

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.



ANNO QUINTO

GEORGII QUINTI REGIS,

IX.

No. 9 of 1914.

AN ACT relating to the Distribution, Export, and Prices of Foodstuffs and other Commodities, and to compel the supplying of Information in relation thereto.

[Assented to 8th September, 1914.]

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

1. This Act may be cited as the *Foodstuffs Commission Act*, Short Title. 1914.

2. In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears:—

Interpretation.

“Foodstuffs and other commodities” means the goods specified in the first column of the Schedule to this Act, and such other additional goods as are from time to time prescribed by the Governor by regulation.

“Person” includes a firm or corporation.

“The Commission” means the Commission appointed pursuant to this Act.

Appointment of
the Commission.

3. The Governor may appoint a Commission to investigate, and from time to time report upon, the distribution, export, and prices of foodstuffs and other commodities, and upon—

- (a) the quantity and distribution thereof;
- (b) the probable requirements of the people of the State in regard thereto;
- (c) any attempt by any person to engage in speculative dealings in or to raise the price of foodstuffs and other commodities.

Returns to be sup-
plied to Commission

4. (1.) All persons having in their possession or control a quantity of any of the foodstuffs and other commodities, being in the case of foodstuffs or other commodities specified in the first column of the Schedule of this Act greater than the quantity specified opposite thereto in the second column of the Schedule, or, in the case of foodstuffs and other commodities not specified in the first column of the said Schedule, greater than is prescribed by Regulations, shall from time to time, upon being required by the Commission to furnish returns of such foodstuffs and other commodities within such time as is fixed by the Commission, furnish such returns in the form prescribed by the Regulations to each of the following authorities, namely—

- (a) the Commission, and
- (b) such Commission appointed by the Governor General in Council as is specified in the requisition by the Commission to furnish returns.

Any such person failing to furnish returns shall be guilty of an offence against this Act, and shall on conviction be liable to a penalty not exceeding One thousand pounds, and in the discretion of the Crown to forfeiture of the whole or part of the foodstuffs and other commodities in respect of which the failure to furnish a return occurred.

(2.) A requisition by the Commission to furnish returns under this section may be made by general notice published in the *Government Gazette* of the State.

Furnishing false
returns.

5. Any person wilfully furnishing a false return under this Act shall be guilty of an offence against this Act, and shall on conviction be liable to a penalty not exceeding One thousand pounds, and in the discretion of the Crown to forfeiture of the whole or part of the foodstuffs and other commodities in respect of which the false return was furnished.

No proceedings
without consent of
Attorney General.

6. No proceedings for an offence against this Act shall be taken by any person whomsoever, without the written consent of the Attorney General.

7. This Act shall have operation only during such period as the Governor may from time to time by proclamation declare, when a state of war exists between the United Kingdom and some other Power. Operation of Act.

THE SCHEDULE.

First Column.	Second Column.
Wheat	100 bushels
Flour	1 ton
Oatmeal	1 ton
Rice	1 ton
Barley	100 bushels
Pollard	1 ton
Bran	1 ton
Oats	100 bushels
Maize	100 bushels
Hay	5 tons
Chaff	5 tons
Straw	5 tons
Potatoes	1 ton
Sugar	1 ton
Molasses and other Syrups	1 ton
Jam	500 lbs.
Meat—Beef	100 cwt.
Mutton and Lamb	100 cwt.
Bacon and Ham	500 lbs.
Fish—Tinned and Preserved	500 lbs.
Butter	20 cwt.
Condensed, Concentrated, and Powdered Milk	500 lbs.
Cheese	5 cwt.
Tea	100 lbs.
Coffee	100 lbs.
Salt	10 tons
Tobacco Leaf	100 lbs.
Tobacco, manufactured, including Cigars and Cigarettes	100 lbs.
Kerosene	1,000 gallons
Petrol	1,000 gallons