CHAPTER VIII.

An Act to empower the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to acquire and hold lands and for other purposes.

[25th April 1940.]

WHEREAS the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (in this Act referred to as "the Society") was incorporated by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1932:

And whereas difficulty and expense have been experienced in the provision of premises necessary for the most efficient carrying out of the objects for which the Society was incorporated:

And whereas it is expedient that the powers of the Society to purchase and hold land should be extended and that the other powers in this Act mentioned should be conferred:

And whereas the objects of this Act cannot be attained without the authority of Parliament:

May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted and be it enacted by the King'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:—

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1940.
2. In this Act unless there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction—
   "The Society" means the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals;

3. The Society shall have power and shall be deemed always to have had power from time to time to purchase or acquire by gift or otherwise and to take on lease and hold without licence in mortmain any land which in their opinion it is desirable that they should acquire or hold (including land subject to a chief rent whether already existing or created on such purchase acquisition or gift) and may borrow money for the purchase of land or for the payment of any capital sum payable for a lease thereof. Provided that the Society shall not purchase or borrow money for the purchase of land unless the land is required for actual occupation immediate or future for the purposes of the Society and not as an investment.

4. This Act shall not extend to Northern Ireland.

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

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