

In Parliament.—Session 1903.

PORT OF LONDON.

(Establishment and Incorporation of Commission for regulation and control of the Port of London; Definition of Limits of Port; Vesting certain property, powers, &c., of Conservators of River Thames in Commission; Power to Board of Trade to reconstitute Conservators of River Thames; Undertakings of Dock Companies to be acquired and managed by and vested in Commission; Definition of Dock Undertakings; Constitution of Commission as Pilotage Authority for London District and as to Lighting and Buoying Authority for Port of London; Transfer to Commission of Powers, &c., of Trinity House; Licensing of Pilots, &c.; Transfer to Commission of Powers, &c., of Watermen's Company; Compensation to Officers, &c., of Watermen's Company; Licensing of Barges and Lighters; Constitution of Commission and consequent provisions; Transfer to Commission of Powers of Dock Companies to levy Tolls, Rates and Duties; Power to Commission to levy other Tolls, Rates and Duties; Power to Commission to complete Works of Dock Companies; Fixing Date of Vesting; Transfer of Dock Undertakings to Commission; Purchase or Redemption of Debenture Stock Mortgage or other debts of Dock Companies and consequent provisions; Appointment of Arbitrators to determine amount of Purchase Money or other Consideration, &c.; Power to create and issue Port Stock; Establishment of Port Fund; Guarantee by Corporation of City of London and London County Council of Interest on Port Stock; Audit of Accounts; Provision for Maintenance of Docks; Dissolution of Dock Companies; Inspection of Works and Examination of Books, &c., of Dock Companies; Power to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of Warehouses, &c.; Corporation and London County Council to contribute towards cost of dredging and improving River; By-laws; Power to Board of Trade to alter Limits of Port or Representation on Commission by Provisional Order; Amendment of Acts, &c.)

NOTICE is hereby given, that it is intended to introduce a Bill into Parliament in the next Session for an Act (in this Notice called "the intended Act") for all or some of the following purposes (that is to say):—

To establish and incorporate a Commission as the Port Authority of the Port of London (in this Notice called "the Commission") and to vest in the Commission all necessary powers for the control, management, improvement and preservation of the Port of London.

To define and prescribe the limits of the Port of London, to which the intended Act shall apply, as so much of the River Thames as extends from Teddington Lock to a line drawn from Havengore Creek in the county of Essex to Warden Point in the Isle of Sheppey in Kent, and as including the whole of any area which for the time being is under any Act to be deemed to form part of the Port of London, or such other limits as may be defined and prescribed by the intended Act.

To transfer to and vest in the Commission all the powers, duties, rights, privileges and authorities, including all powers having reference to the levying of tonnage rates on shipping now vested in or exercised by the Conservators of the River Thames (herein

called "the Conservators") in or over the Thames below Teddington Lock.

To transfer to the Commission the Lower Navigation Fund, and all other property of the Conservators connected with the powers, duties, rights, privileges and authorities, transferred to them from the Conservators, and to transfer to the Commission all liabilities in respect of the A Debenture Stock issued by the Conservators and all other liabilities of the Conservators with reference to the Thames below Teddington Lock.

To authorize the Board of Trade by Provisional Order to reconstitute the Conservators, and to repeal, alter, vary or amend, so much of the Thames Conservancy Act, 1894, or to make such other provisions as may be necessary or expedient for carrying into effect the objects and purposes of the intended Act.

To authorize and empower the Commission to acquire, manage and carry on, and to provide for the vesting in the Commission of the Undertakings of the following Dock Companies, in this Notice called "the Dock Companies" (that is to say):—

- (1) The London and India Docks Company;
- (2) The Surrey Commercial Dock Company;
- (3) The Millwall Dock Company.

To define the undertakings of the Dock Companies (hereinafter referred to as the "Dock undertakings") as including all docks and works connected with the Dock undertakings, and all other property real and personal, and all estates, interests, easements and rights, whether equitable or legal, including things in action, registers, books, accounts, deeds and documents, and any property belonging to or held in trust for the Dock Companies, and all powers, rights, jurisdictions, capacities, privileges and immunities, duties, responsibilities, obligations, liabilities and debts possessed by, attaching to, vested in, or belonging to the Dock Companies or such part or parts thereof as may be defined by the intended Act.

To constitute the Commission the pilotage authority for the London district as defined by the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (hereinafter called "the London District").

To constitute the Commission the authority for lighting and buoying the Port of London.

To transfer to and vest in the Commission such of the powers and duties of the Corporation of Trinity House of Deptford Strond (hereinafter called the "Trinity House") as respects lighting and buoying in the Port of London, as defined by the intended Act and as respects pilotage in the London district.

To transfer to the Commission all property and liabilities held and incurred by the Trinity House in connection with their rights, powers, and duties within the Port of London and as pilotage authority in the London District.

To make provision for the payment of a contribution to the Commission out of the General Lighthouse Fund towards expenditure by the Commission on the lighting and buoying of the Port of London.

To transfer to and vest in the Commission all property, funds, powers, rights, duties, and privileges of the Master Wardens and Commonalty of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames (known as the Watermen's Company) and of the Court of Master Wardens and Assistants of the Watermen's Company, whether having reference to the registration and licensing of craft and boats, the licensing of lightermen and watermen, and the government, regulation and control of lightermen and watermen, or otherwise.