CHAPTER 35.

An Act to enable Local Authorities in Ireland to provide Meals for School Children. [10th August 1914.]

BE it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Power of local authority to aid school meals committees in the provision of meals for children.

1. A local authority may take such steps as they think fit for the provision of meals for children in attendance at any national school in their area, and for that purpose—

(*a*) may associate with themselves any committee on which the local authority are represented which will undertake to provide food for those children (in this Act called a "school meals committee"); and

(*b*) may aid that committee by furnishing such building, furniture, and apparatus, and such officers and servants as may be necessary for the organisation, preparation, and service of such meals;

but, save as herein-after provided, the local authority shall not incur any expense in respect of the purchase of food to be supplied at such meals. Meals may be provided under this Act both on days when school meets and on other days.

Recovery of the cost of meals.

2.—(1) There shall be charged to the parent of every child in respect of every meal furnished to that child under this Act such an amount as may be determined by the local authority, and, in the event of payment not being made by the parent, it shall be the duty of the authority, unless they are satisfied that the parent is unable by reason of circumstances other than his own default to pay the amount, to require the payment of that amount from that parent, and any such amount may be recovered as a civil debt in manner provided by the Summary Jurisdiction Acts.

(2) The local authority shall pay over to the school meals committee so much of any money paid to them by, or recovered from, any parent as may be determined by the authority to represent the cost of the food furnished by the committee to the child of that parent, less a reasonable deduction in respect of the expenses of recovering the same.

Power of local authority to defray cost of the food in certain cases.

3. Where the local authority resolve that any of the children attending a national school within their area are unable by reason of lack of food to take full advantage of the education provided for them, and have ascertained that funds other than public funds are not available or are insufficient in amount to defray the cost of food furnished in meals under this Act, they may apply to the Local Government Board for Ireland, and that Board may authorise them to spend out of the rates such sum as

will meet the cost of the provision of such food, provided that the total amount expended by a local authority for the purposes of this section in any local financial year shall not exceed the amount which would be produced by a rate of one halfpenny in the pound over the area of the authority.

Provisions as to disfranchisement.

4. The provision of any meal under this Act to a child and the failure on the part of the parent to pay any amount demanded under this Act in respect of a meal shall not deprive the parent of any franchise, right, or privilege, or subject him to any disability.

Expenses to be expenses under Public Health (Ireland) Acts, 1878 to 1907.

5.—(1) The expenses incurred by a local authority in carrying out this Act shall be deemed to be expenses incurred by them under the Public Health (Ireland) Acts, 1878 to 1907, and shall be defrayed accordingly.

(2) The expression "local authority" shall mean an urban district council, including a county borough council.

(3) The expression "child" shall include any child in attendance at a national school.

Provision as to teachers.

6. No teacher employed in a national school shall be required as part of his or her duties to supervise or assist, or to abstain from supervising or assisting in the provision of meals, or in the collection of the cost thereof.

Extent of Act.

7. This Act shall not apply to England or Scotland.

Short title.

8. This Act may be cited as the Education (Provision of Meals) (Ireland) Act, 1914.

Duration of Act.

9. This Act shall continue in operation until the thirty-first day of December nineteen hundred and sixteen and no longer.

CHAPTER 36.

An Act to authorise the Extension of the Classes of Persons for whose benefit part of Osborne House is to be used and for other purposes connected therewith.

[10th August 1914.]

BE it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lord's Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Power to extend classes of persons for whose benefit Osborne House is to be used. 2 Edw. 7. c. 37.

1. His Majesty may, by Order in Council, add to the persons for whose benefit the part of Osborne House mentioned in paragraph (*b*) of subsection (4) of section one of the Osborne Estate Act, 1902, is to be used, such other classes of persons as, subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be