

**STATE CHILDREN.**

No. 31 of 1907.

As amended by No. 21 of 1919,\* by No. 14 of 1921,† and by  
No. 31 of 1926.‡

**AN ACT to make better provision for the Protection, Control,  
Maintenance, and Reformation of Neglected and Des-  
titute Children and for other purposes.**

[Assented to 20th December, 1907.]

**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:—

PART I.—PRELIMINARY.

1. This Act may be cited as the *State Children Act, 1907-1926.*

Short title.

No. 31 of 1926, s. 2.

2. This Act is divided into the following Parts:—

Division.

PART I.—PRELIMINARY, ss. 1-4.

PART II.—THE STATE CHILDREN DEPARTMENT, ss.  
5-12.

PART III.—INSTITUTIONS, ss. 13-18.

PART IV.—STATE CHILDREN AND CHILDREN'S  
COURTS, ss. 19-67.

PART V.—MAINTENANCE OF CHILDREN BY THEIR  
RELATIVES, ss. 68-89B.

PART VI.—COMMITTAL TO THE CARE OF PRIVATE  
PERSONS OR SOCIETIES, ss. 90-103.

\*Assented to 15th November, 1919.

†Assented to 15th November, 1921.

‡Assented to 8th December, 1926. It is enacted by Section one of the Act No. 31 of 1926 as follows:—

This Act may be cited as the *State Children Act Amendment Act, 1926*, and shall have effect and be deemed to have had effect, as regards sections six, nine, and thirteen, as from the commencement of the *State Children Act Amendment Act, 1921*; and so far as regards sections five and seven, as from the commencement of the *State Children Act Amendment Act, 1919*; and so far as regards sections three, eight, and fourteen, from the commencement of the *State Children Act, 1907*; and so far as regards the other sections, shall have effect as from the commencement of this Act.

No. 21 of 1919, s. 21

PART VII.—LICENSING OF CHILDREN AND RESTRICTIONS ON EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN, ss. 104-107.

No. 21 of 1919, s. 22.

PART VIII.—LYING-IN HOMES AND FOSTER MOTHERS, AND THE CARE AND ADOPTION OF CHILDREN, ss. 108-118.

PART IX.—PROCEDURE, PENALTIES, AND GENERAL PROVISIONS, ss. 119-151.

Repeal.

3. The Acts specified in the First Schedule are hereby repealed to the extent therein stated: Provided that—

- (1) Any appointment or order made, any license granted, and any indenture of apprenticeship or contract entered into under any enactment hereby repealed, shall continue in force as if the same had been made, granted, or entered into under this Act:
- (2) Any enactment or document referring to any enactment hereby repealed shall be construed to refer to the corresponding provisions of this Act:
- (3) Except as aforesaid, this repeal shall not affect any right, interest, or liability already created, incurred, or existing, nor anything lawfully done or suffered under any enactment hereby repealed; and any proceeding in respect of any such right, interest, or liability may be carried on as if this Act had not been passed.

Interpretation.

4. In this Act, unless the context or subject matter otherwise indicates or requires,—

“Board out” means to place a State child in the care or charge of some person for the purpose of being nursed or maintained by such person, or in such person’s house:

“Child” means any boy or girl under the age of eighteen years; and, in the absence of positive evidence as to age, means any boy or girl under the apparent age of eighteen years;

“Court” means a Children’s Court established under this Act;

“Department” means the State Children Department constituted under this Act;

“Destitute child” means any child who has no sufficient means of subsistence apparent to the Court, and whose near relatives are, in the opinion of the Court, in indigent circumstances and unable to support such child, or are dead, or unknown, or cannot be found, or are out of the jurisdiction, or in the custody of the law;

“Foster-mother” means a female having the care, charge, or custody of a child under six years of age to adopt, rear, nurse, or otherwise maintain such child apart from his or her parent, and not being a near relative of such child;

Amended by No.  
211 of 1910, s. 3.

“Foster-parent” means any person to or with whom a State child is apprenticed or placed out under this Act, or under any enactment by this Act repealed, and includes the assignee of such person;

“Governing authority” means the manager or committee of management of any subsidised institution;

“Industrial school” means an institution approved and certified by the Governor for the purposes of this Act, for the detention, maintenance, and training of children found guilty of an offence punishable by imprisonment, or of children transferred from another institution under this Act, and includes a reformatory;

“Inmate” means a State child maintained in an institution;

“Institution” means and includes any Government industrial school, and all orphanages, industrial or reformatory schools established under the Industrial Schools Act, 1874, every receiving depot, or shelter, established under this Act, and all other places for the time being under the supervision of the Department;

“Judge” means a Judge of the Supreme Court;

“Lying-in home” means a place for the accommodation of females during their confinement and lying-in, and includes any home maintained for such purpose by the Government;

“Maintenance” includes clothing, support, training, and education;

“Maintenance order” means an order made by the Court for payment of money by any near relative in respect of the maintenance of a child;

“Minister” means the Minister for the time being charged with the administration of this Act;

No. 31 of 1926, s. 3.

“Near relative” means, except as regards an illegitimate child, father, mother, step-father, step-mother, brother, sister, or any grand-parent of the child; and as regards an illegitimate child, the mother and the father of such child, and the husband of the mother of such child, if born before their marriage;

“Neglected child” means any child who—

- (1) habitually begs or receives alms, whether under the pretext of sale or otherwise, or frequents any public place for the purpose of so begging or receiving alms; or
- (2) wanders about, or frequents any public place, or sleeps in the open air, and does not satisfy the court that he or she has a home or settled place of abode; or
- (3) resides in any reputed brothel, or associates or dwells with any person known to the police or reputed to be a prostitute, whether such person is the mother of such child or not; or
- (4) associates or dwells with any person who has been convicted of vagrancy, or is known to the police as of bad repute, or who has been or is reputed to be a thief or habitual drunkard; or
- (5) is under the guardianship of any person whom the court shall consider unfit to have such guardianship; or
- (6) is illegitimate, and whose mother is dead or is unable to maintain or take charge of such child; or
- (7) is living under such conditions as to indicate that the child is lapsing or likely to lapse into a career of vice or crime; or
- (8) not being duly licensed for that purpose, is engaged in street trading;

“Orphanage” means an institution for the detention, maintenance, training, education, and employment of destitute or neglected children, and which has been approved and certified by the Governor for the purposes of this Act;

“Police officer” includes any constable or officer of police;

“Prescribed” means prescribed by this Act or the regulations;

“Proclamation” means proclamation by the Governor published in the *Government Gazette*;

“Regulations” means the regulations in force for the time being under this Act;

“Secretary” means the Secretary of the Department appointed under this Act;

“Special magistrate” means a police magistrate, government resident, or resident magistrate, or a justice of the peace nominated by the Governor for the purposes of this Act;

“State child” means a destitute child or neglected child, or an incorrigible or uncontrollable child who has been convicted as such, received into a Government institution or a subsidised institution, or apprenticed or placed out under the authority of this Act;

Amended by No. 21 of 1919, s. 3, and No. 31 of 1926, s. 3.

“Subsidised institution” means an institution maintained wholly or partially by contributions from the Consolidated Revenue Fund;

“This Act” includes regulations.

## PART II.—THE STATE CHILDREN DEPARTMENT.

5. For the purposes of this Act there is hereby constituted a Department, under the control of the Minister, to be called the State Children Department.

State Children Department.

6. The Governor may, from time to time, appoint a Secretary of the Department, and it shall be the duty of the Secretary, under the direction of the Minister, to carry into operation the provisions of this Act so far as the execution thereof is not expressly committed to any other person.

Secretary.

7. (1.) The Governor may, from time to time, appoint inspectors and other officers, with such powers and functions as he deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Inspectors and other officers.

(2.) The Governor may declare that the Public Service Act, 1904, shall not apply to any inspector or officer appointed under this Act, and in such case the Public Service Act, 1904, shall not apply to such officer.

**Visitors.**

8. The Minister may, from time to time, appoint so many fit and proper persons as he thinks necessary to be visitors of Government institutions.

**Boarding-out committees.**

9. (1.) The Minister may, from time to time, appoint so many fit and proper persons as he thinks necessary to form boarding-out committees.

(2.) The persons appointed as members of such committees shall, in accordance with the regulations, assist the Department in procuring and supervising boarding-out homes and in the care of the State children sent to such homes under this Act.

**General powers of secretary.**

10. (1.) Subject to the regulations and the direction of the Minister, the Secretary shall have the care, management, and control of the persons and property of all State children, and the supervision of all children nursed by foster-mothers.

(2.) All children committed to the care of the Department may from time to time be dealt with by the Secretary in any of the following ways:—

- (a) Placed in some receiving depot.
- (b) Detained in an institution.
- (c) Transferred with the approval of the Minister from one institution to another institution.
- (d) Boarded out, apprenticed, or placed at service with some suitable person.
- (e) Placed in the custody of some suitable person who may be willing to take charge of such child:

**Sec. 3, No. 14 of 1921.**

Provided that when any recommendation has been made by the court, such recommendation shall not be departed from without the consent of the Minister.

**Record of State children to be kept.**

11. The Secretary shall keep records of all moneys received and paid, and so far as known of the names, ages, dates of reception, near relatives, nationality, sex, religion, and dates of departure of all State children, and of all dispositions of and dealings with such children.

**Annual report.**

12. The Secretary shall in every year report to the Minister on the working of this Act, and shall in such report specify the number of children in the several institutions, the number placed out and apprenticed during the period covered by the report, and set out a summary of the receipts

and expenditure of the Department during the same period, and any other particulars which the Minister may direct from time to time to be included in such report. All such reports shall be laid before Parliament.

PART III.—INSTITUTIONS.

13. (1.) The Governor may declare any building or place to be a Government institution, and such building or place so proclaimed shall thereupon be a Government institution within the meaning and for the purposes of this Act.

Government institutions.

