1911. NEW ZEALAND.

LANDS OMMITTEE

(REPORTS OF THE).

(HON. MR. T. DUNCAN, CHAIRMAN.)

Presented to the House of Representatives, and ordered to be printed.

ORDER OF REFERENCE.

Extracts from the Journals of the House of Representatives.

FRIDAY, THE 11TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1911.

Ordered, "That a Committee be appointed, consisting of ten members, to whom shall stand referred after the first reading all Bills affecting or in any way relating to the lands of the Crown, or educational or other public reserves; the Committee to have power to make such amendments therein as they think proper, and to report generally when necessary upon the principles and provisions of the Bill; the Committee to have power to call for persons, papers, and records; three to be a quorum: the Committee to consist of Mr. Anderson, Hon. Mr. Duncan, Mr. Ell, Mr. Forbes, Mr. Guthrie, Mr. Hogg, Mr. Lang, Mr. Lawry, Mr. Witty, and the Right Hon. Sir J. G. Ward, Bart."---(Hon. Mr. BUDDO.)

TUESDAY, THE 22ND DAY OF AUGUST, 1911.

Ordered, "That the name of the Right Hon. Sir J. G. Ward, Bart., be omitted from the Lands ('ommittee, and that the name of the Hon. Mr. Buddo be substituted in lieu thereof."—(Hon. Sir J. CARROLL.)

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AUCKLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL SITE BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Auckland Grammar School Site Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that it be allowed to proceed with the amendments as shown on the copy of the Bill attached hereto. 23rd August, 1911.

EDUCATION RESERVES AMENDMENT BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Education Reserves Amendment Bill, have the honour to report the same without amendment.

23rd August, 1911.

AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SITE BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Auckland University College Site Bill, have the honour to report the same without amendment. 23rd August, 1911.

GREYTOWN TOWN LANDS AND HOSPITAL LANDS EXCHANGE BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Greytown Town Lands and Hospital Lands Exchange Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that the Bill be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee. 25th August 1911

25th August, 1911.

WANGANUI HARBOUR BOARD VESTING BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Wanganui Harbour Board Vesting Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

25th August, 1911.

LAND AMENDMENT BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Land Amendment Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that it be allowed to proceed with the amendment as shown on the copy attached hereto.

25th August, 1911.

OAMARU MUNICIPAL EXCHANGE AND MARKET RESERVE LEASING BILL.

The Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Oamaru Municipal Exchange and Market Reserve Leasing Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that the Bill be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

25th August, 1911.

KAIKOURA HOSPITAL SITE BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Kaikoura Hospital Site Bill, have the honour to report the same without amendment.

25th August, 1911.

HAURAKI PLAINS AMENDMENT BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Hauraki Plains Amendment Bill, have the honour to report the same without amendment,

25th August, 1911.

CHRISTCHURCH DOMAINS BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Christchurch Domains Bill, have the honour to report the same without any amendment.

1st September, 1911.

No. 38.-Petition of F. G. REYNOLDS and 13 Others, of Waiorongomai, Auckland.

PETITIONERS pray that the tenants of the Thames High School at Waiorongomai may have their leases taken over by the Government, or that the Thames High School Board may be given power to extend the term of leases and give value for improvements.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

1st September, 1911.

No. 30.—Petition of HARRIETTE CORSTON, of Auckland.

PETITIONER prays for an increase of compensation or a block of land for loss of Crown grant of 40 acres in 1860.

I am directed to report that the Committee have no recommendation to make on this petition. 1st September, 1911.

No. 26.—Petition of ANDREW ALEXANDER, of Clevedon, Auckland.

PETITIONER prays for compensation for the loss of his land grant.

I am directed to report that the Committee are of opinion that this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

1st September, 1911.

LAND AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2).

