



ANNO UNDECIMO.

# GEORGII V REGIS.

A.D. 1920.

\*\*\*\*\*

No. 1442.

An Act to Regulate the Treatment of Venereal Diseases, and to prevent the Spread of such Diseases, and for purposes incidental thereto or consequent thereon.

[*Assented to, December 1st, 1920.*]

**B**E it Enacted by the Governor of the State of South Australia, with the advice and consent of the Parliament thereof, as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as the "Venereal Diseases Act, 1920." Short title.

2. (1) This Act shall come into operation on a day to be fixed by the Governor by proclamation, and either generally throughout the State or in such part or parts of the State as are specified in the proclamation. Commencement of Act.

(2) If by any proclamation made under subsection (1) hereof the operation of this Act is limited to a specified part or parts of the State, the Governor may by a subsequent proclamation extend such operation to the remaining portion of the State, or any specified part or parts thereof, as from a date to be specified in the proclamation.

3. In this Act, unless inconsistent with the context or subject matter— Interpretation.  
Cf. N.S.W., 46, 1918,  
s. 2.

"Child" means a person under the age of sixteen years:

"Medical practitioner" means legally qualified medical practitioner registered in South Australia:

"Minister" means the Minister of Health, or the Minister for the time being administering this Act:

"Prescribed" means prescribed by this Act or by regulations made under this Act: "Venereal

*Venereal Diseases Act.—1920.*

“Venereal disease” means gonorrhœa, gleet, gonorrhœal ophthalmia, syphilis, soft chancre, venereal warts, or venereal granuloma :

Treatment by medical practitioner only.  
Ibid., s. 3.

4. (1) No person other than a medical practitioner, or a person acting under the direct instructions of a medical practitioner, shall attend upon or prescribe for or supply any drug or medicine to any person suffering from any venereal disease for the purpose of curing, alleviating, or treating such disease.

(2) This section shall not apply to a registered pharmaceutical chemist who—

(a) dispenses to the patient of a medical practitioner the prescription of such practitioner, if such prescription is dated, and bears the address and usual signature (including the surname) of such practitioner, or

(b) in the ordinary course of business, sells or supplies any drug or medicine (except such drugs or medicine as is specified by regulations made under this Act) if such drug or medicine is not prescribed by such chemist for any person suffering from any venereal disease for the purpose of curing, alleviating, or treating such disease.

(3) Any person contravening this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Fifty Pounds, or to imprisonment for any term not exceeding six months.

Persons suffering from venereal disease to place themselves under treatment.  
Ibid., s. 4.

5. (1) Every person suffering from any venereal disease, or suspecting that he is so suffering, shall within three days of becoming aware of his condition,

(a) consult a medical practitioner thereon, furnish his correct full name, occupation, and address to such practitioner, and place himself under treatment by such practitioner, or

(b) attend at some hospital or other place prescribed for the purpose and place himself under treatment thereat.

(2) Any person contravening subsection (1) hereof shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding One Hundred Pounds, or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding three months.

Penalty for divulging name or address of person suffering from any venereal disease.

(3) Any medical practitioner who, otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of this Act, communicates to any person, or in any other way makes known, any name or address furnished to him pursuant to subsection (1) hereof shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding One Hundred Pounds, and shall be deemed to be guilty of professionally infamous conduct.

Persons suffering from venereal disease to continue under treatment.  
Ibid., s. 5.

6. (1) Every person suffering from any venereal disease who has consulted and placed himself under treatment by a medical practitioner, or who has attended and placed himself under treatment at a hospital or other prescribed place, shall (until he has received a certificate that he is cured of or is free from venereal disease)

*Venereal Diseases Act.—1920.*

disease) visit or cause himself to be attended by a medical practitioner, or attend at a hospital or other prescribed place, for the purpose of treatment and advice, at least once in every such period as is prescribed, and shall follow the advice given by such medical practitioner or by a medical practitioner at such hospital or place.

(2) Any person contravening this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Twenty Pounds.

7. (1) If any person suffering from any venereal disease who has consulted and placed himself under treatment by a medical practitioner changes his address he shall, within seven days, notify the said practitioner of such change, and of the address to which he has gone.

Change of address.  
Ibid., s. 6.

(2) Any person contravening this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Five Pounds.

8. (1) If any person suffering from any venereal disease who has consulted and placed himself under treatment by a medical practitioner desires to discontinue treatment by such medical practitioner and to place himself under treatment by some other medical practitioner, or if the medical practitioner treating such person dies or for any reason is unable or unwilling to treat him further, such person shall, unless he places himself under treatment at some hospital or other prescribed place, forthwith consult and place himself under the treatment of another medical practitioner, and inform him of the name and last known address of the medical practitioner by whom he was previously treated. The medical practitioner so informed shall forthwith send to the medical practitioner by whom such person was previously treated (if the practitioner last mentioned is resident in South Australia) a notice in the prescribed form.

Change of medical practitioner.  
Ibid., s. 7.

(2) Any person contravening this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Five Pounds.

9. The fact that a person who has been suffering from any venereal disease has ceased to be liable to convey infection, but has not been cured, shall not exonerate such person from complying with the provisions of this Act with respect to treatment, or any medical practitioner from complying with the requirements of this Act with respect to notices.

Treatment to continue till cure effected.  
Ibid., s. 8.

10. (1) If a medical practitioner becomes aware that any person consulting him, or attended or treated by him, is suffering from any venereal disease, such medical practitioner shall give notice thereof to the Inspector-General of Hospitals in the prescribed form, and within the prescribed period

Reporting cases.  
Cf. *ibid.*, s. 9.

(2) Such notice shall contain such other particulars as are prescribed, but shall not disclose the name and address of the patient.

(3) Any medical practitioner contravening this section shall be liable for a first offence to a penalty not exceeding Twenty Pounds, and for any subsequent offence to a penalty of not less than Twenty Pounds, but not more than One Hundred Pounds.

11. (1) If

*Venereal Diseases Act.—1920.*

Name and address of patient to be reported on failure to continue treatment.

Cf. *ibid.*, s. 10.

**11.** (1) If a person suffering from any venereal disease who has been attended or treated by a medical practitioner for such disease fails to consult or attend such medical practitioner during one such period as is prescribed for the purposes of section 6 or within ten days thereafter, and the medical practitioner has not before the expiration of such ten days received from another medical practitioner a notice that such person has placed himself under treatment by such other medical practitioner, such first-mentioned medical practitioner shall send to the Inspector-General of Hospitals, in a sealed envelope marked "Confidential," a notice of the facts in the prescribed form.

(2) Any medical practitioner contravening this section shall be liable to a penalty of not exceeding Fifty Pounds, and for any subsequent offence to a penalty of not less than Twenty Pounds and not more than One Hundred Pounds.

Warnings to patients.  
*ibid.*, s. 11.

**12.** (1) Every medical practitioner who attends, treats, or advises any person for or in respect of any venereal disease from which such person is suffering, shall (except in the case of a child)—

(a) by written notice in the prescribed form delivered to such person—

I. direct such person's attention to the infectious nature of the disease, and to the legal consequences of infecting others; and

II. warn such person against contracting any marriage until certified under this Act as cured; and

(b) give such person such printed information as may be prescribed regarding the disease and the duties of persons suffering therefrom.

Parents and guardians.

(2) Every medical practitioner who attends, treats, or gives advice with respect to a child suffering from venereal disease shall give to the parent or guardian or other person having the custody of the child such directions and printed information as may be prescribed.

(3) Any medical practitioner contravening this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Five Pounds.

Power to inform party to intended marriage that other party is suffering from venereal disease.

Cf. *ibid.*, s. 12.

**13.** (1) If a medical practitioner has reason to believe that a person suffering from venereal disease consulting him or attended or treated by him intends to contract a marriage, such medical practitioner shall inform the Inspector-General of Hospitals thereof.

(2) The Inspector-General of Hospitals shall, after giving an intimation of his intention to the person suffering from such disease—

(a) inform any person whom he believes on reasonable grounds to be the other party to the proposed marriage that the person suffering from such disease is so suffering; and

(b) give the like information to any parent or guardian of such party.

(3) Every

*Venereal Diseases Act.—1920.*

(3) Every communication made in good faith in exercise or supposed exercise of any of the duties imposed by this section shall be absolutely privileged.

(4) Any medical practitioner contravening this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Twenty Pounds.

**14.** Any person who, while suffering from any venereal disease in an infectious stage, marries, knowing that he is so suffering, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and shall be liable to imprisonment for any period not exceeding five years, or to a penalty not exceeding Five Hundred Pounds, or to both such penalty and such imprisonment.

Marriage of person suffering from venereal disease.  
Ibid., s. 13.

**15.** (1) When any person who has been suffering from venereal disease becomes cured of or free from such disease, or has ceased to be liable to convey infection, any medical practitioner, on being satisfied thereof, shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, give to such person, at his request, a certificate in the prescribed form that such person is cured of or is free from venereal disease, or is no longer liable to convey infection, as the case may be.

Certificates of cure or freedom from venereal disease.  
Ibid., s. 14.

(2) Any medical practitioner who gives to any person a certificate that such person is cured of or is free from venereal disease, or is no longer liable to convey infection, knowing the said certificate to be false in any material particular, or except under the conditions and in the circumstances prescribed with respect to such certificates by regulations under this Act, shall be liable to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months.

**16.** Any person who uses for the purposes of or in relation to or in connection with prostitution any certificate given by a medical practitioner under the provisions of section 15 shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Twenty Pounds.

Using certificate for purposes of prostitution.  
Ibid., s. 15.

**17.** (1) Any parent, guardian, or other person having the custody of any child suffering from venereal disease shall cause such child to be treated for such disease in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Obligations of parents and guardians of children suffering from venereal disease.  
Cf. *ibid.*, s. 16.

(2) When any child is or becomes liable under this Act to do or submit to any act, matter, or thing, any parent or guardian or other person having the custody of such child who knows that such child is so liable shall exercise his authority to compel or induce such child to do or submit to such act, matter, or thing as aforesaid.

(3) Any parent or guardian or other person having the custody of any such child who knows that such child has failed to comply with any provision of this Act shall report the fact, together with such particulars as may be prescribed, to the Inspector-General of Hospitals.

(4) Any parent, guardian, or other person contravening this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Ten Pounds.

**18.** (1) Any

*Venereal Diseases Act.—1920.*

Person suffering from venereal disease working in factories, shops, and hotels.  
Ibid., s. 17.

**18.** (1) Any person who, knowing himself to be suffering from any venereal disease in an infectious stage, works in or about any factory, shop, hotel, restaurant, house, ship, boat, or other place in any capacity requiring him to handle food intended for human consumption, or in or about any hairdressing saloon, shall be liable to imprisonment for any period not exceeding one year, or to a penalty not exceeding One Hundred Pounds.

Employing person suffering from venereal disease to handle food.

(2) Any person who knowingly employs or continues to employ any person suffering from a venereal disease in an infectious stage at any work or in any capacity requiring him to handle food intended for human consumption shall be liable to a penalty of not less than Twenty Pounds and not more than One Hundred Pounds.

Protection of medical practitioner.  
Ibid., s. 18.

**19.** No certificate, notice, or other communication, verbal or in writing, given by any medical practitioner for the purposes of this Act, *bona fide* and without negligence, that any person is suffering from venereal disease, shall be made the ground of any legal proceedings, civil or criminal, against such medical practitioner.

Privacy of proceedings.  
Ibid., s. 19.

**20.** (1) Any matter to be heard by a Special Magistrate under this Act shall be heard and decided in chambers, and in private, and no person other than the Special Magistrate, the party concerned, the Inspector-General of Hospitals, and such officers, witnesses, or persons as the Special Magistrate may require, or at the request of the party concerned may permit, to be present, shall have access to or be permitted to be present in any room where the matter is being heard.

(2) Every person who acts or assists in the administration of this Act, and every person present in any room where any matter under this Act is being heard, shall preserve and aid in preserving secrecy with regard to all matters and things which come to his knowledge while so acting or assisting, or present, and shall not communicate any such matter or thing to any other person, except in the performance of his duties under this Act, or in answer to some question which he is legally bound to answer.

(3) Any person contravening this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Fifty Pounds.

No publication of proceedings in newspapers.  
Ibid., s. 20.

**21.** (1) It shall not be lawful to publish in any newspaper the report of any proceeding or matter heard in private under this Act, but this prohibition shall not extend to any reports which are published on the written authority of the Inspector-General of Hospitals.

(2) Any person contravening this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Fifty Pounds.

Knowingly infecting with venereal disease.  
Ibid., s. 21.

**22.** Any person who knowingly infects any other person with a venereal disease, or knowingly does or permits or suffers to be done any act likely to lead to the infection of any other person with such

*Venereal Diseases Act.—1920.*

a disease, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding One Hundred Pounds, or to imprisonment for any period not exceeding twelve months, or to both such penalty and such imprisonment.

**23.** Any person who, being the owner or occupier of any house, room, or place, knowingly permits any person suffering from venereal disease to occupy such house, room, or place for the purpose of prostitution, or to resort thither for such purpose, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding One Hundred Pounds, or to imprisonment for any period not exceeding twelve months: Provided that no conviction under this section shall exempt the offender from any penal or other consequences to which he may be liable for keeping or being concerned in keeping a brothel or disorderly house, or for the nuisance thereby occasioned.

Keepers of disorderly houses.  
Ibid., s. 22.

**24.** The Minister may arrange with the Board of Management of any public hospital to make effective provision as prescribed for the reception, accommodation, examination, and treatment free of charge of such numbers of persons, or such classes of persons, suffering from venereal disease as are prescribed.

Free treatment of persons suffering from venereal disease.  
Ibid., s. 24.

**25.** (1) No person shall publish any statement, whether by way of advertisement or otherwise, to promote the sale of any article as a medicine, instrument, or appliance for the alleviation or cure of any venereal disease, or disease affecting the generative organs or functions, or of sexual impotence, or of any complaint or infirmity arising from or relating to sexual intercourse, or of female or menstrual irregularities.

Advertisements of cure of certain diseases.  
Ibid., s. 25.

(2) Any person who—

- (a) affixes or inscribes any statement on any thing whatsoever so as to be visible to persons being in or passing along any street, road, highway, pathway, public place, or public conveyance; or
- (b) delivers or offers or exhibits any statement to any person being in or passing along any street, road, highway, pathway, public place, or public conveyance; or
- (c) throws any statement into or upon any street, road, highway, pathway, public place, or public conveyance, or into the area, yard, garden, or inclosure of any house; or
- (d) exhibits any statement to public view in any house, shop, or place; or
- (e) prints or publishes any statement in any newspaper; or
- (f) sells, offers, or shows, or sends by post, any statement to any person,

shall be deemed to have published that statement.

(3) In this section the word "statement" includes any document, book, or paper containing any statement.

(4) Nothing

*Venereal Diseases Act.—1920.*

(4) Nothing in this section shall apply to any statement contained in any book, document, or paper published in good faith for the advancement of medical or surgical science, or in any advertisement, notice, or recommendation published by the authority of the Inspector-General of Hospitals, or in any publication sent only to medical practitioners or to registered pharmaceutical chemists for the purposes of their business.

(5) Any person contravening this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Fifty Pounds.

Seizure of articles capable of being used unlawfully for the alleviation of venereal disease. *Ibid.*, s. 26.

**26.** (1) A Special Magistrate may, subject to the provisions of this Act, authorise by special warrant any member of the Police Force to enter into any house, office, shop, room, or other place, not being the house, office, shop, room, or surgery of a medical practitioner or of a registered pharmaceutical chemist, and to search for, seize, and bring before any such Magistrate all articles, medicines, instruments, or appliances found therein which are capable of being used for the alleviation or cure of any venereal disease.

(2) No such warrant shall be issued except upon complaint made on oath by the Inspector-General of Hospitals that he has reason to believe and does believe that such articles, medicines, instruments, or appliances are kept, held, or exhibited in such house, office, shop, room, or place for the purpose of sale or unlawful use.

(3) The member of the Police Force to whom any such special warrant is issued may, if necessary, obtain assistance and use force, by breaking open doors or otherwise, in order to effect an entrance.

