FOOD PRESERVATION BY SULPHUR DIOXIDE ENABLING ACT.

Act No. 48, 1920.

An Act to sanction and regulate the use of sulphur dioxide in the preservation of whole meats, poultry, fish, and other articles of food ; to amend the Public Health Acts, the Pure Food Act, 1908, and certain other Acts ; and for purposes consequent thereon or incidental thereto. [Assented to, 31st December, 1920.]

George V, No. 48.

BE it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :—

1. This Act may be cited as the "Food Preservation by Sulphur Dioxide Enabling Act, 1920." *Short title.*

2. This Act shall commence and take effect on a date to be proclaimed by the Governor. *Commencement.*

3. In this Act, unless the context or subject-matter otherwise indicates or requires— *Interpretation.*

"Board" means the Board of Health as constituted by the Public Health Act, 1902.

"Food" means article used for food or drink by man.

"Local authority" means council of a municipality or of a shire and with respect to any police district outside a municipality or shire means such

such member of the police force as may be appointed by the board under the Public Health Act, 1902, to be a local authority.

"Municipality" includes the City of Sydney.

"Officer" includes any medical officer of health, assistant medical officer of health, officer of the board, or of a local authority or any superintendent, inspector, sub-inspector or sergeant of police or any constable specially authorised by the Inspector-General or by any superintendent of police.

Power to use sulphur dioxide gas to preserve food.

4. The addition of sulphur dioxide (or sulphites calculated as sulphur dioxide) by any person as a preservative substance to whole meats, poultry, fish or other food is hereby permitted in quantities not exceeding three and one half grains to the pound notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any Act or in any regulation made thereunder :

Provided that this section shall not be deemed to authorise or permit the use of sulphur dioxide for any of the purposes aforesaid otherwise than in the form of a sulphur dioxide gas applied in a manner approved by the board.

Power to sell or deal in food so preserved.

5. Subject to the provisions of the Meat Industry Act, 1915, any person may sell, dispose of, or otherwise deal in any whole meats, poultry, fish, or other food, whether cooked or uncooked, to which sulphur dioxide (or sulphites calculated as sulphur dioxide) has been added as a preservative substance in accordance with the provisions of section four of this Act, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any Act or in any regulation made thereunder.

Saving of powers of Board of Health, &c., under certain Acts.

6. Nothing in this Act contained shall be deemed to prevent or interfere with the exercise of its powers by the board or by any local authority or officer in relation to the sale or offer or exposure for sale or the delivery of any adulterated food which is unfit for human consumption, or any food to which a preservative substance has been added or in relation to the inspection or the taking and analysing of samples of food or other its powers in connection with unwholesome or adulterated food :

Provided

Provided that the addition of sulphur dioxide (or sulphites calculated as sulphur dioxide) as a preservative to whole meats, poultry, fish, or other food in accordance with this Act shall not be deemed to render such whole meats, poultry, fish, or other food an adulterated food or food unfit for human consumption or dangerous or injurious to health or unwholesome or unfit for use or a prohibited article within the meaning of the Acts relating to public health or to pure food or any Act amending the same or to be construed in connection therewith.