



Western Australia.

ANNO SEXAGESIMO PRIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. XXIV.

AN ACT for the Regulation of Employment Brokers.

[Assented to, 23rd December, 1897.]

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 Western Australia, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. THIS Act may be cited as the Employment Brokers Act, 1897, and shall come into operation on the thirty-first day of December, 1897, hereinafter called the commencement of this Act.

Short title and commencement.

2. IN this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:—

“District” means a magisterial district;

Interpretation.

“Employment Broker” means every person who follows, for reward, the calling of an agent for procuring engagements for persons seeking to be employed for reward, or for procuring employees for persons seeking to employ them for reward, but shall not apply to persons empowered by law to act in the engagement of seamen;

61° VICTORIÆ, No. 24.

Employment Brokers.

“Licensing Magistrates” means, the persons having for the time being jurisdiction as Licensing Magistrates in the District under Part II. of the Statute of the 57th year of Her Majesty, No. 25, Sections 10 and 11, or under Part III. of the Statute of the 44th year of Her Majesty, No. 9, as the case may be.

“Licensing Meeting” means a licensing meeting held in pursuance of the statute of the 44th of Victoria, No. 9 ;

“Writing” includes print and part writing and part print.

Register of Employment Brokers.

3. THE clerk of the Resident Magistrate or Police Magistrate in every district shall keep a book, to be called the Register of Employment Brokers, and, immediately after the commencement of this Act, every employment broker shall register in that book his name and the address of every place within the district where he carries on business as such broker, and, if he changes or adds to such place or places, shall, within a week after any such change or addition, register the same as aforesaid.

The Register of Employment Brokers shall be open to inspection at all reasonable hours.

Every person who is guilty of a breach or non-observance of this section shall be liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding Ten pounds.

Employment brokers to be licensed.

4. EVERY employment broker is required to obtain, at the first licensing meeting held after the commencement of this Act, a license under this Act, and every person who, after such licensing meeting, carries on business as an employment broker without holding a license under this Act shall, on conviction thereof, be liable to a fine not exceeding Twenty pounds.

License in force to end of year.

5. THE license granted under this Act shall be in force to the end of the year for which the same shall be granted.

Notice of intention to apply for license.

6. EVERY person who desires to obtain a license under this Act shall, fourteen days at least before applying for a certificate authorising the granting of such license, deliver, in triplicate, to the clerk of the Resident Magistrate or Police Magistrate of the district wherein the premises are situate in which such person desires to carry on business as employment broker, a notice, in writing, of his intended application, in the form of the First Schedule hereto, and shall affix a like notice on the outer side of the principal door or entrance of such premises, and shall, seven days at least before making such application, publish a copy of such notice in a newspaper circulating in the place where such premises are situate.

First Schedule.

61° VICTORIÆ, No. 24.

Employment Brokers.

Immediately after receiving such notice, the clerk shall post one of the notices inside and another outside on some conspicuous part of the court house, office, or building in which the licensing meeting is to be held.

7. EVERY licensee shall be entitled, subject to the proviso hereinafter mentioned, to obtain from the licensing magistrates a certificate authorising the renewal of his license on producing such license and upon payment to the proper officer of the annual fee due in respect of such license: Provided such license has not been allowed to expire or has not become void or liable to be forfeited from any cause whatever: Provided also, that no objection to such renewal as is hereinafter mentioned shall have been taken and established in manner by this Act provided.

Licensee may obtain renewal.

8. AT the hearing of any application for a certificate for, or for the renewal of a license, objections to the granting thereof on the ground that the applicant is not a fit and proper person to hold a license or of fraud, imposition, extortion, the conduct of the business for immoral purposes, or non-observance of this Act, may be made by

Objections to license, and notice thereof.

Any of the licensing magistrates;

Any applicant for a license or any person already licensed in the district;

Any person resident in the district;

Any officer of police;

The council of the municipality within the boundaries of which the said business premises are situate.

Such objections, except when made by any of the licensing magistrates, shall be made by notice, in writing, signed by the objector and served on the applicant three clear days before the hearing, and shall be accompanied by such particulars as enable the applicant to know what he has to answer. If the particulars are insufficient, the licensing magistrates may order further particulars to be forthwith delivered, and the applicant shall be entitled to an adjournment for not less than three clear days from the delivery of such further particulars.

9. EVERY hearing of an application for a license shall be a judicial proceeding and open to the public, and every applicant shall attend, either personally, or by his agent or solicitor, and may be required by the licensing magistrates to attend personally.

