

People's Dispensary for Sick Animals Act, 1956

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**CHAPTER lxvii**

An Act to amend the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals Act 1949 to confer further powers on the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals and for other purposes. [5th July 1956.]

WHEREAS the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals (hereinafter referred to as "the Society" and commonly known as "the P.D.S.A.") was incorporated by the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals Act 1949:

And whereas the objects of the Society are to continue the work carried on by the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals of the Poor (Incorporated) (hereinafter referred to as "the former society") in providing free medical or surgical treatment to animals belonging to persons who appear to the Society to be unable to afford the service of a veterinary surgeon and to do all such other things as are incidental or the Society may deem conducive to the attainment of those objects:

And whereas it is expedient that the objects of the Society should be amended as in this Act provided:

And whereas the powers of investment of the Society are unduly restricted and it is expedient in order to carry out more effectively the objects and purposes of the Society that the powers of investment of the Society should be enlarged and extended as provided by this Act:

And whereas the activities of the Society are such that it is the largest international charity of its kind being established in eight foreign countries:

And whereas the registered office of the former society was and the principal office of the Society is at London and control

of the business and activities of the former society and of the Society including the employment and payment of the officers and servants of the former society and of the Society was and is exercised from London :

And whereas certain officers and servants of the former society and of the Society have been or are in carrying out their duties as such officers or servants temporarily resident outside Great Britain :

And whereas such officers or servants have been or may be unfairly subjected to certain disadvantages by reason of such residence outside Great Britain and it is expedient that such disadvantages should be removed as in this Act provided :

And whereas the purposes aforesaid cannot be effected without the authority of Parliament :

May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted and 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:—

Short and
collective
titles.

1. This Act may be cited as the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals Act 1956 and the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals Act 1949 and this Act may be cited together as the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals Acts 1949 and 1956.

Interpretation.

2. In this Act unless the context otherwise requires—

“ the Act of 1949 ” means the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals Act 1949 ;

“ the council ” means the council of management of the Society constituted and appointed as provided by the Act of 1949 ;

“ the former society ” means the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals of the Poor (Incorporated) ;

“ the Society ” means the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals.

Amendment
of objects of
Society.

3. Section 4 (Objects of Society) of the Act of 1949 shall have effect as if the words from “ and ” to the end of the section were omitted therefrom.

Subsidiary
powers of
Society.

4. Without prejudice to the generality of section 4 (Objects of Society) of the Act of 1949 and in addition to any powers conferred upon the Society elsewhere in that Act the Society may—

(i) accept receive and retain legacies devises gifts grants annuities allowances and other benefits and consistently

with the objects set forth in section 4 (Objects of Society) of the Act of 1949 but not otherwise undertake and perform any services or conditions attached to the receipt thereof ;

- (ii) raise or borrow money for the purposes of the Society and secure the same and any interest thereon upon any property of the Society ;
- (iii) make appeals advertise and conduct such other lawful activities of a like nature as may be necessary to raise funds for the Society or to make known its existence purposes or work ;
- (iv) appoint any person or persons (whether incorporated or not) to accept and hold in trust for the Society any property belonging to the Society or in which it is interested and to execute and do all such deeds acts and things as may be requisite in relation to any such trust and to provide for the remuneration of such trustee or trustees not being a member or members of the Society ;
- (v) do all such other things as are incidental to the attainment of the objects set forth in section 4 (Objects of Society) of the Act of 1949 or any of them ;
- (vi) enter into and carry into effect any agreement or arrangement on such terms and conditions as the council may think fit with any national or local authority or any institution association or other body (whether incorporated or not) for co-operating with or assisting or being assisted by such authority or body in any manner and for any purpose which is consonant with and in pursuance of the objects of the Society and approved by the council.

5.—(1) Any moneys for the time being in the hands of the Society and available for investment may be invested by the Society in any of the following modes or objects of investment:— Powers of investment.

- (a) in any manner for the time being prescribed by statute for the investment of trust funds ;
- (b) in freehold ground rents well secured in accordance with the report of a duly qualified valuer ;
- (c) in any investment or security which immediately before the passing of this Act was held by the Society ;
- (d) in the public stocks or funds or government securities of any part of Her Majesty's dominions or of the territories under Her protection or of any foreign country or state ;

(e) in such of the following investments as in the opinion of the council are generally considered to be readily marketable and to form a good and safe security :—

(i) the deposit receipts bonds debentures debenture stocks mortgages or securities of any corporation company or body whether municipal railway public utility commercial industrial investment trust mortgage insurance banking or of any other class registered or incorporated in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ;

(ii) the guaranteed lien preference preferred ordinary deferred or common stocks or shares of any such company as aforesaid being a company which has paid dividends upon its ordinary capital at the rate of at least four per centum per annum for at least the five years next before the time of investment (of which fact a letter purporting to be signed by the secretary of the company or by a banker or member of a firm of bankers or by the secretary or manager of a joint stock bank or of any branch thereof shall be sufficient evidence) such stocks or shares not being to bearer or subject to any liability for calls or other payments :

Provided that no such moneys shall be invested in any investment not for the time being prescribed by statute for the investment of trust funds if the value of the investments of the Society which are investments so prescribed is then or would thereby become less than one-third of the value for the time being of all the investments of the Society and of the money then in the hands of the Society and available for investment.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Mortmain and Charitable Uses Act 1891 the Society may retain any investment or other property real or personal which was held by the Society immediately before the passing of this Act or which may at any time thereafter be devised given or bequeathed to the Society though not being investments or property authorised to be acquired under this Act or may disclaim any such investment or property and may accept and retain or refuse any new shares stock debentures or debenture stock in any company which may be offered to the Society in respect of any investment retained as aforesaid.

(3) Section 8 (Powers of investment) of the Act of 1949 is hereby repealed.

6.—(1) If any person satisfies the council of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons that during the ten years immediately preceding the thirtieth day of July nineteen hundred and forty-nine he was for a period of not less than seven years in the

Provisions
relating
to persons
employed by
Society
abroad.

aggregate in the employment of the Society or of the former society and that while so employed he (a) was engaged as his principal means of livelihood in diagnosing diseases of animals and giving medical or surgical treatment to animals and (b) was engaged as aforesaid for upwards of three years outside the United Kingdom he shall not on applying for registration in the supplementary veterinary register referred to in section 6 of the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1948 be required to satisfy the condition set out in paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of that section:

Provided that the said council may authorise the registration of a person under this section who was employed and engaged as aforesaid during the said ten years notwithstanding that he was so employed and engaged for less than seven years in the aggregate if the council are satisfied that the time during which he was so employed and engaged was reduced by reason of his serving in Her Majesty's forces.

(2) In relation to any person who satisfies the council as aforesaid the proviso to the said subsection (2) shall not have effect any limitation of time provided by the said section for applying for registration as aforesaid shall be extended until the expiration of one year from the commencement of this Act and the proviso to subsection (4) of that section shall not have effect.

7. All costs charges and expenses preliminary to and of and incidental to the preparing for obtaining and passing of this Act or otherwise in relation thereto shall be paid by the Society out of the funds of the Society. Costs of Act.

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Table of Statutes referred to in this Act

Short title	Session and chapter
Mortmain and Charitable Uses Act 1891 ...	54 & 55 Vict. c. 73.
Veterinary Surgeons Act 1948	11 & 12 Geo. 6. c. 52.
People's Dispensary for Sick Animals Act 1949	12 13 & 14 Geo. 6. c. xv.

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