(2.) The Governor may discontinue and close any Government institution, and direct the removal of the inmates to some other institution.

(3.) Any order under this section may be altered or revoked by the Governor.

14. (1.) The Governor may declare any building or place to be a subsidised institution, and such building or place so proclaimed shall thereupon be a subsidised institution within the meaning and for the purposes of this Act.

Subsidised institutions.

(2.) The Governor may discontinue any such institution as a subsidised institution, whereupon all State children being inmates thereof, and all State children apprenticed or placed out by the governing authority thereof, shall be sent to and detained in any other institution, or otherwise dealt with under this Act.

(3.) Any order under this section may be altered or revoked by the Governor.

15. (1.) The Government Industrial School at Subiaco, established before the commencement of this Act, is hereby declared to be a Government institution within the meaning and for the purposes of this Act.

Existing institutions continued.

(2.) The orphanages and industrial and reformatory schools established before the commencement of this Act, specified in the Second Schedule, are hereby declared to be subsidised institutions within the meaning and for the purposes of this Act.

16. No person shall be appointed or continue to be the manager to have the chief control of any subsidised institution unless approved by the Governor.

Manager to be approved.

Institutions may be established for particular religious denominations.

17. If any institution is established and maintained for the children of any particular religious denomination exclusively, the Governor may limit the same as an institution for such children only, and in such case no child shall be committed to such institution who is not of the denomination mentioned in the Order in Council.

Special Magistrates may visit institutions. New section inserted by No. 21 of 1919, s. 4.

18. A special magistrate or any member of the Children's Court authorised in that behalf by the Governor shall have the right at any time to enter, visit, and inspect any institution.

#### PART IV.—STATE CHILDREN AND CHILDREN'S COURTS.

##### *Constitution and Powers of Court.*

Children's courts. No. 21 of 1919, s. 5, No. 81 of 1926, s. 4.

19. (1.) The Governor may by Order in Council establish special courts to be called Children's Courts, and may appoint a special magistrate for any particular court or courts, and may by Order in Council from time to time determine the area in and for which each court shall exercise jurisdiction.

(2.) The Governor may also appoint such persons, male or female, as he may think fit, to be members of any particular Children's Court, and may determine the respective seniorities of members heretofore or hereafter appointed, and may appoint any person to be a clerk of any court.

(3.) No Children's Court shall be competent to exercise its jurisdiction unless there be present the special magistrate or at least two members.

(4.) If for any reason it is not convenient for the special magistrate of any court to attend any particular sitting of the court, the special magistrate of any other court may attend and act in his place.

(5.) When the persons sitting as a Children's Court are divided in opinion as to the decision to be given on any question, the question shall be decided according to the opinion of the majority, if there is a majority, but if the court is equally divided in opinion, the opinion of the special magistrate, if present, shall prevail, but if a special magistrate is not present, the case shall be re-heard and determined in the presence of a special magistrate.

(6.) Subject to this Act, all the provisions of the Justices Act, 1902, shall apply to the proceedings, orders, and convictions of Children's Courts, and for the purposes of this Act



the special magistrate of a court shall have the powers of a police magistrate throughout the State, and every member of the court shall have the powers of a justice of the peace in and for the area of the court, and every such court shall be deemed to be a court of summary jurisdiction.

20. A Children's Court and the magistrate or members constituting such court— Power of Court.

- (a) shall exercise the powers and authorities which are possessed by resident magistrates or two or more justices under the Justices Act, 1902, in respect of children, and of offences committed by or against children; and No. 14 of 1921, s. 8,  
No. 31 of 1926, s. 5.
- (b) shall hear and determine all complaints and applications under this Act, and under sections ten and twelve of the Public Education Act, 1899, and section three of the Public Education Amendment Act, 1905, and section two of the Public Education Act Amendment Act, 1907, and section two of the Public Education Amendment Act, 1919\* ; and
- (c) shall hear and determine all complaints and applications under Part V. and sections one hundred and twenty-eight and one hundred and twenty-nine of this Act.

21. On and after the establishment of a Children's Court, the jurisdiction of every court of petty sessions in respect of the matters as to which the Children's Court has jurisdiction shall cease to be exercised within the area proclaimed: Jurisdiction of  
other courts to  
cease.

Provided that nothing in this section shall abridge or prejudice the ministerial powers of justices in cases of committal for trial, or their powers to take any information or complaint or issue any summons, or grant, issue, or indorse any warrant, or admit to bail:

Provided also that no conviction, order, judgment, or proceeding made or given by or heard before a court of petty sessions in contravention of this section shall be invalidated or affected by reason only of such contravention.

22. (1.) The Children's Court shall be held within the city of Perth and in such other places as the Governor may direct, in some building approved or appointed in that behalf by the Minister, and not in any police or other court-house. Children's Courts  
not to be held in  
ordinary courts.

\* See sections 6, 10, 12, 13, and 14 of the Public Education Act, 1899, as reprinted with amendments in the appendix to the 1926 Volume of Statutes.

(2.) Subject as hereinbefore provided a Children's Court shall be held in some building or place approved of in that behalf by the Minister.

Provided that if a court-house or magistrate's office is so approved of, the hearing shall not take place at an hour when the ordinary court business is being transacted.

Exclusion of persons from hearing.

23. (1.) At any hearing or trial by a court under this Act, the court may order that any persons not directly interested in the case shall be excluded from the court-room or place of hearing.

(2.) It shall not be lawful to publish a report of the proceedings before the court, or of the result of any such proceedings, if such publication has been prohibited by the court.

No summons to be issued in certain cases.

No. 21 of 1919, s. 7.

24. Where the offence charged against a child does not amount to an indictable offence, or where the alleged offence consists of the breach or non-observance of some by-law, rule, or regulation promulgated by virtue of a statute, no summons shall be issued or served upon such child unless a notice has been first posted to or served upon such child at its usual place of residence, and such child has failed to appear in response to such notice.

In committing to an institution, court to have regard to the future of the child.

No. 21 of 1919, s. 8.

25. The court in committing any child to an institution shall have regard to the future welfare of such child, and may direct such child to be detained in one of the institutions scheduled in the State Children Act, 1907,\* or in some other institution, as the Governor may approve, at which such special training and supervision can be provided as may best meet the needs of any special case.

Court may refrain from imposing punishment or fine.

No. 21 of 1919, s. 9.

26. Notwithstanding the provisions of any Act, by-law, rule, or regulation, the court in awarding punishment or penalty upon any child may have regard to the antecedents, character, age, health, or mental condition of the child convicted, and may take into account the nature of the offence or any special circumstances of the case, and such court may, notwithstanding the nature of the evidence adduced, refrain from imposing any punishment, penalty, or fine, or without proceeding to conviction dismiss the complaint.

\* See section 15 and Second Schedule of this Act.

27. The court, on application made by the Department or by the parent or guardian of any child against whom an order may be made under this Act, may rehear the case and may make such recommendation to the Minister thereon as may in its opinion meet the circumstances.

Court may rehear case. No. 21 of 1919, s. 11.

28. The powers conferred upon justices in regard to admission to bail may be exercised in the case of children by the Secretary of the State Children Department, or by the Clerk of the Children's Court, or by the officer in charge of any Government detention house.

Admission to bail. Sec. 7, No. 14 of 1921.

*Committal of destitute or neglected children.*

29. Any officer of the Department authorised by the Minister and any police officer may, without warrant, apprehend any child appearing or suspected to be a destitute or neglected child, and when any such child is apprehended, pending the hearing of the charge or information, or during any adjournment thereof, such child shall be disposed of in one of the following ways:—

Power to apprehend neglected or destitute children.

- (a) Taken to a receiving depot, shelter, or other Government institution and placed therein;
- (b) Placed with some respectable person, and such arrangement or agreement may be made as may be necessary or proper for the care and maintenance of such child;
- (c) Placed in the dwelling of a police officer at prescribed charges; or
- (d) Placed in a police gaol or lock-up and kept apart from other prisoners: Provided that no child shall be detained in a police gaol or lock-up unless the charge pending is of so serious a nature that his safe custody is of paramount importance.

30. The court upon complaint being made, and upon being satisfied that any child charged with being a destitute child or a neglected child is in fact a destitute child or a neglected child, may order such child to be—

Powers of court with respect to destitute or neglected children.

- (a) committed to the care of the Department; or
- (b) sent to some institution to be specified in the order there to be detained or otherwise dealt with under this Act, until such child attains the age of eighteen years, or during such shorter period as the court may think sufficient; or

Amended by No. 21 of 1919, s. 10.

Inserted by No.  
21 of 1919, s. 10.

- (c) released on probation on such conditions (if any) as the court may order, and in such case the child shall be subject to the supervision of the Department until such child attains the age of eighteen years, or during such shorter period as the court may think sufficient.

Order for detention.

31. Whenever a child is committed to the care of the Department, the order of committal shall be sufficient authority to any police officer or officer of the Department to take the child to such institution as the Secretary may direct, or in default of any such direction to such receiving depot as may be nearest or most convenient.

How uncontrollable  
child may be dealt  
with.

32. If any child is brought before the court, charged by his parent or near relative with being an uncontrollable or incorrigible child the court, upon being satisfied that the charge is well founded, may—

Amended by No. 21  
of 1919, s. 12.

- (a) order the child to be sent to an institution to be there detained or otherwise dealt with under this Act until eighteen years of age, or during such shorter period as the court may think sufficient; or
- (b) if a child is a male under the age of sixteen years, order him to be whipped; or
- (c) release the child on probation, on such conditions, if any, as the court may order, and in such case the child shall be subject to the supervision of the Department until he attains the age of eighteen years, or during such shorter period as the court may think sufficient:

Amended by No. 21  
of 1919, s. 12.

Provided that no order of committal of an uncontrollable child on the application of his parent or near relative shall be made unless—

- (a) such parent or relative proves that he has not by neglect lost control of the child; and
- (b) security is given to the satisfaction of the court for the making of such payment as in the opinion of the court the applicant is able to afford towards the maintenance of such child.

