

# Museums and Gymnasiums Bill.

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Clause.

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**B I L L**

TO

Enable Urban Authorities to provide and maintain Museums and Gymnasiums. A.D. 1891.

**B**E 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 :

5   1. This Act may be cited as the Museums and Gymnasiums Act, 1891. Short title.

2.—(1.) This Act shall extend to any district where the same is adopted as herein-after provided. Extent of Act.

(2.) This Act shall not extend to Scotland, Ireland, or the administrative county of London.

3.—(1.) This Act may be adopted by any urban authority for their district. Adoption Act.

(2.) The adoption shall be by a resolution passed at a meeting of the urban authority, and one month at least before such meeting special notice of the meeting and of the intention to propose such resolution shall be given to every member of the authority, and the notice shall be deemed to have been duly given to a member of it, if it is either—

20   (a.) Given in the mode in which notices to attend meetings of the authority are usually given ; or

(b.) Where there is no such mode, then signed by the clerk of the authority, and delivered to the member or left at his usual or last known place of abode in England, or forwarded by post in a prepaid letter, addressed to the member at his usual or last known place of abode in England.

(3.) Such resolution shall be published by advertisement in some one or more newspapers circulating within the district of the authority, and by causing notice thereof to be affixed to the principal doors of every church and chapel in the place to which notices are usually fixed, and otherwise in such manner as the

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A.D. 1891. authority think sufficient for giving notice thereof to all persons interested, and shall come into operation at a time not less than one month after the first publication of the advertisement of the resolution as the authority may by the resolution fix, and upon its coming into operation the Act shall extend to that district. 5

(4.) A copy of the resolution shall be sent to the Local Government Board.

(5.) A copy of the advertisement shall be conclusive evidence of the resolution having been passed, unless the contrary be shown; and no objection to the effect of the resolution, on the ground that 10 notice of the intention to propose the same was not duly given, or on the ground that the resolution was not sufficiently published, shall be made after three months from the date of the first advertisement.

Power to  
provide  
museum and  
gymnasium.

4. An urban authority may provide and maintain museums for 15 the reception of local antiquities or other objects of interest, and gymnasiums with all the apparatus ordinarily used therewith, and may erect any buildings, and generally do all things necessary for the provision and maintenance of such museum and gymnasiums.

Admission to  
museum.

5. A museum provided under this Act shall be open to the 20 public not less than three days in every week free of charge, but subject thereto an urban authority may admit any person or class of persons thereto as they think fit, and may charge fees for such admission, or may grant the use of the same or of any room therein, either gratuitously or for payment, to any person for any 25 lecture or exhibition, or for any purpose of education or instruction, and the admission to the museum or room the use of which is so granted may be either with or without payment as directed by the urban authority, or with the consent of the urban authority by the person to whom the use of the museum or room is granted. 30

Admission to  
gymnasium.

6.—(1.) A gymnasium provided under this Act shall be open to the public free of charge for not less than *two hours* during five days in every week.

(2.) Subject thereto the urban authority—

(a.) may regulate the admission of the public to such gymnasium, 35 either by classes or otherwise as they think fit, may charge fees for such admission; and

(b.) may, for not more than two hours in each day, grant the exclusive use thereof to any person or body of persons for the purpose of gymnastic exercises, for such payment and on such 40 terms and conditions as they think fit.



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(3.) An urban authority may (for not more than twelve days in one year nor more than four consecutive days) close the gymnasium for use as a gymnasium, and grant the use of the same gratuitously or for payment to any person for the purpose of any lecture, exhibition, public meeting, entertainment, or other public purpose, and the admission on such days shall be either with or without payment as directed by the urban authority, or with the consent of the urban authority by the person to whom the use of the same is granted.

7.—(1.) An urban authority may make byelaws for all or any of the following matters, namely:— Byelaws.

(1.) For fixing the days of the week or hours of the day, as the case may be, during which the museum or gymnasium is to be open to the public free of charge.

(2.) For giving special facilities to students for the use of the museum.

(3.) For fixing the fees to be paid for the admission of persons to the museum and for the use thereof by students and other special purposes.

(4.) For regulating the use of the gymnasium either by classes or otherwise, and fixing the scale of fees to be paid for such use.

