or its agents, except with the written permission of the Postmaster-General and subject to such reasonable conditions as may be imposed by him in such permission. No alteration of public lines without permission.

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

SCHEDULE.

No.	Debenture £
Issued by the Municipal Council of Sydney under the provisions of the "Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Act."	
5	TRANSFERABLE BY DELIVERY.
THIS Debenture was issued by the above-named Council in pursuance of the provisions of the above-mentioned Act and is to secure to the bearer a principal sum of	
payable at the on the day of	
Interest at the rate of pounds per centum per annum on such principal sum	
10	in the meanwhile is payable by equal half-yearly payments on the day
of and the day of at and a coupon is annexed	
for each payment which entitles the bearer of such coupon thereto.	
Dated this day of A.D.	
G.H. [Mayor] (L.S.)	
C.W. Town Clerk.	
15	

Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting.

70.
Issued by the Municipal Council of Sydney under the provisions of the "Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Act."
TRANSFERABLE BY DELIVERY.
This Debenture was issued by the above-named Council in pursuance of the provisions of the above-mentioned Act and is to secure to the bearer a principal sum of £1000 payable at the rate of 5 pounds per annum on each principal sum of £1000 in the meantime is payable by equal half-yearly payments on the 1st day of January and the 1st day of July in each year commencing on the 1st day of January 1900 and ending on the 1st day of January 1910.
I and this Council do hereby certify that the above-named Council is bound to pay to the bearer of this Debenture the principal sum of £1000 and the interest thereon as hereinbefore provided.
In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the Council at Sydney this 1st day of January 1900.
G. H. [Signature] (Secy.)
G. W. Town Clerk.

[10A]