(4) Whenever any such articles, medicines, instruments, or appliances are seized and brought before a Special Magistrate in pursuance of any such special warrant, such Magistrate shall thereupon issue a summons calling upon the occupier of the house, office, shop, room, or other place entered by virtue of such warrant to appear within seven days before such Magistrate to show cause why the articles, medicines, instruments, and appliances so seized should not be destroyed or forfeited.

(5) The Special Magistrate issuing such summons shall—

(a) if the occupier or some other person claiming to be the owner of the articles, medicines, instruments, or appliances seized does not appear within the time limited; or

(b) if the occupier or such other person appears and it is proved that the articles, medicines, instruments, or appliances seized or any of them are of the character stated in the warrant, and kept, held, or exhibited for the purpose of sale or unlawful use,

order them, or any of them, to be destroyed or forfeited.

(6) The Special Magistrate shall, if satisfied that the articles, medicines, instruments, and appliances seized are not of the character stated in the warrant, or are not kept, held, or exhibited for

*Venereal Diseases Act.—1920.*

for the purpose of sale or unlawful use, direct them to be restored to the occupier of the house, office, shop, room, or other place in which they were seized, or to the person appearing to be the owner thereof.

27. (1) Whenever the Inspector-General of Hospitals is satisfied, by the certificate of a medical practitioner, or by statutory declaration, that there is reasonable ground to believe that any person is suffering from venereal disease and is not under treatment by any medical practitioner, he may issue an order in writing, requiring such person to forthwith place himself under treatment by a medical practitioner.

Compulsory examination and treatment.  
Cf. Vic. 2858, 1916,  
s. 13

(2) If such person does not forthwith place himself under treatment by a medical practitioner, a Special Magistrate or any two Justices, on the complaint of the Inspector-General of Hospitals, or of a medical practitioner authorised in writing, either generally or in any particular case, for the purpose by the said Inspector-General, may, by warrant under his hand in the prescribed form and directed to the prescribed persons, order the person in default to be apprehended and to be detained for any prescribed period, not exceeding four weeks, in any prescribed place for any clinical, chemical, bacteriological, or other examination or investigation necessary to ascertain whether such person is suffering from venereal disease, and it shall be lawful to make any such examination or investigation; and such warrant shall be a sufficient authority to all persons for the arrest and detention of such person in pursuance of the warrant and subject to the provisions of this Act.

(3) If the result of any such examination or investigation discloses that such person is suffering from any venereal disease, and the Inspector-General of Hospitals, after due inquiry into all the circumstances, is of the opinion that further detention is necessary in the interests of such person and of the public welfare, and so reports to the Minister, then, on the recommendation of the Minister, the Governor from time to time may order that such person shall be detained under such conditions, and in a prescribed or proclaimed place, and for such time, and be subject to such examination and treatment, as are necessary to insure that such person is cured of or is free from venereal disease, or has ceased to be liable to convey infection. The Governor may extend or vary any such order, or at any time terminate its operation, and thereafter, if found necessary, renew such order. Every such order shall be sufficient authority to all persons for the arrest and the removal or detention of such person in pursuance of the order until his release under the provisions of this section and subject to the provisions of this Act.

Detention of diseased persons.

(4) Any person undergoing detention under this section may from time to time apply in writing in the prescribed form to a Judge of the Supreme Court, or a Special Magistrate, to be examined by two medical practitioners, and thereupon such Judge or Special Magistrate shall, by order, direct any two or more medical practitioners named in the order (one of whom shall be nominated by the patient or some other person on his behalf) to examine such

Power of Judge or Special Magistrate to release persons on cure.

*Venereal Diseases Act.—1920.*

person accordingly, and report the result of the examination to the Judge or Special Magistrate, and every officer or person in whose custody the person is shall permit the examination.

If after consideration of such report the Judge or Special Magistrate is of opinion that the person is cured of or is free from venereal disease, or has ceased to be liable to convey infection, the Judge or Special Magistrate shall order the release of such person from detention, and he shall be released accordingly.

No such application shall be made by any person so detained within three months after a like prior application has been made by such person.

Private treatment.

(5) Any person undergoing detention under this section who proves to the satisfaction of the Minister that he can obtain and is prepared to undergo suitable treatment shall be released on the order of the Minister, subject to such conditions as the Minister imposes.

Periodical examination of persons detained.

