

I have intimated the position to Mr. Bowler, but have pointed out that the work that will have to be entered upon is certainly worth some remuneration, which one might assess at from £75 to £100 per annum, as fees, all direct outgoing expenditures, travelling-expenses, &c., being, of course, charged to the block. I presume the company will, through its secretary or solicitor, arrange for all expenses of surveying, roading, &c., and satisfy the Board as to providing necessary funds on completion of the work. The main thing, I presume, Mr. Bowler will have to secure himself upon will be indemnity in case litigation is sought by any parties who may claim to be injured.

THOS. W. FISHER, Under-Secretary.

Board already advised as to position.—T.W.F.—28/4/11.

Board take action accordingly.—J.C.—28/4/11.

No. 97.

Department of Lands, Wellington, 22nd September, 1911.

SIR,—

Re Surrey Liens, Mokau-Mohakatino Block.

With reference to my promise to the Native Affairs Committee to furnish a statement of the survey liens over the Mokau-Mohakatino Block, the Chief Surveyor, New Plymouth, now reports as follows :—

- (1.) The date of the original survey was November, 1879.
- (2.) The date of the subdivisional survey was 1894.
- (3.) Lien was allowed by Native Land Court on the 21st March, 1898.
- (4.) The subdivisional survey of the land leased to Mr. Joshua Jones was made at the request of L. O'Brien, Native Land Court Judge (in accordance with the Mokau-Mohakatino Act, 1888), the order for such survey appearing on plan of Mokau-Mohakatino Block No. 1, produced at the Native Land Court on partition of this block, sitting at Mokau in 1889.
- (5.) The plan of Subdivisions A, B, C, and F of the above block was approved by Judge L. O'Brien on the 15th January, 1895.

The charging orders were obtained at a sitting of the Native Land Court at Otorohanga on the 21st March, 1898, and interest was allowed in the case of Nos. 1E and 1F, to date from the 11th January, 1895, and to extend for a period of not more than five years. The amount of the lien, and interest, is shown in the schedule which I handed to the Committee.

I have, &c.,

WM. C. KENSINGTON, Under-Secretary.

The Chairman, Native Affairs Committee, Parliament Buildings.

No. 98.

SIR,—

Department of Lands, Wellington, New Zealand, 26th September, 1911.

I have informed the Hon. Sir James Carroll that, with regard to the question asked me as to whether any advance had been made to Maoris in connection with the Mokau-Mohakatino Block, and my reply that I had made no advance thereon, I find that Mr. R. A. Paterson, Native Land Purchase Officer, out of his own imprest, made an advance to Anaru Eketone early in January, 1910, and obtained the approval of the Hon. Sir James Carroll to the payment. It was arranged that, if the purchase of the Mokau-Mohakatino Block was not completed, a refund of the amount advanced to Anaru Eketone would be made out of the latter's interest in the Moerangi Block.

Yours faithfully,

WM. C. KENSINGTON, Under-Secretary.

W. T. Jennings, Esq., M.P., Chairman, Native Affairs Committee, Parliament Buildings.

Sir James Carroll has promised to explain to the Committee.

No. 99.

SIR,—

Wellington, 18th August, 1911.

Whereas Parliamentary Paper No. G.-1, "Mokau-Mohakatino Block (Statement in respect of the)," has been referred to the Native Affairs Committee, and it has been made to appear to the Native Affairs Committee that you are likely to give material evidence therein :

This is to require you to appear on Tuesday, the 22nd day of August next, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, in Committee-room F, Old Parliament House, Wellington, before the said Committee, to testify what you shall know concerning the matter of the said Paper G.-1.

I have, &c.,

WM. T. JENNINGS,

Chairman of the Native Affairs Committee.

Mr. Joshua Jones, Wellington.