NAVIGATION—AMENDMENT.

9° Geo. V., No. XXIII.

No. 33 of 1918.

AN ACT to amend the Navigation Act, 1904.

[Assented to 24th December, 1918.]

B E 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:—

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Navigation Act Amendment Act, 1918.

Insertion of new section after Section 25 of principal Act. 2. The following section is hereby inserted in Navigation Act, 1904 (hereinafter called the principal Act), after section twenty-five thereof:—

Preliminary inquiry into shipping casualties.

Of. M.S.A., Sec. 465.

- 25A. (1.) A preliminary inquiry into any matter over which a Court of Marine Inquiry has jurisdiction under this Act may be held by the Chief Harbour Master, or the Harbour Master of the port nearest to the scene of the occurrence, or by some person appointed by the Governor for the purpose.
- (2.) For the purpose of such inquiry the person holding the same shall have the following powers:—
 - (a) He may go on board any ship and inspect the same or any part thereof or any of the machinery, boats, equipments, or articles on board thereof;
 - (b) He may enter and inspect any premises the entry or inspection of which appears to him to be requisite;

- (c) So far as relates to the summoning of parties and compelling the attendance of witnesses, he shall have all the powers of a local court.
- (3.) The person who has held any such inquiry shall report to the Minister the result of the inquiry, and shall forward therewith a copy of the evidence taken.
- (4.) No person shall wilfully impede in the exercise of his duty any person charged with the duty of or engaged in holding an inquiry under this section.

Penalty: Ten pounds.

3. The following section is hereby inserted in the princi- Insertion of new section pal Act after section twenty-eight thereof:-

after Section 28.

28A. No certificate shall be cancelled or suspended by Notice to pera Court of Marine Inquiry unless a copy of any charges Cf. Com. Nav. Act, s. 378. against the holder of the certificate or a copy of the report on any preliminary inquiry, containing or indicating any such charges (together with a copy of the evidence taken thereon), has been served upon him at least fortyeight hours before the commencement of the inquiry into those charges.

4. All copies of the principal Act printed by the Government printer after the commencement of this Act shall be printed as amended by this Act, under the supervision of the this Act. Clerk of the Parliaments, and all necessary references to this Act made in the margin; but in any reprint of the principal Act and such amendments the short title shall be altered to the Navigation Act, 1904-1918, by which title they may be cited.