1914. 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.

FRIDAY, THE 10TH DAY OF JULY, 1914.

Ordered, "That Standing Order No. 219 be suspended, and that a Committee be appointed, consisting of fourteen 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, Hon. Mr. Buddo, Mr. Coates, Mr. Forbes, Mr. Guthrie, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. E. Newman, Mr. Nosworthy. Mr. T. W. Rhodes, Mr. Robertson, Mr. R. W. Smith, Mr. Statham, Mr. Witty, and the mover."—(Right Hon. Mr. Massey.)

TUESDAY, THE 21ST DAY OF JULY, 1914.

Ordered. "That the petition of William Young and others be referred direct to the Lands Committee."—(Mr. . Anderson.)

Tuesday, the 28th Day of July, 1914.

Ordered, "That the petitions of James Watt and others and H. M. Martin and others be referred to the Lands Committee."—(Hon. Mr. Fraser.)

THURSDAY, THE 6TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1914.

Ordered, "That the petition of William McKee and others be referred direct to the Lands Committee."—(Hon. Mr. Fraser.)

FRIDAY, THE 7TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1914.

Ordered, "That the petition of John Clark and others be referred direct to the Lands Committee."—(Hon. Mr. Fraser.)

WEDNESDAY, THE 12TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1914.

Ordered, "That the petition of John Kirkpatrick and others be referred direct to the Lands Committee."—(Hon. Mr. Fraser.)

Ordered, "That the petitions of Hugh Mathieson and others, J. A. Merrifield and others, John Dickson and others, and A. Bell and others be referred direct to the Lands Committee."—(Mr. J. C. Thomson.)

THURSDAY, THE 27TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1914.

Ordered, "That the petition of Matene Utiku and another be referred direct to the Lands Committee."—(Mr. Parata.)

Friday, the 11th Day of September, 1914.

Ordered, "That paper 243 C, proposing to withdraw land from reservation under the provisions of section 28 of the State Forests Act, 1908, be referred to the Lands Committee."—(Right Hon. Mr. Massey.)

WEDNESDAY, THE 16TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1914.

Ordered, "That the petition of Cecil A. de Lautour be referred to the Lands Committee."—(Mr. Young.)

THURSDAY, THE 1ST DAY OF OCTOBER, 1914.

Ordered, "That the petition of John Rountree, together with the report of the Lands Committee thereon, be referred back to the Committee for reconsideration."—(Mr. GLOVER.)

THURSDAY, THE 8TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 1914.

Ordered, "That the report of the Lands Committee on the petition of W. J. Hunt be referred back to the Committee for reconsideration."—(Mr. HINDMARSH.)

TUESDAY, THE 13TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 1914.

Ordered, "That the petition of the Wellington Industrial Development Company (Limited), together with the report of the Native Affairs Committee thereon, be referred to the Lands Committee."—(Mr. Young.)

THURSDAY, THE 22ND DAY OF OCTOBER, 1914.

Ordered. "That the report of the Lands Committee on the petition of Henry Brown and others be referred back to the said Committee for further consideration."—(Mr. WILSON.)

Ordered, "That the Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Bill be referred to the Lands Committee."—(Right Hon. Mr. MASSEY.)

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REPORTS.

No. 23, Petition of Charles A. Stevens and 30 Others; and No. 214, Petition of Arthur Nunns and 18 Others.

Praying for right to convert their leaseholds into freeholds.

I am directed to report, that in the opinion of the Committee this is a question of policy, and that the petition be referred to the Government.

6th August, 1914.

No. 250.—Petition of H. M. Martin and 13 Others, also 15 similar Petitions (as per Schedule attached hereto).

Praying that legislation be passed authorizing leaseholders of endowment reserves to purchase the freehold of their holdings.

I am directed to report that, as the subject-matter of these petitions is a matter of policy, the Committee has no recommendation to make, but is of opinion that it is desirable that the Government should introduce legislation giving a uniformity of tenure to tenants of education reserves.

13th August, 1914.

SCHEDULE.

No. 197.—F. Bartlett and 32 others. No. 219.—William Benzie and 4 others.
No. 248.—John Templeton and 2 others. James Watt and 6 others. No. 249.-No. 319. -Thomas R. Eades and 29 others. No. 349.-

No. 323.--W. Burdon and another. No. 324. -George Harker and another.

No. 325.—Richard Keast and another.

No. 326.—William McKee and 11 others. No. 335.—John Clark and 12 others.

