

*This PUBLIC BILL originated in the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, and, having this day passed as now printed, is transmitted to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.*

*House of Representatives,  
9th December, 1918.*

*Hon. Mr. Russell.*

## RANGITATA RIVER.

### ANALYSIS.

<p>Title.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Short Title and commencement.</li> <li>2. Rangitata River District constituted.</li> <li>3. District to be abolished or altered only by special Act.</li> <li>4. Subdivision of district.</li> <li>5. Rangitata Island River District abolished.</li> <li>6. Powers with respect to drainage of district conferred on Rangitata River Board.</li> <li>7. Board not to construct river-works or drainage-works except with approval of Minister of Public Works.</li> <li>8. Minister of Public Works to prepare scheme of river-works and drainage-works, and submit to Board.</li> <li>9. Scheme to be available for public inspection. Objections to scheme to be transmitted to Minister of Public Works.</li> <li>10. Approval of scheme by Minister of Public Works.</li> <li>11. Adoption of scheme by Board.</li> <li>12. Board may raise special loan for purposes of scheme.</li> <li>13. Moneys to be paid into Rangitata River Account.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14. Moneys in Rangitata River Account to be expended by Minister in construction and maintenance of works.</li> <li>15. Minister not to incur liabilities in excess of amount standing to credit in the said account.</li> <li>16. Land taken for purposes of work to vest in Board.</li> <li>17. Transfer of works to Board.</li> <li>18. Expenses chargeable to Rangitata River Account.</li> <li>19. Questions as to expenses to be determined by the Audit Office.</li> <li>20. Amendment of errors and defects in the scheme.</li> <li>21. Board not to exercise authority with respect to works prior to transfer by Minister.</li> <li>22. Preliminary expenses, if scheme not adopted, to constitute debt due by the Board to the Crown.</li> <li>23. Revenues of certain reserves to be credited to the Rangitata River Account.</li> <li>24. Supplementary loans authorized. Schedules.</li> </ol>
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### A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to establish the Rangitata River Board and to make Provision for the Protection of Lands in the Rangitata River District from Injury by the Rangitata River. Title.

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Rangitata River Act, 1918, and shall come into force on a date to be appointed for the commencement thereof by Order in Council gazetted. Short Title and commencement.

2. (1.) The area described in the *First* Schedule hereto is hereby constituted a river district under the River Boards Act, 1908, which shall be known as the Rangitata River District. Rangitata River District constituted

(2.) Except as otherwise provided in this Act, the provisions of the River Boards Act, 1908, shall apply to the river district constituted by this Act and to the Board thereof.

3. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the River Boards Act, 1908, the Rangitata River District as constituted by this Act shall not be abolished or united with any other district, nor District to be abolished or altered only by special Act.

shall any alteration be made in the boundaries thereof, save under the authority of a special Act to be passed in that behalf:

Provided, however, that at any time before or concurrently with the making of the Proclamation referred to in the *next succeeding* section the Governor-General may by Proclamation alter the boundaries of the district on the recommendation of a Commission appointed under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1908, and consisting of a Stipendiary Magistrate, a Commissioner of Crown Lands, and two other persons.

Subdivision of district.

4. (1.) At any time after the commencement of this Act the Governor-General may, subject to the provisions of section seven of the River Boards Act, 1908, by Proclamation divide the district into such subdivisions as he thinks fit, and shall assign to each subdivision a distinctive name.

(2.) By the same Proclamation the Governor-General shall determine the number of members of the Board of the district (being not less than *six* and not more than *eleven*), and shall determine the number of members to be elected by the electors of each subdivision.

(3.) Subject to the provisions of this section, section eight of the River Boards Act, 1908, shall apply to the first election of the Board under this Act in the same manner as if the district had been constituted by Proclamation under that Act on the day of the commencement of this Act.

Rangitata Island River District abolished.

5. (1.) The Rangitata Island River District constituted under the River Boards Act, 1908, and the Board of that district are hereby abolished as from the day appointed for the first election of the Rangitata River Board under this Act.

(2.) Thereupon all property of the Board so abolished shall become vested in the Rangitata River Board, and all liabilities and engagements of the Board so abolished shall become liabilities and engagements of the Rangitata River Board, and all rates and other moneys payable to the Board so abolished shall become payable to the Rangitata River Board, and all actions and proceedings which are then pending or which might thereafter have been instituted by or against the Board so abolished had it continued to exist may be carried on or instituted by or against the Rangitata River Board.

