

THE TERRITORY FOR THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.

No. 11 of 1929.

AN ORDINANCE

Relating to the Collection and Compilation of Statistics concerning the Territory for the Seat of Government.

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. This Ordinance may be cited as the *Statistics Ordinance* Short title.
1929.
2. This Ordinance shall commence on a date to be fixed by the Commencement.
Minister by notice published in the *Gazette*.
3. The *Census and Statistics Act* 1901 of the State of New State Act to
cease to apply.
South Wales shall cease to apply to the Territory.
4. In this Ordinance, unless the contrary intention appears— Definitions.
“Factory” means any building, establishment or place used for the purpose of manufacturing, treating, repairing or preparing any article or substance;
“Regulations” means regulations made under this Ordinance;
“the Statistician” means the Statistician appointed under the *Census and Statistics Act* 1905-1920.
5. The Statistician, in addition to the powers and duties conferred or imposed on him by the *Census and Statistics Act* 1905-1920, or the regulations thereunder, shall have the powers and shall perform the duties conferred or imposed on him by this Ordinance. Powers of
Statistician.
6. The Statistician may from time to time appoint statistical Statistical
agents and
collectors.
agents and collectors to carry out the provisions of this Ordinance throughout the Territory or in such part thereof as the Statistician directs.

1535.—PRICE 3d.

Officers to observe secrecy.

7.—(1.) An officer, statistical agent or collector shall not, except as allowed by this Ordinance or the regulations, divulge the contents of any form filled up in pursuance of this Ordinance or any information furnished in pursuance of this Ordinance.

Penalty: Fifty pounds.

(2.) Every officer, statistical agent or collector executing any power or duty conferred or imposed under this Ordinance or the Regulations, shall, before entering upon his duties or exercising any power under this Ordinance, sign in the presence of a witness an undertaking of fidelity and secrecy.

Penalty for officers neglecting duty.

8. A statistical agent or collector, after having signed the prescribed undertaking, shall not desert from his duty, or refuse or wilfully neglect, without just excuse, to do anything lawfully required of him in virtue of his office.

Penalty: Twenty pounds.

Untrue returns by officers.

9. An officer, statistical agent or collector, shall not wilfully or without lawful authority alter any document or form under this Ordinance or wilfully sign any untrue document or form.

Penalty: Fifty pounds.

Statistic to be collected.

10. The Statistician shall, subject to the regulations and the directions of the Minister, collect statistics concerning the Territory in relation to all or any of the following matters:—

- (a) Population;
- (b) Vital Statistics;
- (c) Hospitals and Charities;
- (d) Education;
- (e) Law and Crime;
- (f) Industrial organizations;
- (g) Prices (Wholesale and Retail) and costs of housing;
- (h) Wages and conditions of labour;
- (i) Employment and unemployment;
- (j) Industrial disputes;
- (k) Land tenure and occupancy;
- (l) Agricultural, pastoral and kindred industries;
- (m) Mining (including quarries);
- (n) Forestry;
- (o) Water Conservation and Supply;
- (p) Factories;
- (q) Construction of buildings, earthworks, etc.;
- (r) Trade and Commerce;
- (s) Transport;
- (t) Finance;
- (u) Insurance;
- (v) Local Government; and
- (w) Any other prescribed matters.

11. Every prescribed person shall, to the best of his knowledge, when required by the Statistician so to do, fill up and supply in accordance with the instructions contained in or accompanying the prescribed form, the particulars specified in that form.

Statistician may require further returns.

Penalty: Ten pounds.

12. Every person shall, to the best of his knowledge and belief, answer all questions asked him by the Statistician, or an officer or agent duly authorized in writing by the Statistician, necessary to obtain any information required for the purposes of any statistics authorized by this Ordinance to be collected:

Penalty for false returns or answers.

Provided that no prosecution for contravention of this section shall be instituted without the consent of the Minister.

Penalty: Ten pounds.

13.—(1.) For the purpose of making any inquiries or observations necessary for the proper carrying out of this Ordinance, the Statistician, or any officer or agent thereto authorized in writing by the Statistician may, at any time during working hours, enter any factory, mine, workshop, establishment, or place of business, where persons are employed and may inspect any part of it, and all plant and machinery used in connexion with it, and may make such inquiries as are prescribed or allowed by the regulations.

Forgery of forms.

(2.) A person shall not hinder or obstruct the Statistician or any officer or agent authorized in writing by the Statistician in the execution of any power conferred by this Ordinance.

Penalty: Ten pounds.

14. If any of the returns required under this Ordinance are not made, or are not collected, or do not reach the Statistician, or are so imperfect as to be valueless or misleading, the Statistician may direct that the returns be made or collected anew.

Publication of statistics.

15. A person shall not knowingly make, in any form or document filled up or supplied in pursuance of this Ordinance, or in answer to any question asked him under the authority of this Ordinance, any statement which is untrue in any material particular.

Regulations.

Penalty: Fifty pounds.

16. Any person who forges, or utters knowing it to be forged, any prescribed form or document shall be guilty of an offence.

Returns to be supplied.

Penalty: Imprisonment for three years.

17.—(1.) The Statistician shall compile and tabulate the statistics collected pursuant to this Ordinance and may publish the statistics or abstracts thereof, as the Minister directs, with observations thereon:

Duty of persons to answer questions.

Provided that the transactions, profits or financial position of any individual, company, firm, association or person shall not be thereby revealed unless the previous consent in writing of the person making the return has been obtained.

(2.) The Statistician or any officer having the custody of or access to any returns or information obtained under this Ordinance shall not produce or exhibit those returns or information before any court of law or any board or commission or to any Minister of the Crown or public officer or to any person other than those engaged in the collection and compilation of statistics under this Ordinance.

Powers of
entry and
inspection.

18. The Minister may make regulations, not inconsistent with this Ordinance, prescribing all matters which by this Ordinance are required or permitted to be prescribed or which are necessary or convenient to be prescribed for giving effect to this Ordinance, and in particular for prescribing penalties not exceeding Fifty pounds for breaches of the regulations.

Dated this tenth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine.

STONEHAVEN

Governor-General.

By His Excellency's Command,

C. L. A. ABBOTT

Minister of State for Home Affairs.

By Authority: H. J. GREEN, Government Printer, Canberra.