Hon. Mr. J. McKenzie.

LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

Title.

1. Short Title. Construction.

2. Land Purchase Inspector.

3. Additional members of Board. Chairman.

4. Owner may, on application, be granted lease in perpetuity of homestead site.

5. Area, rent, and conditions.6. How capital value to be fixed.

7. Powers of Land Board as to lease.
8. Act to apply to land already acquired.

9. Section 19 of principal Act amended.

A BILL INTITULED

An Act to amend "The Land for Settlements Act, 1894" (herein- Title. after called "the principal Act").

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in 5 Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Land for Settlements Short Title. Amendment Act, 1895," and it shall be read with the principal Act.

2. (1.) The Governor may from time to time appoint a fit per- Land Purchase son to be a Land Purchase Inspector, whose duties shall be to inspect 10 and report to the Minister upon all lands proposed to be acquired under the principal Act, and to perform such other functions as the Governor from time to time directs.

(2.) The Land Purchase Inspector—

(a.) Shall hold office during pleasure;

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(b.) Shall be paid such salary as may be fixed and appropriated from time to time by the General Assembly;

(c.) Shall be subject to the laws for the time being in force affecting and regulating the Civil Service of the

(3.) The person holding office as Land Purchase Inspector at the time of the passing of this Act shall be deemed to be appointed under this Act.

3. (1.) In addition to the persons named in section three of the Additional members 25 principal Act, the Land Purchase Inspector and the District Land Registrar of the registration district in which is situate any land proposed to be acquired under the principal Act shall be members of the Board of Land Purchase Commissioners.

No. 45—1.

Chairman.

Owner may, on application, be

granted lease in

perpetuity of homestead site. (2.) The Land Purchase Inspector shall be the Chairman of the Board, and at all meetings of the Board three members shall form a quorum.

(3.) Section three aforesaid is hereby modified and amended in

so far as it conflicts with this Act.

4. In any case where land hereafter acquired from any person under the principal Act contains a homestead, such person may obtain a lease in perpetuity of the homestead site, and land surrounding it, not exceeding in all the prescribed maximum as he may select:

Provided—

(1.) That he makes application to the Land Board in writing within fourteen days after the land becomes vested in Her Majesty;

(2.) That in such application he sets forth by description and

plan the area so selected;

(3.) That the Land Board approves of the application and is satisfied that the grant of the lease will not prejudicially affect the settlement of the residue of the land so acquired.

Area, rent, and conditions.

5. Upon all the foregoing conditions being complied with, such 20 person shall be entitled to a lease in perpetuity of the area so selected, or of such less area as may be agreed on between him and the Land Board, at a yearly rental at the rate of five pounds per centum on the capital value of the land (including therein all buildings and improvements), and subject to such conditions as to 25 insurance, maintenance, and repair of buildings, and otherwise, as the Land Board thinks fit to prescribe.

How capital value to be fixed.

6. Such capital value shall be fixed in manner prescribed by section thirty of the principal Act for fixing the rental (meaning thereby the yearly rental) of land acquired and disposed of under that 30 Act.

Powers of Land Board as to lease. 7. The Land Board is hereby empowered to deal with such application as aforesaid, and to issue a lease in perpetuity accordingly, without previously notifying the land as open for application, anything in "The Land Act, 1892," or the principal Act, to the 35 contrary notwithstanding.

Act to apply to land already acquired.

8. The foregoing provisions of this Act relating to the grant of leases in perpetuity shall extend and apply to land already acquired but not disposed of by the Crown under the principal Act, and for the purposes of this section the application referred to in the first 40 proviso to section four hereof may be made at any time within twenty-eight days after the passing of this Act, but not later.

Section 19 of principal Act amended.

9. In addition to the conditions specified in subsections (a) and (b) of section nineteen of the principal Act, as those subject to which the land in that section referred to may be occupied, the following 45 further condition is hereby prescribed, that is to say,—

(c.) The occupier shall not, without the previous written consent of the Minister,—

(1.) Assign, sublet, or in any way part with possession of the land or any part thereof; nor

(2.) Agist stock thereon; nor

(3.) Plough any part thereof which is in grass, nor take any crop or other produce from any part thereof.

And the Minister may grant such consent upon such terms

as he thinks fit.

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