Uncontrollable  
children may be  
charged by Depart-  
ment.

33. If any child is brought before the court charged by an officer of the Department or a police officer with being an uncontrollable or incorrigible child, the court upon being satisfied that the charge is well founded may exercise the

jurisdiction conferred upon it by the last preceding section in the same manner and to the same extent as if the charge had been made by the parent or near relative of the child.

34. If any child is found guilty of any offence punishable by imprisonment, the court in lieu of sentencing such child to imprisonment may—

How convicted children may be dealt with.

- (a) order such child to be sent to an industrial school and to be there detained or to be otherwise dealt with under this Act until eighteen years of age, or during such shorter period as the court may think sufficient; or
- (b) order the parent to give security for the good behaviour of such child until the child attains the age of eighteen years, or during such shorter period as the court may think sufficient, and upon being satisfied that such security has been given, may dismiss the charge; or
- (c) adjourn the case on a near relative undertaking to punish the child in such reasonable or moderate manner as the court may approve, and on being satisfied that such punishment has been duly inflicted may dismiss the charge; or
- (d) release the child on probation on such conditions, if any, as the court may order, and in such case the child shall be subject to the supervision of the Department until he attains the age of eighteen years, or during such shorter period as the court may think sufficient:

Amended by No. 21 of 1919, s. 13.

Amended by No. 21 of 1919, s. 13.

Provided that no order for security shall be made against a parent under this section unless such parent has been summoned to attend before the court and has had an opportunity of being heard.

35. No child shall be liable to imprisonment for failure to pay any penalty, compensation, or sum of money or costs adjudged to be paid by a conviction or order of any court of summary jurisdiction, but shall be liable to be sent to and detained in an institution for such period as he might have been imprisoned but for the provisions of this section, and the provisions of the Justices Act, 1902, shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, in respect of such child as if detention in an institution were substituted therein for imprisonment.

Child not to be imprisoned for non-payment of fine, etc.  
No. 21 of 1919, s. 14.

No execution or detention in default of payment of fine.

No. 14 of 1921, s. 2.

36. Notwithstanding anything contained in sections one hundred and fifty-five, one hundred and fifty-nine, and one hundred and sixty-seven, of the Justices Act, 1902-1920, or in section thirty-five of this Act, it shall not be obligatory upon the justices sitting as a Children's Court to issue any warrant of execution or to impose any alternative of detention in default of payment of a fine by any child.

Committal of a child to an institution pending trial.

No. 21 of 1919, s. 14.

37. Any child may be committed to an institution during the period for which he has been remanded by a court or any justice or justices, or during the period of his detention on committal for trial in the Supreme Court.

When probationer may be arrested. Amended by No. 21 of 1919, s. 15.

Sec. 18, No. 14 of 1921.

38. If any child released on probation pursuant to section thirty, thirty-two, or thirty-four fails to observe the conditions of his release, or if the Secretary shall not be satisfied with his conduct while on probation, the Secretary may without any warrant cause him to be arrested and brought before the court, and the court may exercise any of the powers specified in sections thirty, thirty-two, or thirty-four, as the case may be.

Child over sixteen years of age at time of committal may be detained for two years.

39. If any child at the time of being committed to an institution is upwards of sixteen years of age, such child may be ordered to be detained in an institution, or otherwise dealt with under this Act, for the period of two years, notwithstanding that such period would extend beyond the time of such child attaining the age of eighteen years.

No detention after age of eighteen.

40. Except as in this Act otherwise provided, no State child shall be detained in any institution or be under the control of the Department after attaining the age of eighteen years.

Institution to which children to be sent.

41. (1.) Every child found guilty of an offence and committed to an institution shall be sent to an industrial school.

(2.) Destitute children and neglected children shall be sent to institutions other than industrial schools:

Provided that if any neglected or destitute child in the opinion of the court under the special circumstances of the case ought to be sent to an industrial school, the court may order such child to be committed to an industrial school accordingly:

Provided also that under special circumstances, and with the approval of the Minister, an inmate of any institution may be transferred for misconduct to an industrial school, and in like manner any inmate of an industrial school may, for good conduct, be transferred to any other institution.

42. (1.) Any order made by justices under section three of the Public Education Amendment Act, 1905,\* shall direct the child to be sent to an institution other than an industrial school. Habitual truants.

(2.) After a detention of not less than two months any child may be given a license to live out of the institution, but the license shall be conditional upon the child attending regularly some school named in the license being a Government school or efficient school:

Provided that such license may be revoked by direction of the Minister whenever the child ceases to attend at such school regularly, and it shall be the duty of the teacher in charge of the school named in the license to notify the Department weekly of the attendance of the child.

43. (1.) Every order of the court committing a child to the care of the Department or to an institution shall be in the prescribed form setting forth the age and religion, so far as known, of such child, and the cause for which the child is to be detained. Form of order.

(2.) In the absence of evidence as to the age of any child, the court may on view determine the age of such child, and shall insert in the order the age so determined.

44. The statement in any order that the child therein named is of a certain age and religion shall, for the purposes of this Act, be taken to be true, unless within six months from the date of the order the secretary shall be satisfied to the contrary, and shall indorse on the order the correct age or religion. Statement of age and religion to be prima facie evidence.

45. A certificate indorsed upon or annexed to any order and signed by the secretary or the superintendent or matron of any institution, stating that the child named in such order was duly received into such institution, and was at the signing thereof detained in an institution or had been otherwise dealt with under this Act, shall in all proceedings whatsoever be *prima facie* evidence of the facts stated in such certificate, and of the identity of the child therein named. Certificate of secretary, etc., indorsed on order to be prima facie evidence.

\* See section 13 of the Public Education Act, 1899, as reprinted with amendments in the appendix to the 1926 Volume of Statutes.

State children absconding, etc., may be apprehended without warrant.

46. Any State child who absconds from any institution, or from his foster-parent, or who, whilst liable to detention, shall refuse or neglect at the end or determination of the term of his apprenticeship or placing out forthwith to return to the institution in which he was last detained, or to such other institution as the secretary may order, may be apprehended without a warrant by any police officer, or by any officer of the Department, and conveyed to such institution as the secretary may direct.

Governor may release State child.

47. The Governor may, on the recommendation of the Minister, order the release of any State child from the control of the Department or from any institution, and upon production to the secretary or, in the case of an institution, to the superintendent or matron thereof, of such order, the child shall be forthwith released accordingly.

Removal of inmates from one institution to another.

48. An inmate of an institution may, for any reason which appears to the Minister sufficient, and subject to the provisions of this Act, be removed to and detained in any other institution.

Governor may extend period of detention.

49. The Governor may order that the period of supervision or of detention of any female State child specified in any order shall be extended until such child shall attain the age of twenty-one years or for any shorter period, and such child shall be supervised or detained accordingly.

The Department or governing authority may apprentice children.

50. The secretary or the governing authority of any institution, as the case may be, may, by indenture of apprenticeship, bind any State child apprentice to any suitable person, to be taught such trade or calling as the secretary or such governing authority shall approve; and such binding shall be as effectual as if the child were of full age at the date of the indenture, and had voluntarily executed the same; but the period of any such apprenticeship shall not exceed five years, nor extend beyond the day of the child attaining the age of twenty-one years.

Secretary or governing authority may place out children.

51. The secretary or the governing authority of any institution, as the case may be, may place out any State child to reside and board with any relative of such child, or with a suitable person approved by the secretary or governing body, for such period, subject to this Act, as the secretary or governing authority thinks fit; or may place out for such



period as aforesaid any State child with any suitable person willing to receive such child for adoption or service, and who, in the opinion of the secretary or governing authority, is able to provide for such child.

Nothing in this section shall authorise the placing out of any child for any time extending beyond the period of detention of such child.

52. (1.) Every State child over the age of six years placed out shall be sent regularly to school until fourteen years old, or until he shall pass the compulsory standard required by the Public Education Act, 1899, or any Act amending the same or substituted therefor.

State children to attend school regularly.

(2.) No State child shall be apprenticed or placed out for service under the age of fourteen years unless such child has passed such compulsory standard.

(3.) Any parent or foster-parent committing or permitting any breach of this section shall be guilty of an offence against this Act, unless for good cause shown he shall be specially exempted by the Minister.

53. The apprenticing or placing out of a State child by any governing authority shall be subject in all respects to the regulations made under this Act.

The apprenticing or placing out of children to be subject to regulations.

54. All indentures of apprenticeship and agreements for the placing out of State children under this Act shall be in the forms prescribed and shall contain provisions to the satisfaction of the Minister for the proper keeping, maintaining, clothing, and (where necessary) educating such child, and for the due payment of such wages as may be payable thereunder.

Provisions in indentures.

55. The secretary or governing authority may in any indenture or agreement provide that all, or such portion as may be specified, or any wages to become due to the child shall be deposited in the Government Savings Bank in the name of such child, and every such payment shall be deemed to be a payment to such child:

Wages may be paid into Government Savings Bank.

Provided that no money deposited pursuant to this section shall be withdrawn without the consent of the Minister until the child attains the age of twenty-one years:

Amended by s. 9, No. 14 of 1921.

Provided further that all accounts under this section shall be audited at prescribed periods by the Auditor General.

Proviso inserted by No. 21 of 1919, s. 16.

Moneys banked may be expended for the child's benefit.

56. (1.) All or any part of the money so deposited, and any interest thereon, may, with the consent of the Minister, be expended for the benefit of the child when and in such manner as the secretary or governing authority may from time to time deem advisable.

Amended by s. 9, No. 14 of 1921.

(2.) All moneys so deposited, and not expended as aforesaid, shall be payable to the child upon his attaining the age of twenty-one years:

Provided that on the death of any such child any debt due to the Department in respect of such child shall be a first charge on moneys so deposited, and shall be payable to the Department on demand.

Secretary or governing authority may recover wages.

