Post Office (Borrowing) Act 1972

1972 CHAPTER 79

An Act to increase the statutory limits on the indebtedness of the Post Office and partially to release it from its liability to repay capital debt. [21st December 1972]

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen'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:—

Post Office liabilities. 1969 c. 48.

1.—(1) In section 36(2) of the Post Office Act 1969 (which imposes a limit on the indebtedness of the Post Office but provides for its increase by order) for the words from " exceed " to " £2,800 million " there shall be substituted the words " exceed £3,800 million or such greater sum, not exceeding £4,800 million ".

(2) The Minister of Posts and Telecommunications may with the consent of the Treasury, at such time or times as he may with the like consent determine, release the Post Office from its liability to repay the whole or any part—

(*a*) of the commencing capital debt assumed by it under section 33(1) of the Post Office Act 1969;

(*b*) of any debt incurred by it before 1st April, 1973 under section 35(2) of that Act (power to borrow from the Minister for purposes for which capital moneys are properly applicable),

but not so as to reduce its total indebtedness in respect of the principal of the debts so assumed or incurred by it by more than £200 million; and the assets of the National Loans Fund shall accordingly be reduced by amounts corresponding to those which the Post Office ceases to be liable to repay by virtue of this subsection.

Citation, etc.

2.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Post Office (Borrowing) Act 1972.

(2) The Post Office Act 1969 and this Act may be cited together as the Post Office Acts 1969 and 1972. 1969 c. 48.

(3) The Post Office (Borrowing Powers) Order 1971 is hereby revoked. 1971 No. 620.

(4) It is hereby declared that this Act extends to Northern Ireland.

(5) This Act also extends to the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands.