

and nurses. Some reference will be made to each of these, but it is principally to the infectious diseases sections that it is desired to draw attention, and amongst these mainly to those relating to venereal diseases. In the first of these sections power is given to the Commissioner by order to declare that in any area or areas any venereal disease named in the order shall be regarded as a disease to which certain requirements affecting infectious diseases shall apply. Thereupon every medical practitioner "forthwith upon becoming aware" that any person upon whom he is attending is suffering from venereal disease shall notify the case upon a prescribed form to the Commissioner, or shall be liable to a penalty if he fails to do so. Only medical men are to be allowed to attend upon or treat persons suffering from these diseases; anyone else doing so is liable to a heavy penalty or imprisonment. Certain chemists, if specially permitted by the Commissioner, may sell or prescribe drugs or approved proprietary medicines to sufferers from the disease. Persons administering or assisting in administering the sections relating to venereal diseases are bound under penalty to preserve and aid in preserving secrecy with regard to matters coming to their knowledge thereunder. Regulations may be made by the Commissioner for, among other things, the provision of gratuitous treatment at hospitals and otherwise for venereal diseases; for the establishment of special dispensaries; requiring that prostitutes in certain places shall submit themselves for periodical examination by a Medical Officer; for the examination of persons suspected of being infected, and for requiring such persons to submit themselves for examination at specified times and places; and for prescribing penalties for breaches of the regulations.

In a further section it is provided that if two medical practitioners certify in writing that a person is suffering from venereal disease and likely to convey infection, a police magistrate may order his detention in a hospital or elsewhere for a period not exceeding two weeks for investigations, bacteriological and otherwise, to be made. If at the end of this period he is still believed to be infectious, the Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Commissioner, may order his detention for

as long as he is infectious. The order of the Governor is sufficient warrant for the arrest and detention of the person named in the order. If the person is in prison, the Visiting Justice may make the order for detention and the period named in the order may extend beyond the term of imprisonment. Persons who knowingly infect others with venereal disease are liable to a penalty of £50 or imprisonment for six months. Prostitutes behaving riotously or indecently in a public place or soliciting or importuning any person in a public place within the view or hearing of any person therein are deemed to be vagrants, and liable to the penalties named above. Male persons living on the earnings of prostitutes and soliciting for them or occupying or residing in a house frequented by them are to be similarly dealt with. In the case of women the sentence of the Court may be imprisonment as above or detention in an approved institution for not more than twelve months, but the execution of the sentence may be suspended on certain conditions. If the conditions are disobeyed, the woman may be arrested and the sentence may be put in force.

In the food sections, not only foods, but drugs, preservatives, cooking utensils, beer, and aerated waters, etc., are dealt with. In connection with preservatives and disinfectants, it may be noted that the Commissioner has power to forbid the sale of any article as such. The sale of cooking utensils containing lead, of toys, wall papers, etc., containing arsenic, of boots and shoes with soles made of cardboard, of woollen goods containing less than 90 per cent. of wood and of tubed feeding bottles for infant foods, is, it may be mentioned, forbidden.

A most interesting section is that which gives the Commissioner power, on a second conviction, to publish the name of an offender against the sections relating to food and drugs, in the *Queensland Gazette* and to post particulars on his place of business for twenty-one days. Newspapers may republish the notification in the *Gazette* without being liable in an action.

As to registration of private hospitals and nurses, it is almost sufficient to state that the Act requires that this shall be carried out. In the case of the hospitals, the kinds of premises to be registered are