

Hon. Mr. J. McKenzie.

LIME-LANDS ACQUISITION AND RESERVATION.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to promote the Agricultural and Pastoral Industries of the Colony by increasing the Supply and reducing the Cost of Lime. Title.

5 WHEREAS it is expedient to make provision for the acquisition and reservation of lime-bearing lands, in order to promote the agricultural and pastoral industries of the colony by increasing the supply and reducing the cost of lime for use as manure : Preamble.

10 BE IT THEREFORE 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 Lime-lands Acquisition and Reservation Act, 1895," and it shall be read with "The Land for Settlements Act, 1894" (hereinafter called "the principal Act"). Short Title.

15 2. In this Act, if not inconsistent with the context,—
 "Lime-bearing land" means land containing limestone or deposits of lime, and includes limekilns and other fixed plant situate on or worked in connection with lime-bearing land, and actually used in the production of lime; and includes also land contiguous to lime-bearing land, and necessary for the purpose of efficiently and conveniently carrying on lime-producing operations. Interpretation.

20 3. The provisions of the principal Act shall extend and apply to the acquisition of lime-bearing land for the purposes of this Act, subject nevertheless to all such consequential and other modifications as are necessary in order to give full effect to this Act, including, *inter alia*, the following modifications, that is to say,— Mode in which lime-bearing lands may be acquired.

30 (1.) When making, in respect of the acquisition of lime-bearing land, the recommendation prescribed by section five of the principal Act, the Board shall have regard to its lime-producing quality in lieu of its suitability for settlement :

- (2.) Sections seven, eight, nine, fourteen, fifteen, nineteen, and thirty-two of the principal Act shall not apply :
- (3.) In fixing the rental of lime-bearing land, as prescribed by section thirty of the principal Act, there shall be added to the items specified in that section such further sum as the Land Board thinks fit by way of sinking fund in respect of all such kilns, works, and plant as may be included in the lease as hereinafter provided. 5
4. All lime-bearing land acquired under this Act shall, in the prescribed manner, be offered for lease by the Land Board of the district wherein such land is situate. 10
5. Every such lease—
- (1.) Shall be in such form as the Minister directs ;
- (2.) Shall comprise such acreage, and be for such term (not exceeding twenty-one years), and be subject to such covenants and conditions not inconsistent with this Act, as, with the Minister's approval, the Land Board thinks fit ; 15
- (3.) Shall be subject to the conditions that the lessee will carry on lime-producing operations on the land, and also will produce good lime in quantity sufficient to supply all reasonable demands, and also will offer it for sale at prices not exceeding such maximum sum as may be specified in the lease ; 20
- (4.) Shall be subject to such other conditions and stipulations as the Governor in Council prescribes by regulations to be made under this Act. 25
6. Such regulations shall provide for renewal from term to term (no term exceeding twenty-one years) and for valuation, to be paid by the incoming tenant to the outgoing tenant for plant and permanent improvements. 30
7. Where any lime-bearing land acquired under this Act comprises any plant, the Land Board, with the Minister's approval,—
- (1.) May sell the same or any part thereof ; or
- (2.) May require the lessee to purchase the same or any part thereof at a fixed sum ; or 35
- (3.) May include the same or any part thereof in the lease of the land.
8. (1.) The Governor may from time to time, by Order in Council gazetted, declare any Crown lands to be lime-bearing lands.
- (2.) All such lime-bearing lands shall, from the date of such gazetting, be subject to the leasing provisions of this Act, anything in "The Land Act, 1892," or any other Act to the contrary notwithstanding : 40
- Provided that nothing in this section contained shall alter or affect the application or destination of the rents of such lands. 45
- (3.) The Governor in Council may in like manner from time to time revoke or alter such Order in Council as to lands not then leased as lime-bearing lands, and thereupon such lands shall cease to be subject to the leasing provisions of this Act and shall revert to their former position. 50
9. In case any lime-bearing land acquired under this Act is not immediately required for lime-producing operations, the Land Board

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of the district wherein such land is situated may dispose of the surface rights in respect of such land by way of lease for any period not exceeding twenty-one years, subject, nevertheless, to the right of the Minister to determine the lease at any time without compensation, by giving twelve months' previous notice to the lessee of intention so to do.

5 10. In lieu of acquiring land for access to lime-bearing lands the Board may make such arrangements with any person for the grant of a right-of-way or otherwise as the Board thinks fit.

Access to lime-bearing lands.