57. The wages or earnings due by any person to any State child, whether payable to such child or not, may be sued for and recovered by and in the name of the secretary or of the governing authority, as the case may be, for the benefit of such child.

Indentures of apprenticeship and licenses may be assigned with consent of Minister.

58. (1.) The foster-parent of any State child may, by an assignment bearing the consent of the Minister or the governing authority, as the case may be, but not otherwise, assign the indenture of apprenticeship or license respecting such child to any fit and proper person.

(2.) Every such assignment shall be executed in duplicate by the assignor and assignee, and one part of the assignment so executed shall be forthwith forwarded to the secretary or governing authority by the assignor, and thereafter the indenture or license shall, for the purposes of this Act, be read and construed as if the assignee had originally been party thereto in the place of the assignor.

(3.) Every foster-parent who assigns any indenture of apprenticeship or license without such consent as aforesaid shall be guilty of an offence against this Act, and the assignment shall be null and void.

On death of foster-parent, widow, etc., may nominate new foster-parent.

59. (1.) On the death of the foster-parent of any State child, the widow, widower, executor, or administrator of such foster-parent may, at any time within three months after such death, apply in writing, to the secretary for an order directing such child to be bound or placed out for the residue of the term to some fit and proper person nominated in and consenting to such application.

(2.) The secretary may make an order accordingly, and thereupon a new indenture or license shall be executed by the person so nominated for the unexpired term of the original indenture or license, and upon the like term and conditions, or upon such other terms and conditions, subject to this Act, as the secretary may deem advisable.

60. If the foster-parent of any State child shall become bankrupt or become unable to maintain and employ such child, or shall be about to remove from the State, the secretary or governing authority, as the case may be, may, on application by or on behalf of the foster-parent or child, make an order releasing and discharging the foster-parent and the child, respectively, from the indenture of apprenticeship or agreement, and from every covenant and agreement therein contained or thereby implied; and, by the same or any other order, may direct the child to be placed in an institution to be therein named.

Indentures and licenses may be cancelled.

61. No foster parent shall change his place of residence without in every case giving to the secretary or the governing authority such notice as may be prescribed.

Change of residence to be notified by foster-parent.

62. If a State child apprenticed or placed out absconds, becomes ill, meets with an accident, or dies, the foster-parent of such child shall immediately give such notice and do all such further acts and things in every such case as may be prescribed.

Notice to be given if child absconds, becomes ill, or dies.

63. Every foster-parent who illtreats, injures, or neglects any State child placed out with or apprenticed to him shall be liable to a penalty of not exceeding twenty pounds, or to imprisonment with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding six months, and the court may discharge the child from the apprenticeship or license, and order him to be sent to an institution.

Penalty for ill-treating State child apprenticed, etc.

64. The Department shall have general supervision over all State children detained in any institution or placed out for adoption or otherwise, or apprenticed by the governing authority of any institution.

Department to have general supervision of State children.

65. (1.) The Secretary shall cause all State children apprenticed or placed out to be visited once at least in every six months by an officer of the Department, or person ap-

Apprenticed and placed-out children to be visited.

pointed for that purpose by the secretary, to ascertain whether the stipulations of the indentures of apprenticeship respecting such children have been fulfilled, and that the treatment, education, and care of such children are satisfactory.

(2.) The governing authority of any institution or any person authorised by such governing authority may for the like purpose visit any State child apprenticed or boarded out by such governing authority.

(3.) Every foster-parent shall, at the request of any such officer, governing authority, or person personally produce the child apprenticed or placed out to or with him, or show cause to the satisfaction of the officer, governing authority, or person, for the non-production or absence of such child.

Minister may pay for maintenance of child.

66. The Minister may pay to the governing authority of any subsidised institution, for the maintenance therein of any State child, such sum and for such periods as may be prescribed.

Payments for maintenance of State children to foster-parents.

67. The Minister may pay to the foster-parent or foster-mother of any State child, for the care and maintenance of such child, such sum as may be prescribed.

Amended by No. 21 of 1919, s. 17.

#### PART V.—MAINTENANCE OF CHILDREN BY THEIR RELATIVES.

Order of liability for maintenance of any child.

68. The near relatives of any child shall be liable to pay or contribute towards the maintenance of such child according to their several abilities, and in the following order, namely—

- (a) In the case of a legitimate child—Father, mother, step-father, step-mother, brothers and sisters, grand-parents;
- (b) In the case of an illegitimate child—Father, mother's husband, mother.

On complaint Court to issue summons.

Amended by s. 5, No. 14 of 1921.

69. (1.) Upon complaint that any persons are near relatives of any child, and are able to pay or contribute towards the maintenance or past maintenance of such child, such persons or any of them may be summoned to appear before the court at a time and place to be named in such summons, to show cause why they or he should not pay for or contribute towards the past or future maintenance of such child.

(2.) All complaints under this Part of this Act relating to a State child, except where otherwise expressly provided, shall be made by or on behalf of the secretary.

70. (1.) At the time and place appointed for the hearing of such complaint the court may adjourn the hearing, and may summon any other persons alleged to be near relatives to appear at the adjourned hearing; and may, at the original or any adjourned hearing, if the court is satisfied that the persons so summoned, or any of them, are near relatives of the child, and are able to pay for or contribute towards the past or future maintenance of such child, order payment to be made by such near relatives, or some one or more of them in the case of a State child to the Department or a governing authority, or, in the case of any other child, to the Department, or to the complainant, or any person whom the court shall select, as the court may think fit—

Court may order payment of maintenance.

No. 31 of 1926, s. 6.

- (a) of such sum for past maintenance of the child as may seem sufficient; and
- (b) of such sum for future maintenance, and for such period as may seem sufficient, but not being more than twelve shillings and sixpence per week.

(2.) If an order is made against two or more near relatives, one order may be made against all of them, or separate orders may be made against each or any of them jointly or severally, as to the court may seem fit, so that such persons shall not be liable to pay more than twelve shillings and sixpence a week in the aggregate in respect of any one child.

(3.) No order shall be made for payment in advance or future maintenance, otherwise than by periodical instalments not exceeding four weeks in advance, without the consent of the Minister.

(4.) The court may at any time and from time to time alter any order made hereunder so far as regards the recipient of the money payable thereunder, and in particular may direct, in the case of a child in respect of whom an order has been made and who has become a State child after the making of the order, that the money payable under such order shall be paid to the Department or a governing authority.

71. An order may be made under section seventy in any proceedings under sections thirty, thirty-two, or thirty-four without any complaint having been made against or summons served on the near relative, provided that he is either present in court when the order is applied for or that he has received the prescribed notice of the intention to make the application.

Order may be made in proceedings under sections 30, 32, and 34.

New section inserted by No. 21 of 1919, s. 19.

Order to take effect from pronouncement.

72. (1.) Every maintenance order shall be served upon the persons against whom the same is made personally, or in such manner and at such place as may be prescribed, or as the court shall direct; but the order shall take effect from the time of its pronouncement, notwithstanding that the formal order may not have been signed or served.

Enforcement of maintenance orders.

Subsections (2), (3), and (4) inserted by No. 21 of 1919, s. 18.

(2.) A maintenance order made under this Act shall direct that on default being made in payment of any sum of money or costs thereby ordered to be paid, the same shall be recoverable by execution against the goods and chattels of the person liable, and that in default of payment and of sufficient goods and chattels he shall be imprisoned for a period determined by the court in accordance with the provisions of section one hundred and sixty-seven of the Justices Act, 1902, and subject to the provisions of that section: Provided that the court may, in lieu of directing that such sum of money or costs shall be recoverable by execution, direct that in default of payment the person in default shall be imprisoned as aforesaid: And the maintenance order shall direct, with regard to any periodical payments thereby ordered, that whenever and as often as default is made in any such periodical payment, the person in default shall be liable to such process of execution and imprisonment, or to such imprisonment only, as aforesaid.

(3.) Every such maintenance order shall have effect according to its tenor.

(4.) The provisions of this section shall be without prejudice to any other provision of this Act.

No. 31 of 1926, s. 7.

(5.) When an order made under this part directs any person to make periodical payments, and such person is at any time in default in respect of more than one periodical payment, such person shall be liable, in respect of the aggregate amount in payment whereof he is so in default as aforesaid, to such process of execution and period of imprisonment, or to such imprisonment only, as he would be liable to if he were in default in respect of one payment equal to the said aggregate amount.

Allegations in complaint *prima facie* evidence.

73. Upon the hearing of any complaint in respect of the maintenance of a legitimate child, the allegations in the complaint that the person complained against is a near relative liable to maintain, and is of sufficient means to maintain the child, and that any sum has been expended upon, or is due, or owing for, or in respect of the maintenance of the child, shall

be received as *prima facie* proof of such allegations respectively; and the onus of proving that such person is not a near relative, as stated in the complaint, or is not of sufficient means to maintain such child, or that some other person is prior in order of liability, or that the sum stated in the complaint to be expended, or due, or owing is not due, or owing, or was not expended, shall lie upon the defendant.

74. Upon the hearing of a complaint against any person in respect of the maintenance of an illegitimate child, of which the defendant is alleged to be the father, the court may adjudge him to be the father thereof, but shall not so adjudge him or make any order against him under this part—

Court may adjudge person to be father of illegitimate child.

No. 31. of 1926, s. 8.

- (a) upon the evidence of the mother, unless her evidence is corroborated in some material particular; or
- (b) if the court is satisfied that at the time the child was begotten the mother was a common prostitute:

Provided that the allegation in the complaint that the defendant is of sufficient means to maintain the child shall be received as *prima facie* proof thereof; and the onus of proving that the defendant is not of sufficient means to maintain the child shall lie upon the defendant.

75. (1.) An order for confinement expenses may be made on complaint therefor, or such order may be made therefor without any complaint in any proceedings against the father for the maintenance of the child, and such order may be made separately or included in any other order against the father.

Confinement expenses.

No. 31 of 1926, s. 9.

