

each new Company, and to provide for the reduction, regulation, fixing, and determining of the capital and borrowing powers of each new Company, and the rights, privileges, preferences, and priorities of the proprietors therein, and of the different classes of such proprietors, as amongst themselves, in the capital of the new Company, or of each new Company, and the application of the revenues of the new Company, or of each new Company, from whatever source derived, and the fulfilment and discharge by the new Company, or by each new Company, of all or some of the contracts, agreements, or arrangements entered into, and liabilities incurred, by the amalgamating Companies, or any of them, or in any way relating to or affecting the limits or district of the new Company, or of each new Company, or any part or parts thereof, or the supply of gas therein.

To regulate and improve the quality and illuminating power of the gas to be supplied within the metropolis, and the mode in which, and the pressure under which and the price at which the gas shall be supplied, and the terms and conditions of the supply.

To regulate and improve the mode of testing the illuminating power and quality of the gas, and to provide for charging the expense attending the same on the Gas Companies and local authorities.

To regulate the voluntary and compulsory supply of gas and meters, and the amount and payment and recovery of gas rents and meter rents.

To alter and regulate the mode of keeping and rendering the accounts of the said Gas Companies, and to provide for the inspection, analysis, audit, and publication of their accounts.

To reduce and regulate the capital and borrowing powers of the said Gas Companies, or any of them, and to limit their profits and dividends and rates of dividend and rates of interest, and to repeal the power to apply surplus profits in the augmentation of previously declared dividends, and to alter and reduce the respective rates, rents, and charges of the said Gas Companies, and to create exemptions from the payment of such rates, rents, and charges.

To appoint officers for all or some of the purposes of the intended Act, and to confer on those officers full powers to enforce the provisions thereof, and to provide for the payment of such officers by the Companies or otherwise.

To regulate the property in and the execution of works relating to gas pipes, meters, lamps, and other apparatus for public lighting, and to compel the Companies to supply gas for public purposes by average meter indication.

To prevent the establishment of any new, and the enlargement of any existing gas works for the manufacture of gas within the metropolis.

To enable any Company supplying or manufacturing gas beyond the limits of the metropolis, to supply gas within the metropolis upon such terms as shall be defined in the said Bill, and to enable any such Company to contract and agree with any of the before-mentioned Companies for a supply of gas in bulk, upon such terms, falling agreement, as shall be settled by arbitration.

To provide for the settlement, by arbitration or otherwise, of all differences relating to any of the subject matters of the intended Act or incidental thereto.

To authorise the making of bye-laws by an Order in Council or otherwise, for the better regulation of the said Gas Companies, and for ensuring a cheaper and better supply of gas to the metropolis.

To provide for the more summary recovery of penalties against the Gas Companies.

To enable the Metropolitan Board of Works (hereinafter called the Board) or any Vestry or district Board, or other public body, to be named in the Bill, either separately or conjointly, to establish gas works or to purchase and acquire compulsorily or by agreement, the undertaking, lands, sites, works, stations, mains, plant, rights, and interests, or any part thereof, of all or any one or more of the above-named Companies, or of any other Companies or persons manufacturing and supplying gas within or near the metropolis, and to enable the Board, and any Vestry, District Board, or other public body, to enter into contracts and agreements with the above-mentioned or any other Companies or persons and between themselves for supplying the metropolis, or any part thereof with gas or other illuminating agents; and to exercise all or any of the powers now vested in the said Gas Companies, and all other necessary powers for manufacturing and supplying a better and cheaper gas or other illuminating agents, and also to make provision for the utilization of the residual products arising from the manufacture of gas or otherwise relating thereto.

To compel the Gas Companies, or any or either of them, to sell to the Board, and to any Vestry, District Board, or other public body, gas in bulk, at a price to be settled by arbitration, in case of difference; and to enable the Board, and any Vestry, District Board, or other public body, to purchase, use, and sell such gas, and to provide all necessary works and apparatus for the sale and distribution of such gas; and, if Parliament shall so think fit, to restrain the said Companies, or any of them, from selling gas otherwise than in bulk.

To enable the Board, and any Vestry, District Board, and other public bodies, to enter into contracts and agreements for carrying into effect the objects and purposes of the intended Act, or any of them, and, for the purposes of the intended Act, to apply any money belonging to them respectively, or which they have the respective power to raise, and to enable them respectively to borrow and raise other moneys upon mortgage or bond, or by such other means as shall be defined in the said Bill, and to provide for the repayment of the moneys so borrowed with interest, and for the above and other purposes of the Bill to levy and collect rates, rents, dues, and charges upon the property and inhabitants within the metropolis, or any part or parts thereof respectively, and to enable the Board and any Vestry, District Board, or other public body or persons, and any of the shareholders or proprietors in the said Companies, or either of them, to enter into arrangements for the substitution of bonds or other securities, to be granted by the Board, and any Vestry, District Board, or other public body, for shares or other securities held by such shareholders or proprietors, respectively, and to make other arrangements for paying off and satisfying the shareholders and proprietors in the said Companies, and to enable the Board, and any Vestry, District Board, or other public body, to use and apply the monies so raised and borrowed for such purposes as they may think fit, and to alter any existing rates, rents, dues, and charges; to confer, vary, or extinguish any exemptions from payment of rates, rents, dues, and charges; and to confer, vary, or extinguish other rights or privileges.

To enable the Board, and any Vestry, District Board, or other public body, after having purchased