An Act to amend the Vermin-proof Fencing Acts, 1890 and 1894, and for other purposes.

[Assented to, December 11th, 1897.]

Be it Enacted by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Parliament of South Australia, as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as "The Vermin-proof Fencing Amendment Act, 1897."

2. Loans hereafter granted, or granted since the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, and paid to District Councils, Trusts, or Vermin Boards, shall bear interest at Four Pounds per centum per annum, and the principal, with the interest thereon, shall be repaid in twenty equal yearly instalments at the rate of Seven Pounds Seven Shillings and Two Pence for every One Hundred Pounds advanced.

3. The word "occupier" in "The Vermin-proof Fencing Act, 1890," shall be deemed to have included and to include any person holding a perpetual lease of lands granted or dedicated by way of endowment for education.

4. Lands within the limits of District Councils may, under section 17 of "The Vermin Districts Act, 1894," be declared to be Vermin Districts.

5. No meeting of a Vermin Board need be held within the district. Vermin Boards may from time to time fix the place where future meetings shall be held, and may adjourn any meeting to any other place.

6. Section
The Vermin-proof Fencing Amendment Act.—1897.

6. Section 76 of "The Vermin Districts Act, 1894," is hereby repealed, and the following section enacted in lieu thereof:

"76. The cost of maintaining and keeping in repair any fence erected or purchased by any Board shall be borne by such Board; but where any such fence is on the boundary or portion of the boundary between two districts the cost of maintaining and keeping in repair such fence shall be borne equally by the Boards of the two districts."

7. In the event of any Vermin District ceasing to be a Vermin District the Vermin Board of such district shall be deemed to be abolished, and all fences erected or purchased by such Board and all property of the Board shall vest in the Crown. And thereupon the Crown shall have the same powers, duties, and rights in reference to such fences and the declaration and levying of rates as such Vermin Board would have possessed had such Board not ceased to exist, and the rights and privileges of every person who had or shall thereafter have made any payment in respect of any such fences pursuant to "The Vermin Districts Act, 1894," or any other Vermin Fencing Act for the time being in force, shall remain as if such Board had not ceased to exist.

8. The limit of the amount of the rate which may be declared by the Board under section 83 of "The Vermin Districts Act, 1894," is hereby increased to One Pound per square mile.

9. No owner holding less than a quarter of a square mile of property in the district shall be liable to pay any rate, or be entitled to take any part in relation to the formation of a Vermin District, or be capable of voting for the election of a member of a Board.

10. The rate payable by each owner holding less than one square mile of property within the district shall be for each quarter and fraction of a quarter of a square mile one-fourth of the rate fixed per square mile.

11. All vermin-proof fences erected by, or which shall be purchased or acquired by any Board under "The Vermin Districts Act, 1894," or any Vermin Fencing Act, shall be deemed to be vested in such Board, and all fences which shall be erected, purchased, or acquired by two or more Boards shall be deemed to belong to and shall be apportioned by the Commissioner between such Boards proportionately to the amount contributed by them respectively in erecting, purchasing, or acquiring such fences: Provided, however, that any fence erected by any Board pursuant to section 149 of "The Vermin Districts Act, 1894," shall cease to be vested in any Board from the time of the Board receiving the cost of such erection.

In the name and on behalf of Her Majesty, I hereby assent to this Bill.

T. F. BUXTON, Governor.

Adelaide: By authority, C. E. Barrow, Government Printer, North-terrace.