(2.) Proceedings may be laid against the father of an illegitimate child for maintenance or for the confinement expenses either before or after the birth of the child.

(3.) Every order for confinement expenses or for maintenance made before the birth of a child, shall direct that payment shall be made to the Department, or to such person as the court may think fit to select as recipient of the moneys, and such moneys shall be retained until the birth of the child, when the same shall be applied towards confinement expenses and maintenance.

(4.) The words "confinement expenses" mean and include reasonable medical and nursing expenses attendant upon the confinement of the mother and the cost of clothing necessary for the child for two months after its birth.

(5.) In case any doubt or question shall arise as to the disposal of any moneys paid for confinement expenses, the court may by subsequent order direct how and in what manner such moneys shall be paid or applied.

(6.) The court may, in case of the death of an illegitimate child, make an order against the father of such child for the payment to the Department, or to such person as the court considers entitled to receive the money, of a reasonable sum for the funeral expenses of such child.

Attachment of property of persons against whom order is sought.

No. 31 of 1920, s. 10.

76. (1.) Upon complaint made under section sixty-nine of this Act, notice may be given by the secretary or clerk of the court to any banker or other person having, or supposed to have, the care, custody, or control of any money or property of, or belonging or payable to, any person complained against, not to pay or part with the possession of such money or property until such complaint has been heard and determined, and such money and property shall thereby become and be attached in the hands of the person having the care, custody, or control thereof, who shall be compellable to give evidence on the hearing of such complaint as to all matters relating to or concerning such money or property.

(2.) Any person who, after receipt of any such notice, pays or hands over any such money or property otherwise than in accordance with the order made by the court, or who neglects or refuses to comply with the order made, shall be personally liable to pay to the Department, or to the person in whose favour an order is made in respect of such money or property under section seventy-seven, the amount of money or the value of the property ordered to be paid or handed over, and such amount or value may be recovered before the court in a summary way.

Court may make orders for delivery, etc., of attached property.

77. The court hearing any such complaint may direct that the money or property attached, or any portion thereof, shall be paid or handed over to the Department or to the person to whom the maintenance money is ordered to be paid, and the person having the care, custody, or control thereof shall pay or hand over the same accordingly, and shall be thereby discharged from all liability to the owner thereof, or any person claiming under him in respect of the money or property so paid or handed over.

Court may require security for compliance with order.

78. The court on complaint being made that any person liable upon any maintenance order has made default thereunder, or intends to evade compliance therewith, may, by a



subsequent order, require the person liable for the maintenance to find good and sufficient security that he will comply with the order made against him, and the court may, in default of such security being found, commit such person to prison for any period not exceeding six months, if the order for security is not sooner complied with:

Provided that it shall be lawful for the court to determine upon the sufficiency of any proposed security, and in what manner the security shall be given.

79. The amount of the weekly payments payable under any order may, by any subsequent orders from time to time made by the court, be increased to any amount not exceeding the maximum if the near relatives are able to pay such greater amount.

Power to increase amount.

80. (1.) On the complaint of a near relative liable upon a maintenance order, all or any of the persons alleged in the complaint to be near relatives of the child named in the order may be summoned to appear before the court at a time and place to be named in the summons.

Orders may be varied, etc., on further inquiry.

(2.) At the time and place so appointed, or at any adjourned hearing, the court may make further inquiry as to the means and ability of the complainant, and as to the relationship to such child of the persons summoned, and as to their several abilities to maintain or contribute to the maintenance of such child, and may make such order increasing, reducing, or varying the periodical sum to be thenceforth paid by the complainant, or suspending for a specified time or annulling the previous order, or directing that the persons so summoned, or some or one of them, shall thenceforth pay for or contribute towards the maintenance of the child, or may make such other order not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act as shall appear just.

81. Subject to the provisions of a maintenance order, any officer of the Department, and any police officer when so directed by the Commissioner of Police, may demand, collect, and receive from any person liable to pay the same all sums of money due to the Department under any maintenance order, and the receipt in writing of any such officer for moneys paid to him shall be a sufficient discharge therefor.

Collection by the police of moneys due to the Department.

82. (1.) If any person against whom a maintenance order has been made is the registered proprietor of any land, or of any estate, or interest in land subject to the Transfer of

Caveats.  
No. 31 of 1926, s. 11.

Land Act, 1893, or the Land Act, 1898, the secretary or the clerk of the court may lodge with the Registrar of Titles or the Under Secretary for Lands, as the case may be, a caveat against any dealings with such land, estate, or interest.

(2.) Particulars of the order shall be set out in the caveat, and the Registrar of Titles or the Under Secretary for Lands, as the case may be, shall forthwith register such caveat, and it shall not be lawful for the Registrar of Titles or the Under Secretary for Lands, without the consent of the secretary or clerk of the court, to remove or discharge such caveat unless and until he is satisfied that all moneys due under such order have been paid and satisfied, or unless he is ordered by the Supreme Court or a judge thereof to remove such caveat.

Warrants may be granted to enforce payment under orders.

No. 31 of 1926, s. 12.

83. If any money payable under a maintenance order is in arrear for one month, the court may issue a warrant authorising the Department, or the clerk of the court, or some person named in such warrant, to receive the whole or so much of the rents, profits, and income of the real and personal estate of the person against whom such order was made, or to sell the estate and interest of such person in such real and personal estate or any part thereof.

Warrant when registered to bind land.

84. Every such warrant may be registered in the same manner as a writ of *feri facias*, and shall, from the time of registration, bind the estate or interest of the person liable under the order for maintenance in his real estate and chattel real property.

Sale may be by auction or private contract.

No. 31 of 1926, s. 12.

85. Any sale under such warrant may be by public auction or private contract, and subject to such special or other conditions as the Department, or the clerk of the court, shall deem expedient.

Authority to sell includes power to execute assurances to purchaser.

No. 31 of 1926, s. 12.

86. The Department, or the clerk of the court, or person authorised by the warrant to sell may execute to the purchaser all such conveyances, assignments, transfers, or other assurances of the property sold as the person against whom the order was made might have executed but for this Act, and the property so conveyed, transferred, or otherwise assured shall vest in the purchaser accordingly; and the Registrar of Deeds, the Registrar of Titles, or the Under Secretary for Lands, as the case may be, shall forthwith register a memorial of every such conveyance, and every such

transfer, and cause all certificates of title to be issued or cancelled, and entries to be made and acts to be done as may be necessary for giving effect to the sale.

87. (1.) No notice or demand whatsoever shall be requisite before issuing any such warrant as is mentioned in section eighty-three or before exercising all or any of the powers thereby conferred. Warrant may be issued without previous demand.

(2.) The warrant shall, so far as regards any purchase or person dealing with the Department, or the clerk of the court, or person authorised by such warrant, be conclusive evidence that the power to sell is vested in the Department, or the clerk of the court, or person therein named. No. 31 of 1926, s. 12.

88. The payment to the Department, or the clerk of the court, or person named in any such warrant shall be a good discharge to any purchaser or other person for all moneys paid by him pursuant to such warrant. Payment under warrant to discharge persons paying. No. 31 of 1926, s. 12.

89. The rents, profits, and income, and the proceeds of any sale received under any such warrant, shall be applied first in payment of the costs of collection or sale; next, in payment of the costs of obtaining such warrant; thirdly, in paying any money due under the original order; and the balance shall be applied in or towards future maintenance, or in such other manner as the court may direct. Application of moneys received under warrant.

89A. The provisions of this Part relating to maintenance orders shall, so far as practicable, apply to and in respect of any order for maintenance or education for the time being in force made under the Bastardy Laws Act, 1875. This part to apply to maintenance orders under the Bastardy Laws Act, 1875. No. 31 of 1926, s. 13.

89B. Any complaint necessary to obtain an order under this Part may be laid by or on behalf of any person, institution, department, or body interested in obtaining the order, or by or on behalf of any person who is or was a near relative of the child in respect of or with reference to whom the order is sought to be obtained. Complaints. No. 31 of 1926, s. 13.

#### PART VI.—COMMITTAL TO THE CARE OF PRIVATE PERSONS OR SOCIETIES.

90. (1.) Any private person, and any society formed by private persons, desirous of taking charge of, protecting, or assisting any destitute or neglected child or children, without subsidy or aid from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, may Governor may approve of private persons or societies having care of children.

from time to time be approved by the Governor as a person or society to whose care destitute or neglected children may be committed under the provisions of this Act, and the Governor may revoke any such order.

(2.) Every order approving of any such society, and every such revocation of any such order, shall be published in the *Government Gazette*.

91. Every order approving any society as a society to the care of which destitute or neglected children may be committed shall name some person as the manager of such society, and when from time to time the manager of any such society is changed the name of every new manager shall be submitted to the Governor for his approval, and the order approving of such manager shall be published in the *Government Gazette*, and any copy of the *Government Gazette* purporting to contain any such order shall be conclusive evidence that the person named therein on that behalf is the manager of any such society.

92. Where under this Act the court is empowered to commit any child to the care of the Department, the court may commit such child to the care of any person or society for the time being approved by the Governor as a person or society to whose care destitute or neglected children may be committed, upon such person or society consenting in writing to accept the care of such child.

93. Whenever any child is committed to the care of any person or society, such person or the manager of such society shall become the guardian of the person of such child to the exclusion of the father and every other guardian until such child attains the age of eighteen years, or during such shorter period as the court may think sufficient, or in the case of females such greater age not exceeding twenty-one years as the Governor may direct, unless such child is sooner discharged, and such person shall have the sole right to the custody of such child, and such manager shall have the sole right to the custody of such child as on behalf of such society, subject in both cases to the provisions of this Act and to the regulations.

Manager of societies to be approved by Governor.

Power of court to commit to such person or society.

The person or manager of society to whose care child committed to become guardian.

Amended by No. 21 of 1919, s. 20.

