



BILLE UM AINMHITHE DO MHARBHADH, 1931.
SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS BILL, 1931.

Mar do tugadh isteach.
As introduced.

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SAORSTAT EIREANN

BILLE UM AINMHITHE DO MHARBHADH, 1931. SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS BILL, 1931.

BILL

entitled

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AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE HUMANE SLAUGHTER
OF ANIMALS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES CON-
NECTED THEREWITH.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE OIREACHTAS OF SAORSTAT
EIREANN AS FOLLOWS:—

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Provisions as to
slaughter of
animals, etc.

1.—(1) No animal shall be slaughtered in a slaughter-house
or knacker's yard except in accordance with the provisions of
this section and it shall be the duty of the local authority to
enforce the provisions of this Act within their area.

(2) Every such animal shall be instantaneously slaughtered, 15
or shall by stunning be instantaneously rendered insensible to
pain until death supervenes, and such slaughtering or stunning
shall be effected by a person who is at the time the holder of a
licence issued by the local authority under section 2 of this
Act by means of a mechanically-operated instrument in proper 20
repair.

(3) The rules as hereinafter mentioned in the schedule to
this Act shall apply to slaughter-yards and knackers' yards.

(4) If any person contravenes or fails to comply with or
causes or permits any contravention or non-compliance with any 25
of the provisions of this section, or attempts to slaughter an
animal in a slaughter-house or knacker's yard otherwise than
in accordance with the said provisions, he shall be liable on
conviction by a court of summary jurisdiction to a fine not
exceeding ten pounds or on a second conviction to a fine not 30
exceeding twenty pounds or on a subsequent conviction to
imprisonment for a period not exceeding three months or to a
fine not exceeding twenty pounds, or to both such imprisonment
and fine, upon an information laid by any person.

Licences.

2.—(1) A licence to slaughter or stun animals in accordance 35
with the provisions of this Act shall not be granted except
to a person of the age of eighteen years or upwards who is,
in the opinion of the local authority, a fit and proper person
to hold such a licence.

(2) A licence under this section shall be valid only in the 40
district of the local authority granting the same, and for a
period not exceeding twelve months, and may be renewed from
time to time at the discretion of the local authority.

(3) The local authority may suspend a licence at any time
for such period as they may determine and where they are 45
satisfied that the person is no longer a fit and proper person
to hold a licence, may revoke the licence.

(4) Any person aggrieved by the refusal of the local authority
to grant a licence or by the suspension or revocation by the
local authority of a licence may appeal to the District Court 50
against such refusal, suspension, or revocation, within one month
of the intimation thereof, and the decision of the said court
shall be final.

(5) A fee, not exceeding five shillings, may be charged by the

local authority for each such licence, and a fee not exceeding one shilling for every renewal thereof.

(6) The provisions of this section shall apply to any licence granted by the local authority for the purpose of the provisions of this Act with regard to the Jewish and Mohammedan methods of slaughter.

3.—Any local authority which has provided or established a slaughter-house may, if they think fit, employ persons to slaughter or stun animals, in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and may make such charges as they consider reasonable for the services of the persons so employed.

Employment of slaughter men by local authority.

4.—Any member of the *Gárda Síochána* and any person authorised in writing by a local authority and the officers of any Society or institution for the protection of animals authorised by the Department of Local Government and Public Health or the Department of Agriculture for that purpose may enter any slaughter-house or knacker's yard in the district of the local authority at any time when business is, or appears to be in progress, or is usually carried on therein for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is or has been any contravention of or non-compliance with the provisions of this Act, and if any person shall refuse to permit any such member of the *Gárda Síochána* or person or officer to enter any premises which he is entitled to enter under this Act, or shall obstruct or impede him in the exercise of his duties under this Act, he shall be liable on conviction by a District Court to a fine not exceeding five pounds.

Powers of entry and investigation, etc.

5.—Any byelaw made by a local authority under any Act, so far as it is inconsistent with any provision of this Act, shall be invalid, but without prejudice to the validity of anything done thereunder before the commencement of this Act.

Revocation of inconsistent provisions.

6.—The provisions of sub-section (2) of section 1 of this Act shall not apply where an animal is slaughtered for the food of Jews by a Jew duly licensed for that purpose by the Chief Rabbi and holding a licence granted by the local authority or for the food of Mohammedans by a Mohammedan holding a licence granted by the local authority if such slaughtering is carried out according to the Jewish or the Mohammedan method of slaughter as the case may be, and no unnecessary suffering is inflicted.

Saving for Jewish, etc., method of slaughter.

7.—The local authority for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this Act shall be the respective Urban Sanitary Authorities, and the expenses of enforcing this Act shall be defrayed as expenses incurred in the administration of the Public Health (Ireland) Acts, 1878 to 1919.

