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PART VI

BILLS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

The following Bill was introduced in the Council of the Governor General of India for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations on the 2nd September 1897:

No. 12 of 1897.

A Bill to further amend the Stage-Carriages
Act, 1861.

WHEREAS it is expedient to further amend the XVI of 1861. Stage-Carriages Act, 1861; It is hereby enacted as follows:

- 1. This Act may be called the Stage-Carriages
 Act (1861) Amendment
 Act, 1897.
- 2. The proviso to section 1 of the Stage-XVI of 1861. Repeal of proviso to sec. Carriages Act, 1861, is repealed.
 - 3. After section 20of the said Act the follow-Addition of new section ing section shall be added, namely:

"20 A. (1) The Local Government may, by notification in the local official gazette, make rules to carry out the purposes and objects of this Act in the territories under its administration or any part of the said territories.

- (2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may—
 - (a) prescribe forms for licenses under this Act, and the conditions on which they may be granted, and the cases in which they may be revoked;
 - (b) provide for the inspection of stage-carriages; and
 - (c) regulate the number and length of the stages for which horses may be driven in stage-carriages and the manner in which they shall be harnessed and yoked.
- (3) In making any rule under this section the Local Government may direct that a breach thereof shall be punishable with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

THE application of the Stage-Carriages Act, 1861 (XVI of 1861), is, by the proviso to section 1, limited to carriages ordinarily used for journeys of more than twenty miles. This restriction has been found to be inconvenient, as stage-carriages which ought to be subject to regulation, not infrequently ply for shorter distances, and it is, therefore, proposed, by clause 2 of the Bill, to repeal the proviso above referred to.

The Act has also been found defective in practice owing to the absence of any rule-making power by means of which to supplement its provisions. Experience has demonstrated the necessity for auxiliary rules to regulate such matters of detail as the length of the stages for which a horse may be driven in a licensed carriage, and, generally, to guide the executive in carrying the law into effect. Clause 3 of the Bill is designed to confer the necessary power in this respect on the Local Government.

The 3rd August 1897.

(Signed) J. WOODBURN.

J. M. MACPHERSON,

Secretary to the Government of India.