

1919.  
NEW ZEALAND.

# LANDS COMMITTEE

(REPORTS OF THE).

(MR. E. NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN.)

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

## ORDERS OF REFERENCE.

*Extracts from the Journals of the House of Representatives.*

WEDNESDAY, THE 3RD DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1919.

*Ordered*, "That Standing Order No. 219 be suspended, and that a Select Committee be appointed, consisting of sixteen 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, Mr. Anstey, the Hon. Mr. Buddo, the Hon. Mr. Coates, Mr. Forbes, Mr. Jennings, Mr. McCallum, the Right Hon. Mr. Massey, Mr. E. Newman, the Hon. Mr. R. H. Rhodes, Mr. T. W. Rhodes, Mr. Scott, Mr. R. W. Smith, Mr. Statham, Mr. Witty, and the mover."—(Hon. Mr. GUTHRIE.)

THURSDAY, THE 25TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1919.

*Ordered*, "That all petitions not finally dealt with during the sessions of 1918 be again referred to the same Committees as they were referred to during the said sessions."—(Right Hon. Mr. MASSEY.)

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## REPORTS.

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No. 79.—Petition of A. S. THOMSON and 26 Others, of Napier.

PRAYING that legislation may be introduced so that South African veterans resident in New Zealand will be entitled to participate in the benefits of the Discharged Soldiers' Land Settlement Act, 1915.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

26th September, 1919.

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LAND SETTLEMENT FINANCE AMENDMENT BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to which was referred the above-mentioned Bill, has the honour to recommend that it be allowed to proceed without amendment.

26th September, 1919.

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No. 176.—Petition of JAMES CAMPION, of Fordell.

PRAYING for compensation for loss sustained by reason of inaccurate survey of land held under the Land Transfer Act.

I am directed to report that the petitioner has suffered serious loss through a miscalculation by the Lands Department of the acreage included in his certificate of title, and the Committee recommends that the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

6th October, 1919.

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No. 69.—Petition of GEORGE V. BRANSGROVE and Others, of Otanomomo Settlement.

PRAYING for compensation for losses incurred through the constant flooding of the land occupied by them at the Otanomomo Settlement.

I am directed to report that, pending the report and recommendations of the Commission set up to deal with flooding caused by the overflow from the Clutha River, this Committee has no recommendation to make.

6th October, 1919.

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No. 227.—Petition of MARGARET AITKENHEAD and Others, of Otanomomo Settlement.

PRAYING for compensation for serious losses incurred through the recurring floods at the Otanomomo Settlement.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.

6th October, 1919.

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No. 268.—Petition of CECIL A. DE LAUTOUR, of Gisborne.

PRAYING that he be compensated for improvements effected in certain Native leases in the Whaka-angi Blocks 5A and 5B.

I am directed to report that this Committee recommends the Government to give favourable consideration to the claim of the petitioner for compensation for improvements effected by him after the interviews between petitioner's son and the then Government in 1903.

20th October, 1919.

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WAIMAKARIRI HARBOUR BOARD RESERVE BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to which was referred the above-mentioned Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

20th October, 1919.

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TOLAGA BAY HARBOUR BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to which was referred the above-mentioned Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

20th October, 1919.

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WESTPORT TECHNICAL SCHOOL SITE BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to which was referred the above-mentioned Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

20th October, 1919.

No. 228.—Petition of SOUTHLAND SAWMILLING COMPANY, of Riverton.

PRAYING that they may be granted new licenses to cut timber in certain forfeited areas in the Longwood district, without the alternative of paying royalties.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.  
20th October, 1919.

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No. 230.—Petition of MARJORIE J. CHARLESWORTH, of Paeroa.

PRAYING for compensation for losses incurred through the constant flooding of her land at Awaiti Settlement.

I am directed to report that the Committee is of opinion this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.  
20th October, 1919.

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No. 175.—Petition of HELEN HUNTER NICHOLS, of Kuriheke.

PRAYING that she may be granted permission to exchange freehold lands for certain Government leasehold areas, to secure the adequate working of her present holdings.

I am directed to report that the Committee is of the opinion this petition, together with the evidence taken thereon, should be referred to the Government for consideration.  
20th October, 1919.

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No. 298.—Petition of W. M. CRABB and 20 Others, of Matamata.

PRAYING that, in view of the conditions created by the war, the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913, be amended so that the time in which the freehold of settlement land may be acquired shall be extended to meet the altered conditions.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.  
27th October, 1919.

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No. 90 of 1915.—Petition of WILLIAM G. GORDON-JONES and 31 Others, of Punakitere.

