

Mr. O'Regan.

## INANGAHUA COUNTY COUNCIL EMPOWERING.

[LOCAL BILL.]

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### A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to constitute the Town of Reefton a District within which the Inangahua County Council may levy a Special Rate for Fire-prevention Purposes, and Empowering the said County Council to expend Funds in the Maintenance of a Fire-brigade, the Lighting of Streets, and other Purposes connected therewith.

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 is "The Inangahua County Council Empowering Act, 1894."

2. In this Act, if not inconsistent with the context, "Council" means the Inangahua County Council, and includes the Chairman, Councillors, and inhabitants of the Inangahua County.

3. The Town of Reefton, as defined in the First Schedule hereto, shall be constituted a district, hereinafter referred to as the Reefton District, and the said Reefton District shall be subdivided into two sub-districts, hereinafter referred to as the town district and the suburban district. The town district shall comprise that portion of the Reefton District the boundaries whereof are set out in the Second Schedule hereto; and the suburban district shall consist of that part of the Reefton District not included in such description. And within the Reefton District the Council may exercise the following powers:—

No. 65—1.

Council may levy rate.

(1.) The Council may levy an annual rate not exceeding one halfpenny in the pound upon the capital value of all rateable property within the said town district, and may levy an annual rate not exceeding one farthing in the pound upon the capital value of all rateable property within the said suburban district, in addition to any other rate or rates which the Council may be empowered to levy under any other Act or Acts for the time being in force: Provided always that the rate to be levied by the Council within the suburban district shall not exceed one-half the rate to be levied by the Council within the said town district. 5 10

Rate-book to be prepared annually.

(2.) The Council shall each year cause a rate-book to be prepared showing the rateable property within the said Reefton District, the names of the occupiers and owners of the property, and its rateable value; such rateable value to be taken from the general valuation roll for the time being in force within the county made under the provisions of "The Rating Acts Amendment Act, 1893," or any Act made or passed in substitution thereof. 15 20

Certain sections of Rating Acts to be incorporated.

(3.) The provisions of sections sixteen to twenty-one, section twenty-three, sections twenty-five to forty-six inclusive, of "The Rating Act, 1882," as amended by "The Rating Act Amendment Act, 1885," with the Schedules therein referred to, shall *mutatis mutandis* be deemed to be incorporated with and form part of the provisions of this Act. 25

Fire-prevention.

4. The Council may agree with any fire-brigade or other persons as to providing the necessary plant and extra labour for the purpose of extinguishing fires, and for the payment to any such brigade or persons of such remuneration by way of gratuity as the Council thinks fit out of the moneys to be obtained by levying the said rate as by this Act provided. 30

Fire-Inspectors.

5. The Council may from time to time appoint, and may remove and reappoint, one or more Fire Inspectors. Every such appointment shall be by warrant under the hand of the Chairman of the county, and every appointment, as well as every removal or resignation of such officer, shall be publicly notified in the county. 35

Powers of Fire Inspector.

6. A Fire Inspector may, on the occasion of any fire occurring in the said district, do the following things:— 40

He may take the command of any fire-brigade or other persons who, by previous agreement with the Council, have placed their services at the disposal of the Council, or who for the time place themselves at his disposal:

He may order any person engaged in extinguishing the fire (hereinafter called a "fireman"), or any constable, to remove any persons who by their presence or otherwise howsoever interfere with or impede the labours of the fire-brigade or other firemen in extinguishing the fire: 45

He may take any measures he thinks best for the protection of life and property: 50

He may, with any assistance he requires, break into, take possession of, or pull down any premises for preventing the spread of fire, doing, however, as little damage as possible thereby :

5 He may interfere with the supply of water in the waterworks as he thinks fit in order to get a greater supply or pressure in the neighbourhood of the fire.

10 And no penalty, damages, or claim for compensation shall be recoverable by or against any person in consequence of any reasonable act done under the authority of this section.

15 7. All police constables are hereby authorised and required to aid every Fire Inspector in the execution of his duty, and may, at their discretion, clear any street in or near to which a fire is burning, and may remove any persons who by their presence or otherwise howsoever interfere with or impede the labours of the firemen.

Police to aid Fire Inspector.

20 8. All damage to property caused by any Fire Inspector, or any person acting under his orders in the due execution of their duties under this Act, shall be deemed to be damage by fire within the meaning of any policy of insurance against fire, anything in such policy to the contrary notwithstanding.

Damage caused by Inspector in execution of duties deemed damage by fire.

25 9. The Council may, in addition to the powers conferred by "The Counties Act, 1886," do all things necessary to light such streets, roads, bridges, and other public places and public buildings within the County of Inangahua as may to the Council appear necessary or expedient, and specially do the following things :—

Additional powers as to lighting streets, &c.

30 (1.) May lay pipes under and wires under or over all streets, roads, and public places within the said county ;

(2.) May erect lamp-posts with all requisite fittings thereto in such streets, roads, and public places.

35 10. The Council may contract with any person, company, or corporation for lighting such streets, roads, and public buildings by gas, electricity, kerosene, or such other mode as may be considered more suitable, and upon such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.

Council may let contracts for lighting.

11. The cost of lighting such streets, roads, bridges, and other public places and public buildings shall be paid out of the general account of the county fund.

Cost of lighting to be paid out of general account.

SCHEDULES.

Schedules.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

REEFTON DISTRICT.

BOUNDED on the east by Donovan Street, the eastern boundaries of Sections Nos. 69 and 68, and a right line in continuance of the said eastern boundaries of the said sections to the Inangahua River ; on the south by the northern bank of the Inangahua River ; on the west by Crampton Road ; and on the north by Boundary Road.

## SECOND SCHEDULE.

## TOWN DISTRICT.

DESCRIPTION of town district: Commencing at the north-eastern corner of Section No. 69, thence across Broadway to the end of Donovan Street, thence by Donovan Street to its junction with Sherman Street, thence along Sherman Street to its junction with Walsh Street, thence by Walsh Street to its junction with Davis Street, thence by Davis Street to its junction with Lucas Street, thence by Lucas Street to its junction with Victory Street, thence by Victory Street to its junction with Mace Street, thence by Mace Street, crossing Broadway to the north bank of the Inangahua River, thence by the north bank of the Inangahua River to a point where the eastern boundary of Section No. 68, if extended in a straight line would meet the said bank of the Inangahua River, thence in a straight line to the south-eastern corner of Section No. 68, and by the eastern boundary of Sections Nos. 68 and 69 to the commencing-point.