94. Upon the publication of any order of the Governor hereunder in the *Government Gazette* approving of any person as the manager of any such society in the place of any other person, the manager so approved shall become the guardian of the person of every child of whose person the manager in whose place he is so approved was the guardian under the provisions of this Part of this Act in the place of the manager in whose place he is so approved.

New managers to succeed to guardianship.

95. The court shall not commit any child to the care of any such person or society if the father or other person having the right to direct in what religion such child shall be educated objects, or so that such child may be educated in a religion different from that in which it would be the duty of any guardian of such child appointed by the Supreme Court to direct such child to be educated.

Child not to be committed contrary to objection of father on ground of religion.

96. The father of any child, or the mother of any child being the guardian of such child, may, by writing signed before a special magistrate, commit the care of such child to any person or society approved by the Governor as a person or society to whose care destitute or neglected children may be committed, and such person or society by writing under his hand or the hand of its manager (as the case may be) may consent to accept the care of such child, and thereupon such person or the manager of such society on behalf of such society shall become the guardian of the person of such child during its minority, to the exclusion of such father or mother and every other guardian.

Commitment by parent.

97. Every person or society to whose care any child is committed under this Part of this Act, whether by the court or by the father or mother of such child, and every person intrusted with the care of any such child by any such person or society shall from time to time permit such child to be visited and any place where such child may be or reside to be inspected by the secretary or any officer of the Department.

Children may be visited.

98. (1.) Upon the death of any person having the care of any child by virtue of any order made under this Part of this Act, or upon the revocation of the order approving of any such person or of any society, the Governor may appoint some other person or society approved as aforesaid in place of the person so dying or the person or society the order

Transmission of guardianship upon death or revocation of order.

approving of whom or which is revoked, and thereupon the same consequences shall ensue as upon an order of the court made under the provisions of this Part of this Act committing the care of every child of whom such person or society was guardian by virtue of any order made under this Part of this Act to the care of the person or society so appointed; and in the meantime, unless and until such other person or society is so appointed, the same consequences shall ensue as if upon the date of such death, or of the revocation of such order, an order had been made committing every child to the care of the Department.

(2.) A person or society may be appointed in the place of a person or society the order approving of whom or which is revoked by the order by which the revocation is made or by any subsequent order.

(3.) The order appointing a society in the place of another society shall be published in the *Government Gazette*.

Guardianship to  
cease on revocation  
of order.

99. Upon the revocation of any order approving of any person or society as a person or society to whose care neglected children may be committed, such person or the manager of such society shall cease to be such guardian of any child under the provisions of this Part of this Act, whether such child is under the care of such person or society by virtue of any order made under this Part of this Act, or of any writing signed as aforesaid by the father or mother of such child.

Form of order.

100. Every order committing a child to the care of any approved person or society hereunder may be in such form as may be prescribed by the regulations or to the like effect, and such order, or any office copy thereof, without any warrant, shall be a sufficient authority for any police officer to take such child to such person or society.

Order of commit-  
ment sufficient  
warrant for deten-  
tion.

101. No warrant shall be necessary to authorise the detention of any child in the care of any approved person or society, but if the right to the custody of such child is called in question by *habeas corpus* or otherwise, it shall be sufficient to give in evidence the order committing such child to the care of such person or society, and to show that such child is detained by the authority of such person or society, or the manager of such society.

102. If any person or society having the care of any child by virtue of any order made under this Part of this Act, or the manager of any such society, desires for any cause sufficient in the opinion of the court to be relieved of the care of such child, the court may order such child to be committed to the care of the Department.

Power to transfer child to care of Department.

103. No person who, whether as manager of any society or otherwise, is guardian of the person of any child by virtue of any order under this Part of this Act, shall remove such child or suffer such child to be removed out of Western Australia without the consent of the Minister being first obtained.

Child not to be moved out of Western Australia.

PART VII.—LICENSING OF CHILDREN AND RESTRICTIONS ON EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN.

Title amended by No. 21 of 1919, s. 21.

104. (1.) A written license authorising a child of or over the age of twelve years to engage, within prescribed hours and subject to the regulations, in a specified description of street trading may be issued by the Department.

Issue of licenses.

Amended by No. 21 of 1919, s. 21.

(2.) Such license shall be delivered to the child, who shall produce such license, on demand, to any inspector.

(3.) Such license shall not be issued unless it is shown that the moral or material welfare of the child will not suffer by such trading.

(4.) Every license shall be granted for a term not exceeding six months, but may be renewed from time to time, and may at any time be cancelled by the Department.

(5.) No charge shall be made for any license or badge.

Any child engaged in street trading without a license or in contravention of the conditions on which the same is granted shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

105. If any person employs, in street trading, a child—

Penalty for employing child in contravention of Act.

(a) who is not duly licensed under this Act; or

(b) who, although so licensed, is employed by him in trading of a description or at any time not authorised by the license; or

(c) who is under the age of twelve years, such person shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

New paragraph inserted by No. 21 of 1919, s. 21.

Begging or performing by children under sixteen forbidden.

New section inserted by No. 21 of 1919, s. 21.

Work connected with racehorses by children under fourteen forbidden.

**106.** No person shall—

- (a) cause, procure, suffer, or allow any child under the age of sixteen years to be in any place whatever for the purpose of begging or receiving alms or inducing the giving of alms, whether under the pretence of singing, playing, performing, offering anything for sale, or otherwise; or
- (b) cause, procure, suffer, or allow any child under fourteen years of age to be employed or engaged in any work in or about any racing stable, or in connection with the training of horses for racing; or
- (c) except with the license in writing of the Minister, and subject to such restrictions and conditions as may be therein expressed, cause, procure, suffer, or allow any child under the age of sixteen years to be in or on any premises or place used or intended to be used for the purpose of any public entertainment for the purpose of singing, playing, or performing for profit or reward to the child or to any other person, or offering anything for sale: Provided that this provision shall not apply in the case of an occasional entertainment, the proceeds of which are intended to be applied for the benefit of any school or charitable or patriotic object.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

Power for secretary or authorised officer to enter places of amusement.

Sec. 10, No. 14 of 1921.

**107.** The secretary or any officer authorised in this behalf by the secretary may at all reasonable hours of the day or night enter any theatre, place of amusement, shop, factory, warehouse, or other place in which children are employed, or are reasonably supposed by him to be employed, and may make all such investigations and inquiries relative to such children as he shall consider advisable.

No person shall resist or obstruct such secretary or officer in the exercise of any power under this section, and any person to whom such secretary or officer shall put any question pursuant to this section shall forthwith answer such question truthfully to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief.

Penalty: Ten pounds.



PART VIII.—LYING-IN HOMES AND FOSTER MOTHERS, AND THE CARE AND ADOPTION OF CHILDREN.

Title amended by No. 21 of 1919, s. 22.

108. The Minister may, under special circumstances, and subject to the regulations, contribute towards the support of any woman in a lying-in home for a period not exceeding twelve months after her confinement, or partly before and partly after her confinement, and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed, and may maintain Government homes for the same purpose.

Power to assist women in lying-in homes.

109. No person other than a near relative shall be or act as foster-mother, for gain or reward, to any child under the age of six years without being licensed by the Department for that purpose.

Foster-mothers to be licensed.

Amended by No. 21 of 1919, s. 24.

110. (1.) The Department may, on payment of the prescribed fee, grant annual licenses to fit and proper persons to be foster-mothers to children under the age of six years, and may by any such license fix the number of children authorised to be kept by the foster-mother therein named.

Department may license foster-mothers.

Amended by No. 21 of 1919, s. 24.

(2.) The Department may, in its discretion, revoke any licenses granted under this section.

111. (1.) Every person other than a near relative of the child, who, not being licensed as a foster-mother by the Department, shall take the care, charge, or custody of any child under the age of six years to maintain for gain or reward such child apart from his parent, shall be guilty of an offence against this Act, and shall, on conviction, be liable to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds, or in case of a second or subsequent offence to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds or to imprisonment with or without hard labour for not exceeding three months.

Penalty on unlicensed foster-mothers.

Amended by No. 21 of 1919, s. 24.

(2.) No information shall be laid for any such offence under this section except by the secretary or an officer of the Department or other person authorised by the secretary.

112. Any person who shall act as foster-mother to any greater number of children than shall be fixed in the license shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

Penalty on licensed foster-mother taking charge of more children than allowed by license.

113. (1.) Every lying-in home, and the home or place of residence of every licensed foster-mother, shall, at all times, be open to inspection by the secretary or any officer of the Department.

Lying-in homes to be open for inspection.

Penalty for obstructing inspection.

(2.) Every person who resists or obstructs any such inspector shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

Places for reception of children under six to be licensed.

Original section 105 repealed and new section inserted by No. 21 of 1919, s. 25.

114. (1.) No person shall keep, use, or manage any house, room, or place for the purpose of receiving or keeping in his care, charge, or custody two or more children under the age of six years in order to rear, nurse, or otherwise maintain such children apart from their respective parents, except pursuant to a license granted for the purpose by the secretary.

Penalty: Twenty pounds, or for a second offence imprisonment with hard labour for three months.

(2.) Subject to this Act the secretary may on application grant a license without fee authorising the person named in the license to so receive and keep children as aforesaid, and to keep, use, or manage for that purpose such house, room or place as is named in the license.

(3.) Every application for a fresh license shall be made during the currency of the calendar year in which the license is to have effect, or in the month of December preceding that year, and every such license which shall be granted shall, subject to this Act, have effect for and during that year or the unexpired portion thereof, and no longer.

(4.) The Governor may by regulations provide for the supervision and inspection of places licensed under this section, and prescribe what requisites must be complied with as regards the structure, maintenance, and management thereof, and may by any regulation direct that a license shall be refused in respect of any place regarding which the regulations are not complied with, or that a license shall be refused to any person, or in respect of any premises for any prescribed reason, and the Governor may prescribe a penalty of not more than ten pounds for the breach of any regulation made hereunder.

