

swamps, clearing of bush and scrub (not required by the Warden for mining purposes, or of trees of a specified size, as in Regulation No. 9), gorse, broom, or sweetbriar, grassing, cultivation, planting with trees and live hedges, the laying-out and cultivating of gardens, fencing, grassing, draining, making roads, sinking wells or water-tanks, sheep-dips, making embankments or protective works of any kind, in any way improving the character or fertility of the soil, or the erection of any building at lessee's option upon the protected area of 15 acres, as described in Regulation No. 13.

18. Forfeiture of all licenses may ensue if payment of rental is not made within three months of the date it is due, or if the licensee fails to effect substantial improvements to the value of 2s. per acre within three years from the date of the license.

19 All existing pack-tracks, whether surveyed or not, to remain available for public use, and where the licensee fences across the same a swing-gate must be provided to the satisfaction of the Warden.

20. Every holder of a miner's right shall have the right of ingress and egress over the whole area of a pastoral license, excepting so much thereof as may be under cultivation and substantially fenced, as provided in paragraph 13 of these regulations.

21 All water-rights are reserved to the Crown, but not so as to deprive the licensee's stock of access to the water on his holding

22 All lands held under these regulations remain subject to clauses 3 and 11 of "The Kauri-gum Industry Act, 1898," and amendments.

Schedule.—Areas excluded from Application under the Regulations for the Occupation of Pastoral Lands within the Hauraki Mining District

Coromandel Township: An area comprised within a radius of one and a half miles from the Post-office, Upper Township.

Tokatea Township: An area comprised within a radius of one and a half miles from the public school.

Kuaotunu Township: An area comprised within a radius of one and a half miles from the junction of the Kuaotunu and Waitai Roads.

Gumtown: An area comprised within a radius of one mile from the Post-office.

Tairua: An area comprised in a radius of one mile from the Post-office.

Tararu: An area comprised within a radius of one and a half miles from the Post-office.

Whangamata: An area comprised within a radius of one mile from the Mananu battery

Maratoto: An area comprised within a radius of one mile from the junction of the Maratoto and Waipaheke Streams.

• Waitekauri: An area comprised within a radius of one and a half miles from the Waitekauri Post-office.

Mackaytown: An area comprised within a radius of one and a half miles from the Post-office.

Karangahake: An area comprised within a radius of one and a half miles from the Post-office.

Waikino: An area comprised within a radius of one mile from the Post-office.

Waihi: An area comprised within a radius of two miles from the Post-office.

As witness the hand of His Excellency the Governor, this twenty-seventh day of February, one thousand nine hundred and five.

T Y DUNCAN,
Minister of Lands.

DEAR SIR,—

Puriri, 19th October, 1910.

I note from to-day's paper that you are in charge of a Bill *re* goldfield lands.

As I am interested in this matter, and have taken a special interest in endeavouring to impress upon the Government the folly of the present system of endeavouring to lease the lands without giving a proper tenure, I trust you will not consider it presumption on my part in placing the matter before you as it appears to me as a tenant.

I would point out that before the land in question can be made productive at least £2 an acre will have to be spent before it will have an grazing-value—an expenditure the tenant must make if he wishes to succeed, for which he has practically no security

The Act states that inside of three years at least 3s. an acre must be spent on improvements. You know as well as I can tell you that the waster who only spends 3s. on his land is not going to make it productive, and, as the prosperity of the country depends upon productiveness (not rent), that should be the point aimed at.

Further, the waster who only does his improvements at 3s. an acre applies to convert his holding into a sixty-six-years lease. He gets it converted at the original value, as the improvements represent practically nothing; but the man who has made really substantial improvements, and proven the productiveness of his land, has to pay from 300 to 400 per cent. on the original value.

If that is not a tax on industry and labour I do not know what is, and it gives no one any encouragement to improve his holding. It has more to do with the lands lying idle than any other one thing.

I feel that it is only fair that we who have taken up lands in these places and pioneered the district should be allowed to convert into a sixty-six-years lease at the original valuation, after the full improvements have been done. The improvements should not be less than from 5s. to 10s. an acre; the Act to be retrospective. The tenant would then know his position by having it defined.

2—I. 5D.