Hearing of application and attendance of applicant thereat.

The licensing magistrates shall decide by majorities, and the proceedings at the hearing shall be conducted as near as may be in the manner directed by the law for the time being in force relating to the duties of justices in summary convictions and orders.

61° VICTORIÆ, No. 24.

Employment Brokers.

Application may be granted with costs against objector.
Second Schedule.

10. (1.) IF the licensing magistrates approve of an application, they shall grant to the applicant a certificate in the form in the Second Schedule hereto, and, if any objection to such application appears vexatious or malicious, they may order the person who has so objected to pay to the successful applicant a sum to meet his reasonable costs and expenses of meeting such objection.

Application may be refused with costs in favour of objector.

(2.) If the licensing magistrates do not approve of an application, they may order the applicant to pay to the person who has successfully objected to it a sum of money to meet his reasonable costs and expenses in respect of such objection.

License to issue on presentation of magistrates' certificate and payment of fee.

11. EVERY person to whom a certificate is granted as aforesaid, and who desires to obtain a license under this Act, shall cause the certificate to be presented to the Collector of Internal Revenue, or such other person as may be appointed to issue licenses under this Act, who shall issue the license upon payment of the fee required to be paid for the same:

Provided that every certificate shall be void unless the sum to be paid for every such license be paid as herein required to such collector of internal revenue, or to such other person as aforesaid, within fourteen days after the granting of such certificate.

Transfer of licenses. Fifth Schedule.

12. ANY Resident Magistrate or Police Magistrate for the district may, on application in writing by the proposed transferrer and transferee, at any time transfer the license of any licensee if approved of by him by an indorsement on the license, in the form in the Fifth Schedule, for which a fee of One pound shall be paid, and thereupon such appointee shall, until the first day of the month following the next quarterly licensing meeting, possess all the rights of such original license and shall be subject and liable to the same duties, obligations, and penalties as if such license had been originally granted to him: Provided that such appointee shall, at the next quarterly licensing meeting, apply for an original license, and the provisions hereinbefore contained as to the giving of notices, the hearing of applications for licenses and objections thereto, and the ordering of costs to be paid shall apply to the proceedings at such meeting and to such application.

Employment broker to enter names of persons seeking employment, and of persons seeking employees.

13. EVERY employment broker shall register the names of all persons who, through him, seek employment or employees, and shall keep a book, to be called a Register Book, in one part of which the names and addresses of persons seeking employment shall be entered, together with the date of registration and the fee, if any, paid or to be paid, and in another part of which the names and addresses of persons seeking employees shall be entered, together with the date of registration and the fee, if any, paid or to be paid.

61° VICTORIÆ, No. 24.

Employment Brokers.

14. EVERY employment broker who refers persons seeking employment to other persons, with a view to engagement, shall keep a book, to be called the Application Book, in the form of the Third Schedule hereto, containing in each column a truthful statement of the particulars set out at the head of that column, so far as known.

Employment broker to keep a record of persons whom he introduces for employment.
Third Schedule.

15. EVERY employment broker who, on behalf of an employer, makes an engagement, absolute or contingent, with any person to enter into employment, shall keep a book, to be called the Engagement Book, in the form in the Fourth Schedule hereto, containing in each column a truthful statement of the particulars set out at the head of that column, so far as known.

Employment broker to keep a record of the engagements of employees.
Fourth Schedule.

16. ON the occasion of every engagement, whether absolute or contingent, every employment broker shall deliver to each party to the engagement, on his demand, a transcript signed by such broker of the entry made in the engagement book in respect of such engagement, and such transcript and every such entry shall be free of stamp duty.

Employment broker, on demand, to give transcript of entry of engagement.

17. EVERY employment broker who fails to keep the books and make the entries therein required by this Act, or who knowingly makes a false entry in any such book, or delivers a false transcript of an entry therein shall be liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding Twenty pounds.

Penalty for not keeping books and for making false entries, etc.

18. THE books required by this Act to be kept by an employment broker shall be open to general inspection at his place of business, at all reasonable hours, by the Resident Magistrate or Police Magistrate of the district, by any officer of police, by any police constable authorised, in writing, by such magistrate or officer, and by any justice of the peace not being himself an employment broker.

How far books to be open to inspection.

Such books shall be open at the place and during the hours aforesaid to inspection by any employer or employee so far as regards any entry relating to him on payment of a sum not exceeding one shilling.

Every employment broker who is guilty of a breach or non-observance of this section shall be liable, on conviction thereof, to a fine not exceeding Ten pounds.