(5.) If it shall appear that any person has been guilty of neglect to provide or is incapable of providing the children in his charge with proper food or attention, or that the place in respect of which he is licensed is unfit for the purpose for which it is used, or that he has not complied with the regulations, or that for any other reason it is not desirable that the license granted to such person shall continue, the secretary may cancel such license, and remove the children to an institution, and recover the cost of and incidental to such removal from the licensee by action in any court of competent juris-

diction; but such licensee may appeal to the Minister against such cancellation in the prescribed manner, and the Minister may reverse or confirm the cancellation and restore the license, and make such other order (including the restoration of the children) as may be just.

(6.) This section shall not apply to any person who merely receives into his care or keeps in his charge children of whom he is a near relative, or to any person who, being licensed as a foster-mother under this Act, merely takes the care, charge, or custody of children pursuant to her license or to any person merely receiving into his care or keeping in his charge any children as lodgers, boarders, or scholars in the establishment of any school recognised by the Minister for Education as giving efficient instruction for the purposes of the compulsory section of the Public Education Act, 1899, or to the keeping, use, or management of a house, room, or place for any of the purposes mentioned in this subsection.

115. (1.) Every licensed foster-mother shall keep a register in the prescribed form containing in respect of every State child received by her the prescribed particulars, and in respect of every other child received by her the following particulars, so far as such particulars are capable of being ascertained by her, that is to say—

Register to be kept  
by foster-mother.

- (a) The name, age, religion, and place of birth of the child;
- (b) The names, addresses, and description of the parents;
- (c) The name, address, and description of any persons other than the parents from or to whom the child was received or delivered over;
- (d) The dates of receipt and delivery over;
- (e) Particulars of any accident to or illness of the child, and the name of the medical practitioner (if any) by whom attended.

(2.) Such register shall at all times be open to inspection by the Department or any officer thereof, and the foster-mother shall every three months forward a copy thereof to the Department:

Provided such register shall at all times be open to an accredited officer of the Department and at such other times to such persons as the Minister may direct.

Returns and records.

116. Every licensee of a lying-in home, and every licensed foster-mother, shall keep all such books and records, and furnish to the Department true and correct returns of all such matters and things as may be prescribed.

No advertisement for adoption or taking charge of child to be published unless approved by secretary, and no premium to be paid.

New section inserted by No. 2 of 1919, s. 26.

117. (1.) No person shall, without the permission in writing of the secretary; publish or cause to be published any advertisement containing any direct or indirect invitation to adopt or offering directly or indirectly to adopt any child under the age of fifteen years, whether a particular child or not.

Penalty: Thirty pounds.

(2.) No person shall, without the permission in writing of the secretary, publish or cause to be published any advertisement containing any direct or indirect invitation to take care of, or offering directly or indirectly to take care of, any child under the age of six years, whether a particular child or not.

Penalty: Thirty pounds.

(3.) No premium or reward shall be paid or offered to any person for maintaining or taking care of, or undertaking to maintain or take care of, any child under the age of six years, and no person shall offer or agree to maintain or take care of such a child for a premium or reward: Provided that nothing herein shall prevent the payment of a reasonable weekly or other sum approved by the secretary to any person for taking the entire charge of any such child.

Penalty: Fifty pounds.

(4.) No premium or reward shall be paid or offered to any person for adopting or undertaking to adopt any child, and no person shall offer or agree to adopt any child for a premium or reward.

Penalty: Fifty pounds.

Person adopting child to give notice to secretary.

New section inserted by No. 21 of 1919, s. 26.

118. If any person other than a near relative of any child under six years of age or other than a person obtaining an order of adoption under the Adoption of Children Act, 1896, and amendments, adopts or assumes the entire charge of such a child such person shall, within seven days of his so doing, give notice of the fact to the secretary, and shall in such notice state his name and place of residence and his occupation, together with the name, age, religion, and place of birth of such child.

Penalty: Ten pounds.

## PART IX.—PROCEDURE, PENALTIES, AND GENERAL PROVISIONS.

119. At the hearing of any complaint against any child, the secretary or some officer of the Department may be present, and examine and cross-examine witnesses, and be heard touching the acquittal or punishment of the child.

Officer of Department may take part in all trials against children.

120. (1.) All cases under this Act heard on complaint by or on behalf of the Department may be conducted by any person appointed by the Minister in that behalf.

Officer of Department may conduct cases where complaint made.

(2.) The production of an appointment, in writing, signed by the Minister, shall be *prima facie* evidence that the person therein named has been duly appointed and authorised to lay such complaint and to conduct the case.

121. If an order is made under this Act in respect of a child in the absence of his parent or guardian, to whom reasonable notice of the complaint had not been given, such order may for good cause shown be set aside by the court by which it was made upon the application of such parent or guardian within three months after the making of the order.

Order may be set aside.

122. The governing authority of every institution shall forthwith report to the Department all convictions against and consequent punishments inflicted upon any inmate of such institution, and the secretary shall cause a return to be made annually to the Minister of all convictions against and consequent punishments inflicted upon State children.

Returns of complaints and convictions.

123. Any person who—

(a) without the authority of the Minister, takes or removes any State child from any institution before the expiration of the period of detention of such child, or from its foster-mother, or from the foster-parent to or with whom such child is apprenticed or placed out before the expiration of the term of apprenticeship or placing out; or

Penalty for taking, removing, harbouring, etc., State children.

(b) directly or indirectly counsels or induces any State child to abscond or escape from any institution, or to break his apprenticeship indentures, or to abscond from his foster-parent, before such child had been regularly discharged, or before the expiration of such apprenticeship or placing out; or

- (c) aids or abets any State child in so absconding or escaping, or who prevents any State child from returning to any institution or to his foster-parent, or who, knowing any State child to have been so taken or removed, or to have so absconded or escaped, harbours or conceals, or assists in harbouring or concealing, such child; or
- (d) without the authority of the Minister, takes or removes any child from the care of any person to whom or society to which such child is committed under Part VI. of this Act,

shall be guilty of an offence against this Act and liable to a penalty of not exceeding twenty pounds, or may, at the discretion of the court, be imprisoned with or without hard labour for not exceeding three months.

Penalty for publishing conviction.

Sec. 11, No. 14 of 1921..

124. Whenever any child who has been committed to the care of the State or who has been committed to an institution or who has been convicted under this Act attains the age of eighteen years, the fact of such committal or conviction shall not be maliciously disclosed to any person or admitted as evidence in any court of law.

Penalty: One hundred pounds.

Penalty for communicating with children in institutions.

125. Any person who—

- (a) without the authority or permission of the secretary, or of the governing authority of an institution, as the case may be, holds or attempts to hold any communication with any inmate; or
- (b) enters any institution or any premises belonging thereto or used in connection therewith, and does not depart therefrom when required so to do by the superintendent, matron, or any officer or servant of such institution; or
- (c) after being forbidden by the secretary or governing authority, as the case may be, so to do, holds or attempts to hold any communication directly or indirectly with any State child,

shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

Penalty for permitting escape.

126. Any officer or servant of the Department or of the governing authority of an institution, who negligently or knowingly permits any inmate to escape from any institution,

shall be guilty of an offence, and liable, on conviction, to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds, or may, at the discretion of the court, be imprisoned with or without hard labour for not exceeding three months.

127. When a female State child is detained or resides in an institution, or has been placed out or apprenticed with or to any person, then the manager or person having the chief control of the institution (being a male) or such person as aforesaid (if a male) or the husband or such person (if a female) shall be deemed to be the guardian of such child within the meaning of the provisions of the Criminal code relating to sexual offences by guardians.

Managers of institutions and persons with whom female State children are placed out to be deemed to be guardians for the purposes of Criminal Code.

New section inserted by No. 21 of 1919, s. 27.

128. Every person who refuses, fails, or neglects to comply with any maintenance order made against him under this Act, or attempts to leave the State without making arrangements for future payments to the satisfaction of the Department, shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction, to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding twelve months.

Penalty for person disobeying order and quitting the State.

129. Every near relative liable to maintain any child, who—

Penalty for desertion of child under certain circumstances.

(a) unlawfully deserts such child; or

(b) leaves without, or fails to provide with adequate means of support any such child,

shall be guilty of an offence and liable, on conviction, to imprisonment with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding twelve months.

This section is without prejudice to the enforcement of orders in manner provided in this Act or the Justices Act, 1902, and its amendments; but no person shall be liable to proceedings both under this section and by way of enforcement in respect of the same default.

No. 31 of 1926, s. 14.

130. Upon complaint on oath by the secretary, or any other officer of the Department, that he has reasonable grounds for believing that any person has committed or is about to commit an offence within the meaning of the two last preceding sections of this Act, any justice, if satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for believing that such

Court may issue warrant for arrest of deserter upon complaint on oath.

offence has been or is about to be committed, may issue a warrant for the apprehension of the person complained against, and such person may thereupon be apprehended by any police officer accordingly.

Homes of illegitimate children under six years liable to inspection.

New section inserted by No. 21 of 1919, s. 28.

**131.** The home or place of residence, and every part thereof, of any illegitimate child under the age of six years, shall at all times be open to entry and inspection by any female officer of the Department, on the written authority of the secretary, and any person who refuses to allow such entry or inspection to be made, or hinders or resists any such officer in the making of, or attempt to make, such entry or inspection, or who refuses or neglects to produce such child to any such officer for inspection by her, upon such production being demanded by such officer, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds.

Occupier of house in which an illegitimate child is born to give notice of birth.

New section inserted by No. 21 of 1919, s. 28.

**132.** The occupier of any house or place in which an illegitimate child is born shall, within three days after the birth, give notice of the fact with the prescribed particulars to the District Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages:

Provided that if the place of birth is not within a registry district, the notice may be given within one week to the Registrar General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages or the officer in charge of the nearest police station, and provided also that if the mother is the occupier of the house or place, the notice may in any case be given within three weeks.

