WHEAT BOUNTY.

No. 48 of 1931.

An Act to provide for the payment of a Bounty on the Production of Wheat, and for other purposes.

[Assented to 4th November, 1931.]

DE it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, the Senate, Preamble. and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, for the purpose of appropriating the grant originated in the House of Representatives, as follows:-

- 1. This Act may be cited as the Wheat Bounty Act 1931.
- Short title.

2. The Wheat Advances Act 1930 is repealed.

Repeal. Definition.

- 3. In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears-
- "wheat" means wheat harvested in Australia during the period commencing on the first day of October One thousand nine hundred and thirty-one and ending on the thirty-first day of March One thousand nine hundred and thirty-two.
- 4.—(1.) Bounty under this Act shall be payable on the production specification of bounty. of wheat which has, on or after the first day of October One thousand nine hundred and thirty-one and prior to the commencement of this Act, been sold or delivered for sale, or which is sold or delivered for sale on or before the thirty-first day of October One thousand nine hundred and thirty-two or on or before such later date as is prescribed.
- (2.) For the purposes of this Act wheat shall be deemed to have been delivered for sale if it is delivered by a grower to a flour miller, wheat merchant, Government instrumentality or co-operative organization for storage pending sale.

Rate of bounty.

5. The rate of bounty payable under this Act shall be four pence half-penny per bushel.

To whom bounty payable. 6. Bounty shall be payable in the prescribed manner to the grower of the wheat:

Provided that in the case of wheat produced by share-farmers, the bounty payable in respect of the wheat shall be apportioned between the share-farmers in proportion to the interests of the share-farmers in the wheat or the proceeds thereof.

Power to borrow money.

- 7.—(1.) The Treasurer may from time to time under the provisions of the Commonwealth Inscribed Stock Act 1911-1927, or under the provisions of any Act authorizing the issue of Treasury Bills, borrow moneys to such amount as is necessary for the purposes of this Act.
- (2.) Moneys borrowed under this Act shall be issued and applied only for the expenses of borrowing and of the administration of this Act, and for making payment of the bounty specified in this Act.

Offences against Act.

- 8. No person shall-
- (a) obtain any bounty which is not payable;
- (b) obtain payment of any bounty by means of any false or misleading statement; or
- (c) present to any officer or other person doing duty in relation to this Act or the regulations made thereunder any document, or make to any such officer or person any statement, which is false in any particular.

Penalty: Five hundred pounds, or imprisonment for two years.

Power to call for information.

- 9.—(1.) The Minister, or any person thereto authorized in writing by him, may by notice in writing call upon any person to furnish to him, within such time as is specified in the notice, such books and documents and such information as the Minister or that authorized person thinks necessary in relation to compliance with this Act or the regulations made thereunder or any suspected contravention thereof.
- (2.) Any person who, without reasonable excuse (proof whereof shall lie upon him), fails, after receipt of a notice under the last preceding sub-section, to comply with the requirements of the notice, shall be guilty of an offence.

Penalty: Five hundred pounds, or imprisonment for two years.

(3.) Where the person who has so failed to furnish the books, documents or information is a claimant for bounty, the Minister may, if he thinks fit, withhold payment of any bounty payable to the claimant until he has furnished the required books, documents or information.

Return to be laid before Parliament.

- 10. A report upon the working of this Act, and a return setting forth-
 - (a) the amount of bounty paid under this Act; and
 - (b) such other particulars as are prescribed,

shall be laid before both Houses of the Parliament by the Minister within thirty days after the expiration of the financial year ending on the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and thirtytwo, if the Parliament is then sitting and, if not, then within thirty days after the next meeting of the Parliament.

11. The Governor-General may make regulations, not inconsistent Begulations. with this Act, prescribing all matters which by this Act are required or permitted to be prescribed, or which are necessary or convenient to be prescribed, for carrying out or giving effect to this Act, and in particular for prescribing penalties not exceeding Fifty pounds or imprisonment for a period not exceeding three months for any breach of the regulations.