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Land Act Amendment Bill (No. 2), have no recommendation to make in regard to the Bill, and have to report as follows: That there are probably cases in which the Bill may provide a proper method of dealing with closed roads, but, as there are numerous instances in which the closing of unused roads may lead subsequently to difficulty of access to farm lands, the Committee are of opinion that provision should be made in the Public Works Act to meet such cases, and refer the matter to the Government for consideration.

8th September, 1911.

No. 71.--Petition of W. H. CRACKNELL and 189 Others, of Clive and Farndon.

PETITIONERS pray that the Farndon Park Domain may be vested in a committee of trustees instead of the Hawke's Bay County Council.

I am directed to report that the Committee are of opinion that this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

8th September, 1911.

No. 93.—Petition of THOMAS P. GREER, of Johnsonville.

PETITIONER prays that he, as lessee of a section of land being part of the Hawtrey Estate Special Settlement, Johnsonville, and being desirous of providing a home for his family, applied to the Advances to Settlers Office for an advance of $\pounds 190$; the sum of $\pounds 150$ only was offered, which sum is inadequate; and that his lease be cancelled and all moneys be refunded to him.

I am directed to report that the Committee are of opinion that this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

8th September, 1911.

WAIKOIKOI PUBLIC HALL TRANSFER BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Waikoikoi Public Hall Transfer Bill, have the honour to report the same without any amendment.

22nd September, 1911.

RIVERTON HARBOUR LOAN AND EMPOWERING BILL.

The Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Riverton Harbour Loan and Empowering Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

22nd September, 1911.

WAIAPU COUNTY COUNCIL (TOKOMARU HARBOUR ENDOWMENT) BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Waiapu County Council (Tokomaru Harbour Endowment) Bill, have the honour to report that the member in charge of the Bill (Mr. MacDonald) desires that the Bill be withdrawn; the Committee therefore recommend that the member be allowed to withdraw the Bill. 22nd September, 1911.

No. 90.—Petition of W. J. ABBOTT and 3 Others, of Hauraki Plains.

PETITIONERS pray that they may be granted a rebate of rent on their sections on the Hauraki Plains, having suffered pecuniary loss owing to the ravages of crickets.

1 am directed to report that the Committee recommend that this petition be referred to the Government to favourably consider an application from those settlers who have suffered loss, in order that they may be reimbursed for the grass-seed lost, on the usual terms.

22nd September, 1911.

TAPANUI COMMONAGE RESERVE EXCHANGE AND LEASING BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Tapanui Commonage Reserve Exchange and Leasing Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that it be allowed to proceed with the amendments as shown on the copy attached hereto. 4th October, 1911.

No. 118.—Petition of CAMPBELL JOHNSTONE and 7 Others, of Raglan County.

PETITIONERS pray for relief in connection with their pastoral leases at Raglan.

I am directed to report that the Committee have no recommendation to make on this petition. 4th October, 1911.

Ross Borough Council Vesting and Empowering Bill.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Ross Borough Council Vesting and Empowering Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

6th October, 1911.

MANUKAU HARBOUR CONTROL BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Manukau Harbour Control Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

12th October, 1911.

ONEHUNGA BOROUGH VESTING BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Onehunga Borough Vesting Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

12th October, 1911.

INVERCARGILL RESERVES VESTING BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Invercargill Reserves Vesting Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

12th October, 1911.

HAMILTON DOMAINS BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Hamilton Domains Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

12th October, 1911.

TUAKITOTO AND KAITANGATA LAKES BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Tuakitoto and Kaitangata Lakes Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

12th October, 1911.

DUNEDIN CITY (WAIPORI FALLS) LANDS VESTING BILL.

The Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Dunedin City (Waipori Falls) Lands Vesting Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

12th October, 1911.

LITTLE RIVER DOMAIN BOARD BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Little River Domain Board Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

12th October, 1911.

No. 169.—Petition of C. G. PORTER and 50 Others, of Woolston, Canterbury.

PETITIONERS pray that the freehold of the sections they rent at Roimata and Tamai may be sold to them.

I am directed to report that, as no provision is made by law for the granting of the prayer of the petitioners, the Committee recommend that every facility be granted them to subdivide and to transfer to other lessees.

