

any year are extended to public domains; and, further, the power conferred by section 2 of the amending Act on the Governor-General to increase the number of days on which charges may be made for admission to public reserves to fifteen days in any year may also be exercised in respect of any public domain.

Section 4 provides that portion of a public domain may be, by warrant, set apart for a hall-site; and the Governor-General may also authorize a Domain Board to erect a public hall on part of the domain under its control. It is considered that in the country districts especially this will meet a long-felt want, and will enable the domains to prove of greater service to the community.

Under the authority of section 7, regulations may be made by Order in Council for the exclusion of undesirable persons from public domains.

A perusal of the annual reports furnished by the controlling Boards again serves to show that the great majority of domains are being well administered in the interests of the public. Lack of funds has prevented most Boards from effecting any extensive new works during the year; but existing improvements have been well maintained, chiefly by voluntary labour. A feature of the last two years has been the number of war memorials erected on public domains. It is fitting that these dignified tributes to the memory of our soldiers should be placed on the reserves that have been set apart for the use and enjoyment of our people, and it is certain that to the rising generation they will prove a lasting reminder of the highest and manliest duties of citizenship.

I have, &c.,

J. B. THOMPSON, Under-Secretary.

The Hon. D. H. Guthrie, Minister of Lands.

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