

Nos. 71, 1897; 76, 1898; 250, 274, 294, and 349, 1897.—Petitions of SAMUEL VAILE, SAMUEL VAILE, J. H. NICOLLS and Others, W. H. MURRAY and 99 Others, CHARLES OGLE and 46 Others, and JOHN MARSHALL and 50 Others.

PETITIONERS pray that the stage system of railway administration recommended by Mr. Samuel Vaile be brought into operation on the Auckland or some other section of the New Zealand Government railways as a trial.

I am directed to report that the Committee recommend that the above six petitions be referred to the Government.

17th August, 1899.

No. 123.—Petition of T. C. P. WHITELEY and Others, of Otahuhu.

PETITIONERS pray that a reduction be made in the price of what are termed workmen's twelve-trip tickets.

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

17th August, 1899.

No. 228.—Petition of JOHN CARLTON and 352 Others, of Catlin's, Woodland, Tautuku, and Chaslands Districts.

PETITIONERS pray that the Catlin's Branch Railway be extended for a distance of eighteen miles (as far as Tahakupa Valley).

I am directed to report that the Committee recommend that the Government consider the construction of the line in the next Railways Authorisation Bill.

22nd August, 1899.

No. 189.—Petition of WALTER NICOL, of Kaihiku, Otago.

PETITIONER prays for compensation for loss of sheep killed by a railway-engine.

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

22nd August, 1899.

No. 20.—Petition of JOHN SCOTT, of Sydenham.

PETITIONER, having been injured whilst working on the Government railways, prays that he may be given some light employment, or that he may be granted compensation.

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

22nd August, 1899.

No. 85.—Petition of SAMUEL VAILE, of Auckland.

PETITIONER prays that the stage system of railway administration be brought into operation on the Auckland or some other section of the New Zealand Government railways as a trial.

I am directed to report that the Committee recommend that the petition be referred to the Government.

24th August, 1899.

Nos. 180, 190, 226, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 261, 268, and 269.—Petitions of Colonel H. BURTON and Others, L. F. ARMITAGE and Others, RICHARD SMITH and Others, R. E. LESTER and Others, D. GOLDIE and Others, W. CHADWIN and Others, J. M. KILLEN and Others, G. L. THOMSON and Others, F. CLARK and Others, J. C. MACKY and Others, and J. W. SHACKELFORD and Others.

PETITIONERS pray for an extension of the Helensville Railway northward.

I am directed to report that the Committee recommend that these petitions be referred to the Government.

29th August, 1899.

Nos. 270, 271, 272, 273, 286, 287, 296, and 297.—Petitions of W. N. ELLEN and Others, J. TREWIN and Others, W. J. NAPIER and Others, W. WATSON and Others, JULIUS BERZER and Others, HENRY HOOK and Others, T. CHAPLIN and Others, and TIMOTHY HEALEY and Others.

PETITIONERS pray for an extension of the Helensville Railway northward.

I am directed to report that the Committee recommend that these petitions be referred to the Government.

29th August, 1899.

No. 351, 1898.—Petition of Mrs. MARGARET CAMPBELL, of Campbelltown, Otago.

PETITIONER prays for a compassionate allowance, her husband having died whilst in the service of the Railway Department.

I am directed to report that in this case the Committee have no recommendation to make.

14th September, 1899.