

1929-30.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

NORTHERN TERRITORY (ADMINISTRATION) BILL 1930.

(Amendments to be proposed by Mr. Nelson.)

Page 2, clause 4, at the end of the clause insert the following definition :—

“ the Council ” means the Advisory Council constituted under this Act.

Page 2, clause 5, line 6, omit “ section is ”, insert “ sections are ”.

Page 2, clause 5, before line 7 insert the following heading :—

“ *Administration* ”.

Page 2, after section 4 proposed to be inserted in the Principal Act by clause 5, insert the following sections :— Advisory Council.

“ 4A.—(1.) There shall be an Advisory Council for the Territory.

(2.) The Council shall consist of a Chairman and four other members elected in the manner provided in this Act.

(3.) The Administrator shall be *ex officio* chairman of the Council.

“ 4B.—(1.) For the purposes of the election of members of the Council, the Territory shall be divided into four districts having such boundaries as are from time to time specified by the Minister by notice in the *Gazette*. Election of members.

(2.) A member of the Council shall be elected for each district by persons entitled to vote in respect of that district.

Application of
Commonwealth
Electoral Act
1918-1929.

“ 4C.—(1.) Subject to this Act, the provisions of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act* 1918-1929 shall apply, with such exceptions and subject to such modifications and adaptations as are prescribed, to the election of members of the Council in like manner as if—

- (a) each district into which the Territory is divided under this Act were an electoral division ;
- (b) the election of a member of the Council were the election of a member to represent, in the House of Representatives, an electoral division of a State ; and
- (c) the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory were the Supreme Court of a State.

Term of office.

“ 4D. Each elected member of the Council shall hold office for a period of three years but shall be entitled to resign during that period.

Dates of
elections

“ 4E. The Minister shall, by notice in the *Gazette*, fix a date for the holding of elections of members of the Council.

Casual
vacancies

“ 4F. In the event of the happening of a vacancy in the office of an elected member of the Council before the expiration of the period for which that member was elected, the Governor-General may, on the recommendation of the Administrator, appoint a person to hold the vacant office until the expiration of that period.

Qualifications of
member of
Council.

“ 4G. The qualifications of a member of the Council shall be as follows :—

- (a) he must be of the full age of twenty-one years and must be an elector entitled to vote at an election of a member of the Council, or a person qualified to become such elector, and must have been for three years at least a resident within the Territory ; and
- (b) he must be a subject of the King, either natural born or for at least five years naturalized under a law of the United Kingdom, or of a colony which has become a State, or of the Commonwealth, or of a State.

Office of
member—how
vacated.

“ 4H. An elected member of the Council shall be deemed to have vacated his office if—

- (a) he becomes bankrupt or insolvent or applies to take the benefit of any Act or Ordinance for the relief of bankrupt or insolvent debtors ; or
- (b) he is convicted of any offence punishable under the law of the Commonwealth or of a State or of the Territory by imprisonment for one year or longer ; or
- (c) he is absent from three consecutive meetings of the Council except on leave granted by the Administrator (which leave the Administrator is hereby authorized to grant); or

(d) he, in any way, otherwise than as a member, and in common with the other members, of an incorporated company consisting of more than twenty-five persons—

(i) becomes concerned or interested in any contract or agreement made by or on behalf of the Commonwealth; or

(ii) participates, or claims to be entitled to participate, in the profit of any such contract or agreement or in any benefit or emolument arising therefrom; or

(e) directly or indirectly takes or agrees to take any fee or honorarium for services rendered to the Territory or for services rendered in the Council to any person.

“4J. An elected member of the Council shall not receive any remuneration in respect of his services as member but shall be entitled to receive travelling expenses in such circumstances and at such rates as are prescribed.

“4K.—(1.) Meetings of the Council shall be held at least twice in each year at such times and places as the Administrator appoints.

(2.) The Administrator shall call a meeting of the Council upon application in writing by not less than two members of the Council.

(3.) At any meeting of the Council three members shall form a quorum.

(4.) The Administrator shall notify in writing each member of the Council of the time and place of each meeting and of the subjects which will be considered at each such meeting.

(5.) Any elected member of the Council shall give at least seven days' notice in writing to the Administrator of any matter which he desires to be considered at the next meeting of the Council.

(6.) The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Council at which he is present and in his absence the members present shall elect a member to preside at that meeting.

(7.) Questions arising in the Council shall be determined by a majority of votes.

(8.) The Chairman or member presiding shall in all cases be entitled to vote, and shall also, if the numbers are equal, have a casting vote.

(9.) Minutes of the proceedings of all meetings of the Council shall be kept, and copies of the Minutes shall be transmitted to the Minister.

“4L.—(1.) The Council shall advise the Administrator in respect of any matter arising at any meeting of the Council or submitted by the Administrator to such meeting.

(2.) The Council may report upon—

- (a) the necessity for undertaking any public work in the Territory or concerning the continuance of any public work already undertaken ; and
- (b) upon the rates charged for fares or freights in respect of the carriage of passengers or goods upon any railway within the Territory.

(3.) Any report made under this section shall be transmitted to the Administrator who shall forthwith forward it to the Minister.

(4.) In any case any member of the Council may require that the grounds of advice or opinion which he gives upon any question be recorded at length.”.

Page 5, clause 6, line 10, omit “ Governor-General may ” insert “ Council may, subject to this section,”

Page 5, clause 6, after sub-section (1.) of new section twenty-one, insert the following sub-sections :—

“ (1A.) An Ordinance, the object or effect of which is to dispose of, or create any charge upon, the Consolidated Revenue Fund or upon any revenue of the Territory, shall not be proposed in or made by the Council.

“ (2A.) Every Ordinance made under this section shall be inoperative until it has been approved by the Governor-General.”.