No. 347.—John Kirkpatrick and another. No. 348.—Alexander Bell and 5 others.

J. A. Merrifield and 2 others. No. 350.--John Dickson and 3 others.

No. 351.—Hugh Mathieson and 2 others.

No. 184.—Petition of JOHN HUGHIE and Another.

Praying for compensation on Kawakawa property.

I am directed to report, this being a matter dealing with Native lands, this Committee recommends that the petition be referred to the Native Affairs Committee for consideration.

13th August, 1914.

No. 31 and No. 308.—Petitions of WILLIAM E. TIMMINGS.

Praying for inquiry and relief re loss of a Crown lease.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make with regard to these petitions.

2nd September, 1914.

TAKAPUNA BOROUGH FORESHORE VESTING 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.

10th September, 1914.

No. 68.—Petition of CECIL A. DE LAUTOUR, of Gisborne.

Praying for compensation on improvements made during the term of his lease of Whakaangiangi Blocks 5A and 5B.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of this Committee the prayer of the petition should be favourably considered by the Government, and that a sum of money should be put on the estimates such as will equitably compensate the petitioner for the improvements which he effected on the land referred to in the petition.

17th September, 1914.

WHANGAREI BOROUGH LAND VESTING 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.

17th September, 1914.

No. 407, Petition of E. M. BLATCH; and No. 408, Petition of ROBERT ANDERSON and 3 Others. Praying that legislation be passed authorizing leaseholders of education reserves to purchase the free-hold of their holdings.

I am directed to report that, as a question of policy is involved, the Committee has no recommendation to make, but is of opinion that it is desirable that the Government should introduce legislation giving a uniformity of tenure to tenants of education reserves.

22nd September, 1914.

No. 126.—Petition of JAMES HICKEY, of Coromandel.

Praying or compensation for loss of land.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make with regard to this petition.

1st October, 1914.

No. 94.—Petition of JOHN ROUNTREE. (First Report.)

Praying for compensation for loss of standing timber through fire.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make with regard to this petition.

1st October, 1914.

PAPER No. 243 C (Proposal to withdraw 7,200 Acres of Land in Blocks II and III, Tennyson Survey District, and Blocks I and II, Wakamarina Survey District, Marlborough Land District, from reservation under the State Forests Act, 1908, under the Provisions of Section 28 of the said Act).

The Lands Committee, to which was referred the above parliamentary paper, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered same, and recommends that the Government set aside portions of this land as small scenic reserves either along the course of the stream or at other suitable places.

2nd October, 1914.

No. 283.—Petition of C. J. PARR, C.M.G., and Others.

Praying that steps be taken in order to preserve the volcanic hills in and around Auckland.

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

2nd October, 1914.

No. 153, Petition of William C. Roberts and 5 Others; and No. 222, Petition of E. S. Bentley and 2 Others.

Praying that the Crown purchase certain lands from the Auckland University College Council, and either sell or lease same to the petitioners.

I am directed to report that, as a question of policy is involved, the Committee has no recommendation to make, but is of opinion that the Government should provide uniformity of lease for tenants of education reserves, giving security of tenure on terms that would encourage improvements to be effected, and also securing to these tenants the value of their improvements.

2nd October, 1914.

No. 412.—Petition of F. G. REYNOLDS and 14 Others.

Praying for the option of freehold or right of renewal of education endowment leases.

I am directed to report that, as a question of policy is involved, the Committee has no recommendation to make, but is of opinion that it is desirable that the Government should introduce legislation giving a uniformity of tenure to tenants of education reserves.

5th October, 1914.

No. 361.—Petition of Joseph Clark and 126 Others.

PRAYING that the Government acquire certain Church lands for workers' dwellings.

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

8th October, 1914.

No 152.—Petition of W. J. Hunt. (First Report.)

Praying for compensation for loss of timber rights in Ngarara Block.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make with regard to this petition.

8th October, 1914.

LAND LAWS AMENDMENT BILL.

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

8th October, 1914.

AWAKINO COUNTY COUNCIL EMPOWERING BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to which was referred the above Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered same, and finds that as the Bill proposes to deal with Crown lands, and the consent of the Crown has not been obtained, the Committee recommends that the Bill be not allowed to proceed.

14th October, 1914.

AUCKLAND HARBOUR BOARD EMPOWERING BILL.

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

15th October, 1914.

