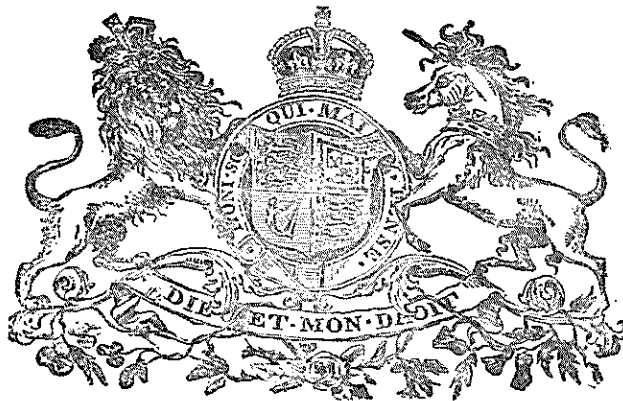


WESTERN AUSTRALIA.



ANNO SEPTIMO
EDWARDI SEPTIMI REGIS.
III.

No. 3 of 1907.

AN ACT to provide for the Collection of
Statistics for Public Purposes.

[Assented to 2nd September, 1907.]

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 *Statistics Act*, 1907, and shall come into operation on a day to be fixed by proclamation. Short title and commencement.
2. The Industrial Statistics Act, 1897, is hereby repealed. Repeal.
3. In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears,— Interpretation.
 - “Factory” means any work, mill, or establishment, used for the purpose of manufacturing, treating, or preparing any article.
 - “Local Authority” means any corporation or board constituted or appointed under the authority of a Statute, and charged with the administration of moneys for any purpose of local concern.
 - “Minister” means the Minister of the Crown charged, for the time being, with the administration of this Act.
 - “Prescribed” means prescribed by this Act or by regulations made under this Act.
 - “Statistician” means the Government Statistician appointed under this Act.

Appointment of
Statistician.

4. The Governor may from time to time appoint an officer to be called the Government Statistician, who shall, under the Minister, be charged with the duty of carrying into execution the provisions of this Act and the regulations.

Deputy Statistician,
and other officers.

5. The Governor may from time to time appoint a Deputy Government Statistician, and such statistical agents and other officers as may be required for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

Everything in this Act appointed or authorised or required to be done or signed by the Government Statistician may, in his absence, be done or signed by the Deputy Government Statistician, and shall be as valid and effectual as if done or signed by the Government Statistician himself.

Statistical agents
and collectors.

6. The Inspector or other officer in charge of every police district shall be the statistical agent for such district, and shall cause to be collected and furnished to the Statistician all such returns as may from time to time be required.

Such statistical agent may appoint any members of the police force under his control to be collectors for the whole or any parts of such district.

Statistician to take
steps for collection
of statistics.

7. It shall be the duty of the Statistician, subject to the regulations, to prepare and issue forms and instructions, and take all necessary steps for the collection of such statistics as may from time to time be required for public purposes.

Statistics to be
collected.

8. The Statistician shall, subject to the regulations, collect, annually, statistics in relation to all or any of the following matters:—

- (a.) Population ;
- (b.) Immigration and emigration ;
- (c.) Vital statistics ;
- (d.) Social statistics ;
- (e.) Factories and manufacturing industries ; detailing nationality of proprietor, and number and nationality of employees ;
- (f.) Wages ;
- (g.) Employment and non-employment ;
- (h.) Imports and exports ;
- (i.) Shipping ;
- (j.) Railways and tramways ;
- (k.) Posts, telegraphs, and telephones ;
- (l.) Banking, insurance, and finance ;
- (m.) Land tenure and occupancy ;
- (n.) Agricultural, pastoral, and kindred industries ;
- (o.) Mining (including quarries) ;

- (p.) Forestry;
- (q.) Fisheries;
- (r.) Local government;
- (s.) Water conservation and supply;
- (t.) Any other prescribed matters.

