

1920.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Read 1° 23rd November, 1920.

(Brought in by the Minister for Works and Railways, the Honorable L. E. Groom.)

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT

To provide for the Construction of a Railway in the Northern Territory from the Katherine River to Mataranka.

BE it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, the Senate, and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, as follows :—

1. This Act may be cited as the Katherine River to Mataranka Railway Act 1920. Short title.

2. In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears— Definitions
"the Commissioner" means the Commonwealth Railways Commissioner appointed under the Commonwealth Railways Act 1917 ;
"the Railway" means the Railway authorized by this Act.

3. The Commissioner may, subject to this Act, and to the Commonwealth Railways Act 1917, construct a Railway in the Northern Territory from the Katherine River to Mataranka. Power to construct the Railway

4. The maximum cost of the Railway shall not exceed Seven hundred and fifty thousand pounds. Cost of Railway.

5. The route of the Railway shall be as described in the Schedule to this Act, but the Commissioner may make such deviations not exceeding ten miles on either side of the route as are, in his opinion, necessary or reasonable for the better construction and working of the Railway. Route of the Railway.

[C.94]—815/23.11.1920.—F.17124.

6. The

- Gauge of line.** 6. The gauge of the Railway shall be three feet six inches, but provision shall be made in the construction of the permanent way and works for subsequent alteration to a gauge of not less than four feet eight and one-half inches.
- Appointment of Officers &c.** 7. Subject to section fifty-one of the *Commonwealth Railways Act 1917*, the Commissioner may appoint all such persons as he thinks necessary for the purposes of the construction of the Railway or the working of the Railway before it has been declared open for traffic, and may authorize the employment of any persons for those purposes, and may pay to persons so appointed or employed such salaries or wages as he thinks fit. 5 10
- Wages and conditions of employment.** 8.—(1.) In any contract relating to the construction of the Railway provision shall be made for the payment by the contractor of not less than the prescribed minimum rates of wages and for the observance of the prescribed conditions of employment and also for the recovery of penalties for non-payment of the prescribed rates of wages or for non-compliance with the prescribed conditions of employment. 15
- (2.) The minimum rates of wages and the conditions of employment shall be prescribed by the Commissioner and shall be set forth in a schedule to the contract. 20
- Appropriation of moneys.** 9. All moneys necessary for the payment of the cost of construction of the Railway up to and including the time of the opening of the Railway for traffic shall be payable out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund or out of moneys standing to the credit of the Loan Fund, according to appropriations made by Parliament for that purpose. 25

THE SCHEDULE.

Commencing at the end of the Pine Creek to Katherine River Railway distant one hundred and ninety-nine miles forty-five chains from Darwin; thence in a south-easterly direction, crossing the Katherine River at two hundred miles thirty-three chains from Darwin; thence bearing generally south-easterly, crossing the King River at two hundred and twenty-five miles sixty-one chains from Darwin, and crossing the Overland Telegraph Line at two hundred and forty-seven miles seventy-four chains from Darwin; thence generally following the right bank of Roper Creek, bearing generally in a south-easterly direction, terminating at a point distant two hundred and sixty-five miles from Darwin, which said point is distant about one mile and a half from Mataranka Springs.