19. IF, during the currency of an annual license granted under this Act, the holder of such license has been twice convicted of a breach or non-observance of this Act, the Resident Magistrate or Police Magistrate or justices by whom such holder is afterwards, during such currency, convicted of such a breach or non-observance,

License forfeitable on more than two convictions during its currency.

61° VICTORIÆ, No. 24.

Employment Brokers.

may order such holder to bring the license into court to be cancelled, and, after such order, the person named in the license shall no longer act as an employment broker, and every such person so acting shall, on conviction thereof, incur a fine not exceeding Fifty pounds, or may be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for three months.

Penalty for certain untrue advertisements.

20. EVERY employment broker who, by any notice, placard, or advertisement, untruthfully and wilfully announces, or otherwise untruthfully and wilfully in any way represents—

(a.) That he is authorised by any government or department of a government, or by any person or corporation to act in, or promote, the engagement of any person or class of persons for any employment; or

(b.) That any government or department of a government, or any corporation or person is desirous of employing any person or class of persons,

shall be liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding Twenty pounds, or to imprisonment not exceeding three months.

Offences against this Act punishable at petty sessions.

Secs. A and C of Shortening Ordinance.

21. ALL offences against this Act may be punished summarily, on conviction, before a Resident Magistrate, a Police Magistrate, or two Justices of the Peace in petty sessions, and sections A and C of the Schedule to the Shortening Ordinance, 1853, shall be incorporated with and taken to form part of this Act to all intents and purposes, and in as full and ample a manner as if the said sections had been introduced and fully set forth in this Act.

Fees.

22. THE following fees shall be payable for things done under this Act, namely:—

	£	s.	d.
Upon giving notice of an application for a license, to the Clerk of the Licensing Magistrates	1	0	0
Upon the issuing or annual renewal of a license, to the Collector of Internal Revenue or other officer appointed as aforesaid ...	5	0	0

Provided that if the certificate for such license be granted after the 31st day of March the licensee shall pay only three-fourths of such fee, and if granted after the 30th day of June one-half of such fee, and if after the 30th day of September only one-fourth of such fee.

In the name and on behalf of the Queen I hereby assent to this Act.

GERARD SMITH, Governor.

61° VICTORIÆ, No. 24.

Employment Brokers.

First Schedule.

Section 6.

FORM OF NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE.

To the Worshipful the Licensing Magistrates acting in and for the district of _____ of _____ I, A.B. [*state trade or occupation*] now residing at _____ in the town or district of _____, hereby give notice that I intend to apply at the next Licensing Meeting to be holden for the first above-named district for an Employment Broker's License.

[*If the applicant has held such a License before, here state the fact, and for how long and in what district or districts.*]

[Signature of Applicant.]

Second Schedule.

Section 10.

FORM OF CERTIFICATE BY LICENSING MAGISTRATES TO AUTHORISE THE GRANTING OF A LICENSE.

Western Australia, }
to wit. }

At the Quarterly Licensing Meeting [*or an adjournment of the Quarterly Licensing Meeting*] of the Licensing Magistrates acting in and for the district of _____, holden at _____, on the _____ day of _____, 189____, We, the undersigned Licensing Magistrates, do, by virtue of the powers vested in us, authorise the Collector of Internal Revenue [*or other proper officer*] to issue to A.B., of _____, an Employment Broker's License to endure from the date hereof until the termination of the current year.

Given under our hands this _____ day of _____ 189____.

Third Schedule.

Section 14.

APPLICATION BOOK.

Date.	Fees and by whom paid or payable.	Names and address of person seeking employment.	Names and addresses of those to whom the person is referred for employment.	Nature of employment offered so far as known.	Wages as per day or week, as the case may be.

61° VICTORIÆ, No. 24.

Employment Brokers.

Section 15.

Fourth Schedule.

ENGAGEMENT BOOK.

Date.	Fees and by whom paid or payable.	Names and address of employee.	Names and address of employer.	Nature of employment.	Duration of employment so far as agreed upon.	Wages as per day or week, as the case may be.

Fifth Schedule.

FORM OF INDORSEMENT ON A LICENSE OF A TRANSFER THEREOF.

Section 12.

I, the undersigned, being a Resident (or Police) Magistrate for the District of _____, sitting at _____, this _____ day of _____, do hereby transfer the rights and privileges of the within License to C.D. for the residue of the term between this day and the first day of the month following the next Quarterly Licensing Meeting for the said District.

A.B.