

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY.

No. 4 of 1947.

AN ORDINANCE

Adopting, for the purpose of proceedings in the Court of Petty Sessions, provisions of the First Offenders (Women) Act, 1918, of the State of New South Wales with regard to the hearing of certain charges against women first offenders and the publication of reports of proceedings in such cases.

BE it ordained by the Governor-General in and over 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 1909-1938* and the *Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910-1940*, as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the *First Offenders* Short title.
(*Women*) Ordinance 1947.*

2. In this Ordinance, unless the contrary intention appears— Definitions.

“minor offence” means an offence punishable on summary conviction with or without the consent of the accused person;

“woman” means a female of or above the age of sixteen years.

3.—(1.) Where any woman who has not been previously convicted of any offence (whether punishable summarily or on indictment) is charged before the Court of Petty Sessions with a minor offence, the hearing of the charge and all proceedings in connexion with the charge shall, unless the defendant elects to be tried in open court, be in private. Proceedings to be in private.

(2.) No person, other than the Magistrate sitting in the Court, the person accused, and such officers, witnesses, or other persons as the Magistrate requires, or, at the request of the person accused, permits to be present, shall have access to or remain in the Court during the hearing or the proceeding.

(3.) Any person remaining in the Court during the hearing or proceeding, after being directed to leave by the Magistrate, shall be removed from the Court and shall be liable to be punished as for contempt of court.

* Notified in the *Commonwealth Gazette* on 30th June, 1947.
3486.—PRICE 3D.

Report of
proceedings
not to be
published.

4. A person shall not publish in any newspaper a report or account of any proceedings referred to in the last preceding section when those proceedings are heard in private.

Penalty: Fifty pounds.

Ordinance
not to apply
to certain
cases of
larceny.

5.—(1.) Subject to the next succeeding sub-section this Ordinance shall not apply where the offence charged is committing or attempting to commit simple larceny, and the offence is charged with respect to goods in a shop where goods are sold by retail.

(2.) Where a woman who has not been previously convicted of any offence is charged with the offence referred to in this section and no conviction is recorded, a person shall not publish in any newspaper a report or account of the proceedings.

Penalty: Fifty pounds.

Dated this twenty-fifth day of June, 1947.

W. J. McKELL
Governor-General.

By His Excellency's Command,

H. V. EVATT
for Minister of State for the Interior.

By Authority: L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.