(6) Any person undergoing detention under this section shall, once at least in every period of three months, beginning with the date of his arrest, be examined by two medical practitioners appointed by the Minister, either generally or in any particular case, for the purpose, in order to ascertain whether such person is cured of or is free from venereal disease or has ceased to be liable to convey infection, and such medical practitioners shall report to the Minister accordingly.

If the Minister is satisfied that such person is cured of or is free from venereal disease, or has ceased to be liable to convey infection, the Minister shall order the release of such person from detention, and he shall be released accordingly.

Where the person undergoing detention has been examined by order of a Judge or Special Magistrate under this section, an examination under this subsection shall not be necessary until a period of three months has elapsed after the first-mentioned examination.

(7) No person shall be detained under this section after he is cured of or is free from venereal disease or has ceased to be liable to convey infection.

Protection of medical practitioner giving certificate.

(8) No certificate of any medical practitioner given for the purpose of this section or section 28, *bona fide* and without negligence, that any person (including any prisoner) is suffering from venereal disease, shall be admissible in evidence in any proceedings, civil or criminal, against such medical practitioner, or be made the ground of any prosecution, action, or suit against him.

Warrant may authorise use of force.

Cf., W.A. Health Act Amendment Act, 1915, 242j (7).

(9) Every warrant issued hereunder may authorise the use of such force as may be necessary to carry it into complete effect, and shall have effect according to its tenor, and all members of the Police Force shall, on sight of the warrant, aid and assist in its execution in so far as they may be requested so to do by any person to whom the warrant is directed.

(10) Any

*Venereal Diseases Act.—1920.*

(10) Any person who—

- (a) contravenes any provision of this section by act or omission; or
- (b) obstructs the carrying into effect of any warrant or order issued thereunder; or
- (c) refuses to do or submit to any thing which such person is by this section or by any such warrant or order required to do or submit to; or
- (d) while undergoing detention under this section leaves, except as prescribed, any prescribed or proclaimed place before being lawfully discharged,

shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Twenty Pounds.

(11) The Governor may, by proclamation, appoint any public hospital or any ward of any such hospital as a place in which persons may under this section be detained for treatment.

Proclamation of hospitals.  
Cf. Vic. 2858, 1916, s. 4.

28. (1) Where a medical practitioner, duly appointed by the Minister, either generally or in any particular case, for the purpose, certifies in writing to the Minister that any prisoner in any gaol is suffering from any venereal disease, such prisoner may be brought before a Special Magistrate, and, on proof that such prisoner is so suffering, the Special Magistrate may order that such prisoner be detained under such conditions and in a prescribed or proclaimed place, and for such time, and be subject to such examination and treatment, as are necessary to ensure that he is cured of or is free from venereal disease, or is no longer liable to convey infection.

Special provision in case of prisoners.  
Cf. *ibid.*, s. 14.

(2) Such an order shall be sufficient authority to the keeper of the gaol to remove such prisoner to the prescribed or proclaimed place named in the order, and for his detention therein in pursuance of the order and subject to the provisions of this section.

(3) During any period of detention under this section such prisoner shall be deemed to be in legal custody, and the period of detention shall run concurrently with, but may exceed, the term of imprisonment to which such prisoner has been sentenced.

(4) The provisions of subsection (4) of section 27 shall extend and apply to prisoners undergoing detention under this section.

(5) If the Inspector-General of Hospitals is satisfied that any prisoner undergoing detention under this section is cured of or is free from venereal disease, or is no longer liable to convey infection, he shall so report to the Minister, and thereupon the Minister shall order that such prisoner be discharged, and such prisoner, unless his sentence has sooner expired, shall be remitted to his former custody to serve the remainder of his sentence.

(6) Notwithstanding anything in any Act or any law to the contrary, it shall be lawful for any medical practitioner or practitioners, duly appointed by the Minister, either generally or in any particular case, for the purpose, to examine any prisoner in any gaol, for the purpose

*Venereal Diseases Act.—1920.*

purpose of ascertaining whether such prisoner is suffering from venereal disease, and to make such clinical, chemical, bacteriological, and other examinations and investigations as are necessary or expedient for the purpose.

Extension of provisions of this section to persons detained in reformatory schools, &c.