WAIROA HARBOUR BOARD ENDOWMENT BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to which was referred the above Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered same, and finds that as the Bill proposes to deal with Crown lands, and the consent of the Crown has not been obtained the Committee recommends that the Bill be not allowed to proceed. 15th October, 1914.

No. 573.—Petition of the Wellington Industrial Development Company (Limited).

Praying for legislation to enable a rate or charge to be created upon Native, European, and Crown land in the Taupo district, for the purpose of acquiring shares or stock in a company to be formed for the purpose of acquiring a proposed tramway between Mokai and Taupo.

I am directed to report that the Committee recommends this petition be referred to the Govern-

ment for favourable consideration.

16th October, 1914.

No. 196.—Petition of WILLIAM Young and 33 Others.

PRAYING for subdivision of certain University land.

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

16th October, 1914.

No. 91, Petition of J. D. SMITH and 70 Others; and No. 98, Petition of F. J. Andrew and 168 Others. Praying for an inquiry with a view to amending the excessive valuations levied in the Borough of Otahuhu.

I am directed to report that the Committee recommends these petitions be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

22nd October, 1914.

No. 577.—Petition of HENRY Brown and 72 Others. (First Report.)

PRAYING that the Government will not pass legislation authorizing the sale of certain sections in the Borough of Inglewood.

I am directed to report that the Committee recommends this petition be referred to the Government for inquiry.

22nd October, 1914.

No. 44.—Petition of John Clark.

Praying for redress for non-receipt of land scrip.

I am directed to report that the Committee recommends that if the petitioner can supply the name of the Volunteer corps, and prove that he served therein, the petition be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

22nd October, 1914.

DUNEDIN CITY (WAIPORI FALLS) LANDS VESTING BILL.

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

22nd October, 1914.

No. 375.—Petition of MATENE UTIKU and Another.

Praying that they be compensated for their expenditure in improving Motuhara Island whilst it was leased to them.

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

22nd October, 1914.

No. 577.—Petition of HENRY BROWN and 72 Others. (Second Report.)

Praying that the Government do not pass legislation authorizing the sale of certain sections in the Borough of Inglewood.

I am directed to report that the Committee recommends this petition to the Government for favourable consideration.

23rd O tober, 1914.

No. 593.—Petition of BAY OF PLENTY FLAX-MILLING COMPANY (LIMITED).

Praying that legislation be passed enabling the petitioner to acquire the reversion expectant on the lease of certain Native land, under section 110, Native Land Amendment Act, 1913.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make with regard to the petition, but, in view of the urgent necessity for the closer settlement of this land, considers that the Government should determine the lease under section 375 of the Native Land Act, 1909.

23rd October, 1914.

KAURI-GUM INDUSTRY AMENDMENT BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to which was referred the above Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed without amendment. 23rd October, 1914.

No. 152.—Petition of W. J. Hunt. (Second Report.)

Praying for compensation for loss of timber rights in Ngarara Block.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make with regard to this petition.

23rd October, 1914.

"No. 449.—Petition of ROBERT GLENTWORTH.

Praying for further compensation for improvements effected on Section 5, Block II, Tangitu. I am directed to report that the Committee recommends that the Government should pay the petitioner the money due him on the cattle, and in addition £20 as a compassionate allowance. 29th October, 1914.

No. 483.—Petition of P. J. MURPHY.

Praying for compensation in connection with a prosecution under section 69 of the Land Act, 1908. I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make with regard to this petition.

29th October, 1914.

RESERVES AND OTHER LANDS DISPOSAL AND PUBLIC BODIES EMPOWERING BILL.

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

31st October, 1914.

PUBLIC RESERVES AND DOMAINS AMENDMENT BILL.

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

31st October, 1914.

SPECIAL REPORT (re Chairman).

THE Lands Committee desires to place on record its appreciation of the courtesy, tact, and the able manner which the Chairman, Mr. Edward Newman, presided over the deliberations of the Committee during the session.

31st October, 1914.

FINAL REPORT.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Lands Committee has during the session held 20 meetings.

The number of petitions referred to the Committee was 45, 42 of which were reported to the House, and 3 held over until next session.

One paper and 10 Bills were referred to the Committee, all of which have been reported to the House.

31st October, 1914.

Schedule of Petitions held over for Consideration next Session.

No. 94.—Petition of John Rountree.

No. 431.—Petition of GEORGE PIRIE and 2 Others.

No. 608.—Petition of Mayor, Councillors, and Citizens of Wellington.

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