

Hon. Mr. Sheehan.

Financial Arrangements Act Amendment.

ANALYSIS.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend "The Financial Arrangements Act, 1876." Title.

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

- 1. The Short Title of this Act shall be "The Financial Arrangements Amendment Act, 1877." Short Title.
- 2. This Act shall come into operation on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight, except as to sections eight, nine, and ten, in respect of which sections it shall come into operation on the passing hereof. Date when Act to come into operation.
- 3. In the interpretation of this Act the following words and expressions shall have the meanings hereby assigned to them, except when there is something in the context repugnant thereto, namely:— Interpretation.
 - "The said Act" means "The Financial Arrangements Act, 1876."
- 4. All the words and expressions used in this Act of a similar import to those used in the said Act shall have the same meaning as that given to such words and expressions in the said Act, so far as the same are not repugnant to this Act.
- 5. Notwithstanding anything contained in "The Public Revenues Act, 1867," or any Act amending the same, from and after the coming into operation of this Act all the land revenue accruing within each district shall be and be deemed to be part of the consolidated revenue of the colony. Land revenue to form part of Consolidated Fund.
- 6. In lieu of the subsidies payable to the County and Borough Councils, and to Road Boards and River Boards under the said Act, there shall be issued and paid out of the Consolidated Fund during each financial year, in respect of all sums received by way of general rates during the year ending on the thirty-first day of March previous thereto, the sums following:— Subsidies payable to County and Borough Councils, and Road and River Boards.

- (1.) To each County Council a sum equal to one pound for every pound of general rates so received by such Council, or equal to one pound for every pound on the total of the sums so received by all the Road Boards or parts of Road Boards within the county, whichever of such two sums is the greater. 5
- (2.) To each Road Board and River Board a sum equal to one pound for every pound of general rates so received by each such Board.
- (3.) To each Borough Council a sum equal to one pound for every pound of general rates so received by each Council. 10

But for the purposes of this section no sum shall be deemed to be received by any such Council or Board in excess of the sum receivable on a rate of one shilling in the pound of the annual value of rateable property. 15

Account of Land Fund to be kept. A sum equal to 20 per cent. thereof to be deducted in respect of each district in which it accrued.

6. A separate account shall be kept of the land revenue accruing within each district in each financial year, and there shall be paid out of the Consolidated Fund for each such year, in the manner hereinafter provided, a sum equal to twenty per centum of such land revenue so accruing in each district. 20

Percentage to be divided between County Councils, and Road and River Boards, in districts in respect of which deduction made.

7. The percentage to be paid out of the Consolidated Fund as mentioned in the last preceding section shall be apportioned amongst the County Councils, Road Boards, and River Boards, in the districts in respect of which such revenue has arisen, in the proportion of the subsidies payable to such several bodies under section *five*. 25

Provision for payments under Act of 1876 and this Act for present financial year.

8. So much of the subsidies authorized to be paid by the said Act as may be payable to County Councils, Road Boards, and River Boards, in respect of the first half of the present financial year, shall continue to be paid in accordance with the said Act, until the whole of such subsidies are fully paid; and so much thereof as may be authorized to be paid under this Act in respect of the remaining half of such year shall be paid in accordance with this Act in like manner. 30

Revenue from gold-mining leases to be paid as provided in section 20 of Act of 1876.

9. Notwithstanding anything in the said Act to the contrary, all revenue arising from leases or letting for gold-mining purposes shall be and be deemed to have been, on and as from the day the said Act came into operation, revenue payable as by the twentieth section of the said Act is provided. 35

Appropriation of fees, &c., under "Weights and Measures Act, 1868."

10. All fees, fines, and other similar payments arising under "The Weights and Measures Act, 1868," and Acts amending the same, shall be deemed to be revenue payable in the manner directed by subsections one and two of section twenty-three of the said Act. 40

Repeal of inconsistent provisions.

11. The fourth to the tenth sections of the said Act, both inclusive, and the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth sections thereof, are hereby repealed in so far as the same may be inconsistent with this Act. 45