(7) The provisions of this section shall extend and apply to persons detained in institutions under the State Children Act, 1895, and shall, with such alterations, modifications, and substitutions as are necessary, be read and construed accordingly: Provided that for the purpose of this subsection—

- (a) upon the discharge of any such person from detention under this section, such person shall be returned to the institution from which he was removed; and
- (b) any reference in this section to the keeper of a gaol shall be read and construed as a reference to the superintendent, matron, or manager of an institution.

Female may require examination to be by female medical practitioner.

29. Where the person to be examined under the provisions of section 27 or 28 is a female, the medical practitioner or, if the examination is to be made by more than one medical practitioner, one of the medical practitioners shall, if so desired by the person to be examined, be a female medical practitioner, if there is a female medical practitioner able and willing to act within twenty miles of the place where the examination is to be made.

Powers of the Minister.  
Ibid., s. 27.

30. The Minister shall—

- (a) establish hospitals or places for the reception and treatment of persons suffering from venereal disease;
- (b) arrange for the examination or treatment by medical practitioners of persons suffering from venereal disease and for the remuneration of the practitioners under any such arrangement;
- (c) provide by regulation for the reception, examination, and treatment of such persons at such hospitals and places or by such medical practitioners free of charge;
- (d) arrange for chemical, bacteriological, and other examinations and investigations free of charge to the patient for the purpose of ascertaining whether a person is suffering from, or is cured of or is free from, venereal disease, or is no longer liable to convey infection, and for the remuneration payable under any such arrangement;
- (e) arrange for the supply of drugs, medicines, and appliances for the treatment, alleviation, and cure of venereal disease in the case of persons unable, through poverty or otherwise, to pay for such drugs, medicines, or appliances; and
- (f) provide for the preparation and distribution of information relating to venereal disease.

31. No

*Venereal Diseases Act.—1920.*

**31.** No prosecution or proceeding for the recovery of penalties under this Act shall be instituted except by the Inspector-General of Hospitals or some person thereunto authorised in writing by the said Inspector-General, either generally or in the particular case: Provided that nothing herein contained shall affect any right to institute proceedings independently of this section in respect of any act or omission which is an offence at common law or under some Act other than this Act.

Power to prosecute.  
Ibid., s. 28.

**32.** Without limiting the operation of the provisions of this or any other Act, every person who, without legal justification or excuse, falsely alleges, whether by words or otherwise, that any other person is suffering or has suffered from venereal disease (whether the form of such disease is specified or not), shall be guilty of the offence of maliciously publishing a defamatory libel, and the provisions of section 304 of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act, 1876, shall apply accordingly.

False allegation as to persons suffering from venereal disease.  
Ibid., s. 29.

**33.** (1) If any Judge or Special Magistrate or Justices of the Peace have reason to believe that any child, whether male or female, who is charged before such Judge or Special Magistrate or Justices with any crime or offence, is suffering from venereal disease, such Judge or Special Magistrate or Justices may, at any time, order an examination to be made of such child by a medical practitioner, either male or female.

Powers of Court when child suffering from venereal disease.  
Cf. *ibid.*, s. 31.

(2) In the event of the medical practitioner reporting that any such child is so suffering, the Judge or Special Magistrate or Justices shall forthwith notify the Inspector-General of Hospitals in writing, who may thereupon deal with such child in manner prescribed.

**34.** (1) The Governor may make regulations not inconsistent with this Act, prescribing all things which by this Act are required, contemplated, or permitted to be prescribed, or which may be necessary or convenient to be prescribed for giving effect to the provisions and objects of this Act.

Regulations.  
Cf. *ibid.*, s. 36.

(2) Any such regulation may prescribe a penalty not exceeding Twenty Pounds for a breach of any regulation.

**35.** All proceedings in respect of offences against this Act, not being indictable offences, shall be heard and determined by a Special Magistrate sitting alone and shall be disposed of summarily.

Summary proceedings for offences.

**36.** There shall be an appeal in respect of proceedings in respect of offences against this Act.

**37.** In the event of an appeal in respect of proceedings against this Act, a special case may be stated.

Appeal.

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

Special case.

W. E. G. A. WEIGALL, Governor.