PRAYING that they may be reinstated as Crown tenants on land in the Punakitere Survey District, Hokianga County.

I am directed to report that the Committee is of opinion this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.  
27th October, 1919.

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#### VICTORY PARK BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to which was referred the above-mentioned Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed without amendment.

27th October, 1919.

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#### WHANGAREI HARBOUR BOARD VESTING AND EMPOWERING BILL.

I AM directed to report that the Lands Committee, to which was referred the above-mentioned Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed amended as per copy attached hereto.

27th October, 1919.

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#### COMPULSORY RESIDENCE ON PASTORAL LANDS BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to which was referred the above-mentioned Bill, has carefully considered the same, and begs to report it without amendment. The Committee approves the principles of the Bill, and recommends the Government to legislate on the lines followed by the Bill.

27th October, 1919.

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#### LAND LAWS AMENDMENT BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to which was referred the above-mentioned Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed with amendments as shown in the copy attached hereto.

28th October, 1919.

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No. 347.—Petition of T. J. V. DUNLOP and 42 Others, of Komata North.

PRAYING that the Public Works Department be prevented from acquiring certain areas of land the property of the petitioners.

I am directed to report that the Government be recommended not to allow the work to proceed until the Committee has had an opportunity of considering the report of the Special Commission which is now dealing with the question.

3rd November, 1919.

No. 81.—Petition of HAURAKI DRAINAGE BOARD and 20 similar Petitions (as per Schedule attached). PRAYING for the creation of a new Board to control works and expenditure on the Waihou and Ohinemuri Rivers.

I am directed to report that the Government be recommended not to allow the work to proceed until the Committee has had an opportunity of considering the report of the Special Commission which is now dealing with the question.

3rd November, 1919.

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SCHEDULE.

No. 81.—Thames County Council.	No. 91.—Paeroa Chamber of Commerce.
No. 82.—Thames Borough Council.	No. 92.—Tirohia Progressive League.
No. 83.—Kerepehi Branch, New Zealand Farmers' Union.	No. 93.—Paeroa Branch, New Zealand Farmers' Union.
No. 84.—Thames Chamber of Commerce.	No. 94.—Ohinemuri County Council.
No. 85.—Auckland Chamber of Commerce.	No. 95.—Northern Steamship Company (Limited).
No. 86.—Thames Valley Drainage Reference Board.	No. 96.—Tirohia and Rotokohu Ratepayers' Drainage Association.
No. 87.—Komata Branch, New Zealand Farmers' Union.	No. 102.—Elstow Drainage Board.
No. 88.—Paeroa Borough Council.	No. 103.—Te Aroha Borough Council.
No. 89.—Thames Valley Co-operative Dairy Company (Limited).	No. 104.—Te Aroha Chamber of Commerce.
No. 90.—Netherton Branch, New Zealand Farmers' Union.	No. 105.—Piako County Council.

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PAPER 181, SMALL GRAZING-RUN LEASES HELD UNDER LAND ACT, 1892.

THE Lands Committee, to which was referred the above parliamentary paper, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that no action be taken until next session, in order that the opinion of the Crown Law Office may be taken on the questions involved.

3rd November, 1919.

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RESERVES AND OTHER LANDS DISPOSAL AND PUBLIC BODIES EMPOWERING BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to which was referred the above-mentioned Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and begs to recommend that it be allowed to proceed with the amendments shown in the annexed copy.

3rd November, 1919.

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SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER NO. 22: RESERVES AND OTHER LANDS DISPOSAL AND PUBLIC BODIES EMPOWERING BILL AMENDMENTS.

THE Lands Committee, to which was referred the above-mentioned Supplementary Order Paper, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and begs to recommend that the clauses be added to the Bill subject to the amendment shown in the copy of the paper annexed hereto.

4th November, 1919.

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SPECIAL REPORT.

THE Lands Committee desires to record its entire satisfaction with the work of Mr. W. Russell, the Clerk to the Committee during the session.

4th November, 1919.

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SPECIAL REPORT.

THE Lands Committee desires to place on record its appreciation of the manner in which the Chairman (Mr. E. Newman) conducted its business during the session.

4th November, 1919.

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FINAL REPORT.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Lands Committee held twelve meetings during the session, the average attendance being eight members at each sitting. The Committee dealt with thirty-two petitions, all of which were reported to the House. Ten Bills, also Paper 181, were referred to the Committee, and were duly returned to the House with the reports of the Committee thereon.

4th November, 1919.

*Approximate Cost of Paper.*—Preparation, not given; printing (650 copies), £4

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