

The sitting of the Land Board was held on the 9th and 10th June, 1904. A full attendance of members was present, and the Commissioner of Crown Lands occupied the chair.

*Mr. George Good* called: Applicant for Section 64, Block II. Admitted that he had but little previous experience in farming. Held half-share interest in Section L.I.P. 94, Whakatane. Has had it only for a short time. Exempted from occupying it on account of residing on adjoining section. If successful, intends to reside on the Matamata section and start a carpenter's shop. Is married, but has no family. Possesses a capital of £50 cash at his own disposal and one horse. In addition, he had household furniture and is free of debt.

The Board considered the candidate suitable for ballot.

*Mr. G. James Heslop*: Applicant for Section 64, Block II. Said he had capital and stock to the value of £60—hard cash, £30. A married man; a farmer all his life. His intention was to take up land in Matamata to make a home for himself. Means were at his own disposal, was free of debt, and had no other land. Was not applying for this land for anything but *bonâ fide* purposes.

The Board considered the candidate suitable for ballot.

*Messrs. McNicoll and Co.*: Applicants for Section 64. Mr. Vercoe appeared and represented the company. Stated that the intention of the company was to take up land only for sale-yard purposes.

Admitted to ballot.

*Mr. J. Price*: Applicant for Section 65. Stated that he had capital to the amount of £200. Blacksmith by trade; unmarried. Holds no other land. Intended to live on Matamata section and start blacksmith's shop. Capital at his own disposal. Free from debt, and did not want the land for speculative purposes.

Approved for ballot.

*Mr. W. Singer*: Applicant for Section 66. Stated he was forty years of age. Possessed stock and farming-implements valued at £100; had £25 hard cash. Has had a good deal of experience in farming, and holds no other land. His intention was to make a home at Matamata if successful. Is free from debt and partnership, and requires the land only for the purpose of making a home. Stock and implements at his own disposal.

Approved for ballot.

*Mr. F. G. Devey*: Applicant for Section 70. Stated he has stock worth £200, hard cash £60. Is a blacksmith's wheelwright, and had a shop at Waitekauri, all his own property. Is free from debt. Married man, with family of three boys and one girl. Intended to start blacksmith's shop at Matamata and make a home for himself and family.

Approved for ballot.

*Mr. W. G. Devey*: Applicant for Section 71. Stated he had a capital of £100 in hard cash; no stock. By trade a wheelwright. Married, with a family of eight children. Intention was to take up land and start business. Means possessed were at his own disposal. Free from debt.

Approved for ballot.

*Mrs. Margaret Abbott*: Applicant for Section 71, Subdivision 56. Stated she had cash to the amount of £50, and a few acres of freehold land, which was being worked by her son. She desired to take up this land to make a home and live more quietly. Had experience of farming. Capital at her own disposal. Would sell freehold land if successful. Was free from debt.

Approved for ballot.

*Mrs. Bridget Farrell*: Applicant for Section 153, Subdivision 57. Stated that she wanted to acquire the land for a future home. Husband was employed at the railway works. Stated that she could build a house. Possessed £50 in cash, house and furniture as well. Her only desire was to secure this land for the purpose of making a home for herself and family. Had experience in farming. Means were at her own disposal. Free from debt.

Approved for ballot.

*Mrs. Louisa E. Loye* (not present): Applicant for Section 1, Block XIV.

Mr. Armstrong proposed that this case be left entirely to the Commissioner to deal with, which was agreed to. Deposit paid, £1 18s. 6d. Mrs. Loye to supply particulars in accordance with regulation requirements.

*Mr. and Mrs. Dobbs*: Applicants for Section 1, Block XIII., Subdivision 61. Stated had cash amounting to £500 between both. Intended to take up land for purpose of starting a boarding-house or store. Cash was at their own disposal. Free from debt. Hold no other land.

Approved for ballot.

*Mr. M. Burnell*: Applicant for Section 1, Block XIII. Stated he had capital of £400—£300 in hard cash, the remainder in furniture and household requirements. His intention was to secure the land and start a little business, and make a home for himself and wife. Holds no other land. Means at his own disposal. Free from debt.

Approved for ballot.

*Mr. M. Campbell*: Applicant for Sections 134 and 135, grazing-run, Block XII.

This application was postponed till 2 o'clock next day to await arrival and obtain advice from Mr. Kensington on it. Applicant holds no other property.

*Mr. William E. Hall*: Subdivision 27, Section 101, Block VI., Te Papa. Stated he was a farm labourer. Besides possessing £350 cash, he had machinery to the value of £25. Some of his money was in the Post-office Savings-bank, Cambridge, and some he had lent on interest. About £150 in the bank. Money absolutely at his own disposal. Had no stock. Has had considerable experience in farming; born and reared on a farm, doing a little of everything. Holds no other land. Free from debt.

Approved conditionally on his producing evidence as to £150 in bank.

*Mr. J. H. McNair and Mrs. Emily McNair*: Applicants for Section 103, Block VI., Subdivision 28. Mr. McNair stated that he had no means of his own. There was £650 joint capital belonging to both. Wife holds two sections, a house on one being valued at £150. He had cash