Penalty: Ten pounds.

Notice of death of illegitimate child to be given.

New section inserted by No. 21 of 1919, s. 28.

**133.** The occupier of any house or place in which an illegitimate child dies or into which the dead body of an illegitimate child is brought shall, within twenty-four hours after the death or the bringing into the house or place of such dead body, give notice of the fact with the prescribed particulars to the officer in charge of the nearest police station.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

Exemption.

New section inserted by No. 21 of 1919, s. 28.

**134.** The last three preceding sections do not apply to or in respect of any illegitimate child that has been adopted or legitimated, or where the illegitimate child is living with and cared for by its mother.



135. (1.) Upon the hearing of a complaint under section one hundred and twenty-eight or one hundred and twenty-nine of this Act, the court may determine the matter in a summary way, and, if satisfied that the child has been or is about to be unlawfully deserted by the person complained against, or is actually without adequate means of support, and that such person is a near relative of such child, liable and able to contribute towards his maintenance, may order such person, either immediately or at some adjournment, to find good and sufficient security to the satisfaction of the court that he will comply with such order for maintenance, or that he will not desert or leave without adequate means of support such child.

Court may determine matter in summary way.

(2.) The court, in default of such security being found, may commit such person to prison for any period not exceeding six months, if such order is not sooner complied with.

136. (1.) Any person who has, either by wilful misconduct or habitual neglect, or by any wrongful or immoral act or omission encouraged or contributed to the commission of any offence by any child, or caused or suffered the child to become a neglected child, or contributed to such child becoming a neglected child, shall be guilty of an offence.

Parent or guardian punishable for misconduct or neglect leading to delinquency of child.

New section inserted by No. 21 of 1919, s. 29.

Penalty: Thirty pounds or imprisonment with hard labour for three months.

(2.) A charge of an offence under this section may be prosecuted, heard, and determined before a Children's Court.

(3.) The court before whom any person is convicted of an offence under this section may (if such person is a parent or guardian of the child), in lieu of or in addition to any other punishment, order the person convicted—

(a) to pay any fine which may have been imposed on the child for the offence committed by such child;

(b) to find good and sufficient security to the satisfaction of the court that the child will be of good behaviour for a period not exceeding twelve months.

(4.) If the court orders such security as aforesaid, it may suspend any sentence of imprisonment imposed on the convicted person until there has been a breach in the conditions of the security, and on any such breach occurring the suspension shall be removed, and the sentence shall become operative and may be enforced, and in that case the period of

imprisonment imposed by the sentence shall be calculated as from the date of the offender being actually received into prison.

(5.) For the purposes of this section any person who in fact has the custody, care, or control of any child shall be deemed to be a guardian of such child.

Children employed  
in a circus.

137. Any child under the age of fourteen years who is employed or engaged in any circus, or acrobatic entertainment, or exhibition by which his life, health, or safety is likely to be lost, prejudiced, or endangered, shall be deemed a "neglected child" for all the purposes of this Act, and any person so employing or engaging any such child shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

Certain children to  
travel free on  
Government Rail-  
ways.

138. Any State child, or child committed to the care of any person or society under Part VI., and its attendant, shall travel free on Government railways on production of a certificate from the secretary that such child is travelling to or from an institution, place of residence, or foster-parent; and any child apprenticed or placed out under this Act shall travel free on Government railways to and from a public or efficient school.

Gifts to Minister  
to be applied for  
benefit of objects  
of such gifts.

139. All property, real or personal, given, devised, or bequeathed to the Department for the benefit of State children shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, be held, invested, applied, or dealt with in such a manner as the Governor may consider most conducive to the benefit or advantage of State children, or of the particular State child or children intended to be benefited.

Court may en-  
force compliance  
with orders by fine  
or imprisonment.

140. The court may, at any time, in a summary way, inquire into any disobedience of or neglect to comply with, any order made under the provisions of this Act, and for that purpose may summon and examine all proper parties and witnesses; and, in order to enforce compliance or punish the non-compliance with such order, may commit to prison, with or without hard labour, for a period of not exceeding six months, unless the order shall be sooner complied with, the person found guilty of such disobedience, neglect, or non-compliance, or may impose upon such person a fine not exceeding fifty pounds.

141. Upon a complaint to the court, made under the last preceding section, in respect of any alleged disobedience of or neglect to comply with any order, the court may, instead of issuing a summons, issue a warrant for the apprehension of the person against whom the complaint is made, and for the detention of such person until the hearing of the complaint, unless such person shall enter into a recognizance, with one or more sureties, in such sum as the court shall direct, conditioned for his appearance at the hearing of the complaint.

Warrant in first instance.

142. (1.) Where, pursuant to the provisions of this Act, the punishment of whipping is awarded by the court, the order for such punishment shall specify the number of strokes to be inflicted, and the number of strokes shall not exceed twelve.

Whipping.

(2.) The whipping shall be administered by some person authorised by the order directing the whipping, and in all cases the instrument used shall be a birch rod or cane.

143. Every person authorised to take charge of any child ordered to be detained under this Act, for the purpose of conveying such child to or from any institution, or to a foster-parent, shall, while engaged in such duty, have all such powers, authorities, protection, and privileges for the purpose of the execution of his duty as any police officer has by common law or statute.

Persons in charge of State children to have privilege of constables.

144. (1.) Any person who in any particular makes default in compliance with the provisions of this Act shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

General penalty.

(2.) Any person guilty of an offence against this Act shall, except as otherwise expressly provided, be liable, on conviction, to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds.

145. Every proceeding under this Act for omission, defaults, acts, or offences to which any penalty is attached, and all applications for orders where no other method of proceeding is by this Act provided, shall be had and taken, and may be heard and determined in a summary way under the provisions of the Justices Act, 1902.

Application of Justices' Act, 1902.

146. Every complaint, conviction, order, or warrant under this Act shall be deemed valid and sufficient if the same shall be in any of the prescribed forms which may be applicable, with such modifications as the circumstances may require;

Forms of proceedings.

or in which the offence, or act, or default is set forth in the words of this Act; and no conviction, order, or warrant shall be held void by reason of any defect therein.

Order to be a  
defence to actions.

147. In every action for anything done in obedience to any order it shall be sufficient for the defendant to justify under such order only, without setting forth the previous proceedings, and the production of the order or a duplicate or certified copy thereof shall be sufficient evidence to prove the fact of making such order.

Protection to De-  
partment and  
officers.

148. No action shall be brought against the Department or any governing authority of an institution or any person for anything done in pursuance of this Act, unless such action be commenced within six months next after the act or default complained of, nor unless notice in writing of such action, and the cause thereof, has been given to the defendant one month at least before the commencement of the action; and the defendant in any such action may plead the general issue, and give this Act and the special matter in evidence at any trial to be had thereupon; and the plaintiff shall not recover in such action if tender of sufficient amends shall be made before action brought, or if, after action brought, the defendant shall pay into court sufficient amends; but in such last-mentioned case the plaintiff shall recover his cost of suit up to the time of the payment into court.

Appropriation of  
penalties.

149. All moneys received for penalties imposed for offences against this Act shall be paid to the Treasurer, on behalf of his Majesty, for the public uses of the State.

Regulations.

150. The Governor may, from time to time, make, repeal, alter, and vary all such regulations as may appear necessary or advisable for regulating—

- (a) the duties, powers, authorities, and privileges of inspectors, visitors, boarding-out committees, and all other persons employed in the administration of this Act;
- (b) the management, control; and supervision of institutions and lying-in homes;
- (c) the custody, maintenance, education, employment, apprenticing, and placing out of State children;
- (d) the visitation of State children at institutions, or apprenticed, or placed out;

- (e) the punishment of State children;
- (f) wages and rewards to State children;
- (g) the management and control of property vested in the Department;
- (h) records to be kept at institutions and by licensees;
- (i) the accounts to be kept and reports to be made by subsidised institutions;
- (j) the form and contents of agreements, appointments, apprenticeship articles, authorities, complaints, licenses, notices, orders, summonses, and all other instruments and documents, and the mode of executing, serving, or delivering the same;
- (k) the fees to be paid;
- (l) the imposing of penalties;
- (m) the time and manner in which any act, deed, matter, or thing required by this Act to be done, and as to which the time or procedure is not provided, is to be done or performed;
- (n) all other matters and things arising under and consistent with this Act not herein expressly provided for, and otherwise for fully and effectually carrying out and giving force and effect to the objects, purposes, powers, and authorities of this Act.

151. All such regulations shall be published in the *Government Gazette*, and shall take effect from the date of publication, or from a later date to be specified in such regulations, and shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament within thirty days, if Parliament is in session, and if not then within thirty days after the commencement of the next session.

Regulations to be laid before Parliament and gazetted.

Section 3.

## FIRST SCHEDULE.

Date.	Short Title.	Extent of Repeal.
38 Vict., No. 11 ...	The Industrial Schools Act, 1874 ... ..	The whole.
41 Vict., No. 7 ...	The Industrial Schools Act, 1874, Amendment Act, 1877	The whole.
46 Vict., No. 20 ...	The Industrial Schools Act Amendment Act, 1882	The whole.
56 Vict., No. 5 ...	The Industrial and Reformatory Schools Act of 1893	The whole.
62 Vict., No. 24 ...	The Health Act, 1898 ... ..	Part VII.
39 Vict., No. 8 ...	The Bastardy Laws Act, 1875 ... ..	The whole.

Sec. 12, No. 14 of 1921.

Section 15.

## SECOND SCHEDULE.

The St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Orphanage, Subiaco; the Church of England Girls' Orphanage, Adelaide Terrace, Perth; the Swan Boys' Orphanage, near Midland Junction; the Clontarf Roman Catholic Orphanage, near Victoria Park; the St. Kevin's Roman Catholic Industrial School, near Leederville; the Red Hill Industrial School, near Midland Junction; the Salvation Army Industrial Schools for Boys and Girls, near Collic.