

LEASES.

No. 7 of 1923.^(b)

An Ordinance to amend the Leases Ordinance 1918-1919.^(c)

BE it ordained by the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, with the advice of the Federal Executive Council, in pursuance of the powers conferred by the *Seat of Government Acceptance Act* 1909, and the *Seat of Government (Administration) Act* 1910, as follows:—

1.—(1.) This Ordinance may be cited as the *Leases Ordinance* 1923.

Short title and citation.

(a) Made on 27th June, 1923; notified in *Gazette* of 30th June, 1923; affected by No. 12 of 1924, *infra* p. 114.

(b) Made on 15th August, 1923; notified in *Gazette* of 16th August, 1923.

(c) For previous Ordinances, see *supra* pp. 5 and 30.

(2.) The *Leases Ordinance* 1918-1919 is in this Ordinance referred to as the Principal Ordinance.

(3.) The Principal Ordinance, as amended by this Ordinance, may be cited as the *Leases Ordinance* 1918-1923.

2. After section four A of the Principal Ordinance the following sections are inserted:—

Land Board.

“ 4B.—(1.) For the purpose of this Ordinance there shall be a Land Board which shall consist of three members appointed by the Minister.

(2.) The members of the Land Board shall hold office during the pleasure of the Minister.

(3.) The Minister may appoint one of the members of the Land Board to be the Chairman and one other member to be the Deputy Chairman.

(4.) Two members of the Land Board shall form a quorum but at any meeting of the Board at which only two members are present, any question upon which those members disagree shall be reserved for determination by a full meeting of the Board.

Power to call witness.

“ 4C. The Chairman, and in his absence the Deputy Chairman, shall have power to summon witnesses and take evidence on oath.

Witnesses refusing to be sworn, &c.

“ 4D. Any person who, having been summoned to appear as a witness before the Land Board—

(a) refuses or fails to attend in answer to the summons;

(b) refuses to take an oath or affirmation or to answer questions put to him by the Board or to produce documents; or

(c) knowingly makes any false statement in evidence given by him to the Board;

shall be guilty of an offence.

Penalty: Fifty pounds or imprisonment for three months.

Duties of the Board.

“ 4E.—(1.) The^(a) Land Board shall be charged with the duty of determining all questions as to the grant or termination of leases of land in the Territory which are referred to it by the Minister or the person authorized in pursuance of section two of this Ordinance.

(2.) The Board shall have and may exercise such other duties and functions as are prescribed.

Rules of procedure.

“ 4F. The Regulations made under this Ordinance may prescribe the method of procedure which shall be adopted by the Board in carrying out its duties and exercising its powers under this Ordinance.”

^(a) This sub-section has since been repealed and a fresh sub-section substituted by No. 1 of 1924, *infra* p. 93.