(5.) For regulating the conduct of persons admitted to the museum or gymnasium.

(6.) For prescribing conditions on which the exclusive use of the museum, or any room therein, or of the gymnasium is granted in any case.

(7.) For determining the duties of the instructor, officers, and servants of the urban authority in connexion with a museum or gymnasium.

(8.) Generally for regulating and managing the museum or gymnasium.

The urban authority may by any such byelaw provide for the removal from the museum or gymnasium of any person infringing any such byelaw by any officer of the urban authority or by any constable.

(2.) All the provisions with respect to byelaws contained in sections one hundred and eighty-two to one hundred and eighty-six of the Public Health Act, 1875, and any enactment amending or extending those sections, shall apply to all byelaws from time to time made by an urban authority under the powers of this Act.

8. An urban authority may at such time as they think fit close a museum or gymnasium provided by them for repairs and shall give a fortnight's notice of their intention to close the same by affixing a Closing of museum or gymnasium for repairs.



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notice to that effect on the door of the museum or gymnasium, as the case may be, or otherwise as they think fit.

Appoint-  
ment of  
officers and  
servants for  
museum and  
gymnasium.

Expenses  
and borrow-  
ing.

9. An urban authority may appoint and pay such officers and servants as they think fit for the purpose of a museum or gymnasium provided under this Act, and may employ and pay 5 instructors in connexion with a gymnasium.

10.—(1.) The fees and other money received by an urban authority under this Act shall be applied in defraying the expenses of the museum or gymnasium in respect of which they are received. 10

(2.) So far as such expenses are not so defrayed, they shall be defrayed as part of the general expenses of the execution by the urban authority of the Public Health Acts.

(3.) An urban authority may borrow for the purposes of this Act in like manner and subject to the like conditions as for the 15 purpose of defraying the said general expenses, and for that purpose sections two hundred and thirty-three, two hundred and thirty-four, and two hundred and thirty-six to two hundred and thirty-nine, both inclusive, of the Public Health Act, 1875 (relating to borrowing), and two hundred and forty-two and two hundred and forty-three of 20 the same relating to loans by the Public Works Loan Commissioners shall apply.

(4.) Separate accounts shall be kept of the receipts and expenditure of an urban authority in connexion with any museum or gymnasium established under this Act, and such accounts shall be 25 audited in like manner and with the like power to the officer auditing the same as the accounts of an urban authority are for the time being required to be audited by law.

(5.) The expenses of an urban authority under this Act shall not exceed the amount produced by a rate of a *halfpenny* in the pound 30 for a museum, and the like amount for a gymnasium established under this Act.

Acquisition  
of land.

11.—(1.) Land for the purposes of this Act may be acquired by an urban authority in like manner as if those purposes were purposes of the Public Health Act, 1875, and sections one hundred and 35 seventy-five to one hundred and seventy-eight, both inclusive, of that Act (relating to the purchase of land) shall apply accordingly, but no land shall be so acquired otherwise than by agreement.

(2.) An urban authority may, with the consent of the Local Government Board, appropriate, for the purposes of this Act, any 40 land which may be for the time being vested in them, or at their disposal.



12.—(1.) Where it appears to an urban authority that a museum or gymnasium which has been established under this Act for seven years or upwards is unnecessary or too expensive, they may sell the same for the best price that can reasonably be obtained for the same, and shall convey the same accordingly.

A.D. 1891.

Power to sell museum or gymnasium in certain cases.

(2.) Any moneys arising from such sale shall be applied toward the repayment of any money borrowed for the purpose of the museum or gymnasium sold, and, so far as not required for that purpose, shall be paid to the credit of the district fund.

10 13. All powers given to an urban authority under this Act shall be deemed to be in addition to and not in derogation of any other powers conferred by Act of Parliament, law, or custom, and such other powers may be exercised in the same manner as if this Act had not been passed.

Powers of Act cumulative.

15 14. In this Act the expression "urban authority" means an urban sanitary authority under the Public Health Acts, and the expression "district" means an urban sanitary district under those Acts.

Interpretation.



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Museums  
and Gymnasiums.

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To enable Urban Authorities to provide and maintain Museums and Gymnasiums.

(Prepared and brought in by  
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