13th October, 1911.

No. 183.-Petition of P. QUINLAN and 10 Others, of Nireaha, Eketahuna.

PETITIONERS pray for a reduction in the rent of their village-settlement sections at Nireaha. I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration, with a recommendation that at future sales of land the Crown should state, in the "Terms of Sale" on the posters, the liability of the land relative to local rating.

13th October, 1911.

No. 273.—Petition of J. B. STEADMAN AND SONS, of Waikawau, Thames.

PETITIONERS pray that their timber-rights and acquired privileges in connection with the watersheds of Waikawau and Te Mata Creeks be restored to them.

I am directed to report that the Committee recommend that this petition be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

13th October, 1911.

No. 229.—Petition of W. WAKEHAM and 73 Others, of Pahiatua.

PETITIONERS pray that the Balfour Estate may be acquired by the Government for closer settlement. I am directed to report that the Committee are of opinion that this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

13th October, 1911.

No. 213.—Petition of E. H. PENNY and 3,412 Others, of Blenheim.

PETITIONERS pray that the Hillersden Estate, Marlborough, be acquired by the Government for closer settlement.

I am directed to report that the Committee recommend that this petition (together with the evidence taken thereon) be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

13th October, 1911.

PUBLIC RESERVES AND DOMAINS AMENDMENT BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Public Reserves and Domains Amendment Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that it be allowed to proceed with the amendments as shown on the copy attached hereto 18th October, 1911.

PORTOBELLO ROAD DISTRICT LANDS VESTING BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Portobello Road District Lands Vesting Bill, have the honour to report the same without any amendment. 18th October, 1911.

No. 154.—Petition of GEORGE GIVEN, of Walton, Auckland.

PETITIONER prays for compensation for error in survey of a section of land.

I am directed to report that the Committee recommend that the petition be referred to the Government for consideration and inquiry.

18th October, 1911.

No. 307.—Petition of ANDREW KINROSS, of Southland

PETITIONER prays for remuneration for public services rendered on the Southland Land Board. I am directed to report that the Committee recommend that this petition be referred to the Government to favourably consider the desirability of allowing a sum to Mr. Kinross for his long and faithful public services as a member of the Southland Land Board. 18th October, 1911.

No. 317.-Petition of WILLIAM J. CATTAN and 132 Others, of West Taieri.

PETITIONERS pray that the proposed amendments to the Taieri Drainage Act, giving the Western Taieri Drainage Board the power to borrow for any purpose whatever without taking a poll of the ratepayers, be not passed.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee this petition should be referred to the Government for consideration.

18th October, 1911. i, e

FINAL REPORT.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Lands Committee have during the session held fourteen meetings. Twenty-eight Bills and fifteen petitions were referred to the Committee, all of which have been reported to the House.

20th October, 1911.

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LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS AMENDMENT BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Land for Settlements Amendment Bill, have the honour to report that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend that it be allowed to proceed with the amendments as shown on the copy attached hereto.

24th October, 1911.

A CARACTER AND A CARACTER AND A RESERVES AND OTHER LANDS DISPOSAL AND PUBLIC BODIES EMPOWERING BILL.

The Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Reserves and Other Lands Disposal and Public Bodies Empowering Bill, have the honour to report the same without any amendment.

24th October, 1911.

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IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY BILL.

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THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Iron and Steel Industry Bill, have the honour to report the same without any amendment.

24th October, 1911.

SPECIAL REPORT.

I AM directed to report that the Lands Committee wish to place on record their appreciation of the courtesy and tact manifested by the Chairman (Hon., Mr. Duncan) in presiding over the deliberations of the Committee during the session.

20th October, 1911.

Approximate Cost of Paper.-Preparation, not given ; printing (1,400 copies), £4.

Price 6d.]

By Authority : JOHN MACKAY, Government Printer, Wellington .--- 1911.

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