

[AS REPORTED FROM THE NATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, 17TH NOVEMBER, 1903.]

Hon. Mr. Carroll.

NATIVE LAND RATING.

ANALYSIS.

Title.
1. Short Title.
2A. Liability to rating of Native lands.

3. Maori Council may administer lands on default of payment of rates.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the Law relating to the Rating of Native Land. Title.
BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

5 1. (1.) The Short Title of this Act is "The Native Land Rating Act, 1903"; and it shall form part of and be read together with "The Rating Act, 1894." Short Title.

10 (2.) This Act shall come into operation on the first day of April, one thousand nine hundred and four.

Struck out.

15 2. (1.) Except as hereinafter mentioned, all Native land shall be liable to the full amount of all rates (including special rates) from time to time levied in the district or subdivision thereof, or in any part of the district defined for the purposes of any special loan:

20 Provided that the Governor may by notice in the *Gazette* and *Kahiti* declare that any such land occupied solely by Maoris shall, until such notice is revoked, be exempt from all or any specified part of such rates, and such notice may apply either to any specified land on account of the indigent circumstances of the occupiers or for other special reason, or to any specified class of lands.

25 (2.) Native land shall be exempt from all rates—
(a.) If the title thereto has not been ascertained;
(b.) If used or set apart as a church, burial, or school site; or
(c.) If occupied or set apart as a papakainga, or solely for the maintenance and support of Maoris.

30 (3.) The definition of "rateable property" in section two of "The Rating Act, 1894," is hereby amended by repealing the words "and all Native lands in the colony," and also by repealing paragraph eleven; and the said definition of "rateable property" so amended, and also section two of "The Rating Act Amendment Act, 1895," shall be read subject to this section.

New clause.

Liability to rating
of Native lands.

2A. Notwithstanding anything contained in "The Rating Act, 1894," the following Native lands shall be liable to the whole of the amount of rate that may be levied from time to time, and to any special rate:—

- (a.) All lands that have been acquired by purchase, lease, or in any other way whatsoever for valuable consideration from the Crown or from any European or any other person;
- (b.) All lands that may have been at any time liable for full rates;
- (c.) All or any other lands which the Governor in Council may, by order published in the *Gazette* and *Kahiti*, declare subject to the provisions of this Act.

Repeal.

Maori Council may
administer lands on
default of payment
of rates.

3. Section three of "The Rating Act Amendment Act, 1896," is hereby repealed, and the following substituted in lieu thereof:—

"In lieu of granting such consent, the Minister, if he deems it expedient in the interests of all parties so to do, may authorise the District Maori Land Council of the district within which the land is situated (hereinafter referred to as 'the Council') to administer the whole or any part of the land, and in any such case the following provisions shall apply:—

"(a.) A notice by the Minister in the *Gazette* and *Kahiti* that the Council is authorised to administer the land or any specified portion thereof shall be conclusive evidence of the fact.

"(b.) The District Land Registrar shall, upon production of an approved plan of the land, register a copy of such notice, and thereupon the land shall be vested in the Council as if the same had been duly transferred to the Council under the provisions of 'The Maori Land Administration Act, 1900.'

"(c.) The land shall be held by the Council upon such terms as to leasing, cutting-up, managing, improving, and raising money upon the same, not being inconsistent with the provisions of the last-mentioned Act, as may be specified in such notice, and shall be dealt with in the same manner, *mutatis mutandis*, as Maori lands duly transferred to the Council under the provisions of the said Act."