Enforcing authority.

8.—Section 1 of this Act shall not apply to the slaughter under the Diseases of Animals Acts, 1894 to 1914, of an animal if such slaughter is carried out by an officer of or person employed by the Department of Local Government and Public Health or the Department of Agriculture by means of a mechanically operated instrument in proper repair and of a type approved by the Minister for Agriculture, and section 4 of this Act shall not apply in respect of any slaughter-house or knacker's yard which for the time being is or is in an infected place within the meaning of the said Acts.

Saving as to Diseases of Animals Acts.

9.—For the purposes of this Act—

Definitions.

the expression "slaughter-house" means any building, premises or place used in connection with the business of killing animals for the purpose of the flesh being used as butcher's meat;

the expression "knacker's yard" means any building, premises or place used in connection with the business of killing animals not killed for the purpose of the flesh being used as butcher's meat;

the expression " animal " means any horse, mare, gelding, pony, foal, colt, filly, stallion, ass, donkey, mule, bull, cow, bullock, heifer, calf, steer, ox, sheep, ewe, wether, ram, lamb, goat, kid.

Short title and commencement.

10.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1931.

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(2) This Act shall apply to all Urban Sanitary Districts having a population exceeding Ten Thousand according to the last published census and to no other area.

(3) This Act shall come into operation on the first day of January, 1932: Provided that section 1 in so far as it relates to the slaughter of any sheep, ewe, wether, ram or lamb shall not come into operation until the first day of January 1933.

SCHEDULE.

1. Every person engaged in driving or bringing any animal to the place of slaughter shall:—

(a) avoid, so far as practicable, driving or bringing the animal over any ground which is likely to cause the animal to slip or fall; and

(b) otherwise adopt such methods and precautions as will prevent the infliction upon the animal of unnecessary suffering and pain.

2. Every occupier of a slaughter-house or knacker's yard shall cause every animal brought to such slaughter-house or knacker's yard for the purpose of being slaughtered to be provided with a sufficient quantity of wholesome water, and when it is necessary to confine any such animal for a period exceeding 12 hours with a sufficient quantity of wholesome food.

3. Every occupier of a slaughter-house or knacker's yard and every servant of such occupier and every other person employed upon the premises in the slaughtering of cattle, shall, before proceeding to slaughter any horse, mare, gelding, pony, foal, colt, filly, stallion, ass, donkey, mule, bull, ox, bullock, cow, heifer, steer, cause the head of such animal to be securely fastened in such a position as to enable such animal to be felled with as little pain or suffering as practicable, and shall in the process of slaughtering any animal use such instruments and appliances and adopt such method of slaughter, and otherwise take such precautions as may be requisite to secure the infliction of as little pain and suffering as possible.

4. A person shall not slaughter, or cause or suffer to be slaughtered, any animal, or cause or suffer its carcase to be dressed in the view of another animal.

5. A person shall not use any instrument for slaughtering or stunning any animal unless his ability and physical condition qualify him to use it without inflicting unnecessary pain on the animal, nor shall he use a mechanically-operated instrument in such manner or in such circumstances or in such a state of want of repair as to incur the risk of causing unnecessary suffering to an animal.

6. An occupier of a slaughter-house or knacker's yard shall not cause or allow any blood or other refuse to flow from such slaughter-house or knacker's yard so as to be within the sight or (so far as it is practicable to avoid it) within the smell of any animal in the slaughter-house or knacker's yard, and he shall not cause or allow any such blood or other refuse to be deposited in the waiting pens or lairs.

Saorstát Éireann.

BILLE UM AINMHITHE DO
MHARBHADH, 1931.

BILLE

(mar do tugadh isteach)
dá ngairmtear

*Acht chun a shocrú gur ar shli dhaonnachtúil
a marbhófar ainmhithe agus chun
eréiceanna eile bhaineas leis sin.*

*Proinnsias O Fathlaigh do thug isteach, agus
Barra Mac Aodhagáin agus Pádraig O hOgáin
(An Clár) ag cuidiú leis.*

*Do hordúiodh, ag Dáil Éireann, do chlóbhuála,
12adh Meitheamh, 1931.*

BAILE ATHA CLIATH:
FOILLSITHE AG OIFIG AN tSOLATHAIR.

*Le ceannach trí aon díoltóir leabhar, no díreach
ó Oifig Díolta Foillseacháin Rialtais, 5, Sráid
Thobair Phádraig, Baile Atha Cliath, C.2.*

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Saorstat Éireann.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS BILL, 1931.

BILL

(as introduced)
entitled

*An Act to provide for the humane slaughter
of animals and for other purposes con-
nected therewith.*

*Introduced by Deputy Proinnsias O Fathaigh,
supported by Deputies Barry, M. Egan and
Pádrig O hOgáin (An Clár).*

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