9. For the purpose of enabling the statistics referred to in this Act to be collected, all prescribed persons shall, to the best of their knowledge, when required by the Statistician so to do, fill up and supply, in accordance with the instructions contained in or accompanying the prescribed form, the particulars specified in that form.

Returns to be supplied.

Penalty: Ten pounds.

10. Every person shall, to the best of his knowledge and belief, answer all questions asked him by the Statistician, or an officer duly authorised by the Statistician, necessary to obtain any information required for the purposes of any statistics authorised by this Act to be collected.

Duty of persons to answer questions.

Penalty: Ten pounds.

11. (1.) For the purpose of making any inquiries or observations necessary for the proper carrying out of this Act, the Statistician or any officer duly authorised by him may, at any time during working hours, enter any factory, and may inspect any part of it, and all plant and machinery used in connection with it, and may make such inquiries as are prescribed or allowed by the regulations.

Powers of entry and inspection.

(2.) No person shall hinder or obstruct the Statistician or any officer duly authorised by him in the execution of any power conferred by this section.

Penalty: Ten pounds.

12. If any of the returns required under this Act are not made, or are not collected, or do not reach the hands of the Statistician, or are so imperfect as to be valueless or misleading, the Statistician may direct that such returns be made or collected anew.

Statistician may require fresh returns.

13. On receiving from the Statistician notice that any local authority has failed to furnish him with any return or information required under this Act, the Colonial Treasurer may, until such return or information is furnished, withhold the payment of any subsidy which otherwise would have been payable by the Colonial Treasurer to such local authority.

Colonial Treasurer may withhold moneys when statistics not furnished.

14. The Statistician shall compile and tabulate the statistics collected pursuant to this Act, and shall publish such statistics or abstracts thereof with observations thereon.

Publication of statistics.

15. No statistical agent or collector shall refuse or neglect to do anything lawfully required of him in virtue of his office

Penalty for officers neglecting duty.

Penalty: Ten pounds.

Untrue returns by officers.

16. No officer shall wilfully or without lawful authority alter any document or form under this Act. or shall wilfully sign any untrue document or form.

Penalty: Fifty pounds.

Officers to observe secrecy.

17. No officer shall, except as allowed by this Act or the regulations, divulge the contents of any form filled up in pursuance of this Act, or any information furnished in pursuance of this Act.

Penalty: Fifty pounds.

Secrecy of returns.

18. No return relative to any private business made for the purposes of this Act shall, without the previous consent in writing of the person making the return, be published in such manner as may divulge the contents of such return. Nor, except for the purposes of this Act, shall any person not engaged in the collection or compilation of statistics under this Act be permitted to see any such return.

Returns not to be produced in Court.

19. The Statistician or other officer having the custody of returns or information obtained under this Act shall not be required by subpoena or otherwise to produce any such returns or information to any court.

Penalty for false returns or answers.

20. No person shall knowingly make, in any form or document filled up or supplied in pursuance of this Act, or in answer to any question asked him under the authority of this Act, any statement which is untrue in any material particular.

Penalty: Fifty pounds.

How notices may be given.

21. Notices required by this Act, or any regulation thereunder, may be served on any person by posting the same addressed to him at his usual place of abode or business, in a letter marked "Statistics," and proof of such posting shall be deemed *prima facie* evidence of such notice being served at the time at which, by the course of post, such letter should be delivered.

Penalties at foot of sections.

22. The penalty set out at the foot of any section of this Act indicates that any contravention of the section, whether by act or omission, shall be an offence against this Act, punishable upon summary conviction by a penalty not exceeding the penalty mentioned.

Authority to prosecute.

23. Any person authorised in writing by the Statistician in that behalf may prosecute for offences against this Act, and any penalty recovered shall be paid to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

Regulations.

24. The Governor may make regulations, not inconsistent with this Act, prescribing all matters and things which by this Act are required or permitted to be prescribed, or which are necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.