(3.) Until so abolished the Board of the Rangitata Island River District may continue to exercise its functions as if this Act had not been passed.

Powers with respect to drainage of district conferred on Rangitata River Board.

6. (1.) In addition to the powers conferred upon River Boards by the River Boards Act, 1908, the Rangitata River Board is hereby empowered to construct and maintain within the district all such works as may be deemed necessary for the drainage of the district.

(2.) All such works shall be deemed to be river-works within the meaning of the River Boards Act, 1908, and that Act, in its application to the Rangitata River District and the Board thereof, shall be read and shall have effect accordingly.

Board not to construct river-works or drainage-works except with approval of Minister of Public Works.

7. Notwithstanding anything contained in the River Boards Act, 1908, or in this Act, it shall not be lawful for the Rangitata River Board to construct any river-works or drainage-works, except with the approval of the Minister of Public Works.

8. (1.) So soon as as may be after the commencement of this Act the Minister of Public Works shall prepare and submit to the Rangitata River Board a complete scheme of such river-works as he deems necessary for the protection of the Rangitata River District and of such drainage-works (if any) as in his opinion should be included in the scheme, all such works being of such a nature as to be within the powers of the Board under the River Boards Act, 1908, and this Act.
- (2.) The scheme shall set out with proper particulars the details of the works proposed to be constructed, together with an estimate of the cost of the preparation and execution of the scheme.
9. (1.) A copy of the scheme so submitted to the Board shall be submitted by the Board for public inspection at the office of the Board or at some other convenient place within the district for not less than thirty days.
- (2.) Written objections to the scheme may be transmitted to the Board by any person having any lawful interest in the matter, and shall as soon as possible after the expiration of the period of thirty days aforesaid be transmitted by the Board to the Minister of Public Works, together with any objections made to the scheme by the Board itself.
10. After consideration of any such objections so transmitted to him the Minister of Public Works shall finally approve of the scheme with such amendments (if any) as he deems necessary, and shall notify the Board of his final approval and of the amendments (if any) so made by him.
11. (1.) The Board may thereupon by resolution adopt the scheme as so finally approved by the Minister of Public Works.
- (2.) Such resolution shall be conclusive proof that all the foregoing requirements of this Act as to the scheme have been duly observed.
12. So soon as may be after the adoption of the scheme the Board shall submit to the ratepayers of the district in accordance with the Local Bodies' Loans Act, 1913, a proposal to raise for the purposes of the scheme a special loan under that Act of an amount sufficient to meet the cost of the preparation and execution of the scheme as estimated in manner aforesaid, together with the estimated cost of raising the loan, and if such proposal is carried by the ratepayers the Board may thereupon raise the loan so authorized either in one sum or by such instalments as may be required having regard to the progress of the works.
13. The moneys so borrowed, after deducting the cost of raising the loan, shall be forthwith paid by the Board into the Public Works Fund to the credit of a special account to be called the Rangitata River Account.
14. (1.) So long and as often as any moneys remain standing to the credit of the Rangitata River Account the Minister of Public Works shall be authorized to expend those moneys, without further appropriation than this Act, in constructing and maintaining the works included in the scheme so approved by him and adopted by the Board, and otherwise in carrying that scheme into execution and in meeting all liabilities and expenses incurred in the construction or maintenance of the works or in the preparation and execution of the scheme.

Minister of Public Works to prepare scheme of river-works and drainage works, and submit to Board.

Scheme to be available for public inspection.

Objections to scheme to be transmitted to Minister of Public Works.

Approval of scheme by Minister of Public Works.

Adoption of scheme by Board.

Board may raise special loan for purposes of scheme.

Moneys to be paid into Rangitata River Account.

Moneys in Rangitata River Account to be expended by Minister in construction and maintenance of works.

(2.) The works shall be constructed and maintained and the scheme carried into execution by the Minister in all respects as if the works were a Government work within the meaning of the Public Works Act, 1908, and as if he were acting on behalf of the Crown. 5

Minister not to incur liabilities in excess of amount standing to credit in the said account.

15. In constructing and maintaining the said works and in carrying out the said scheme it shall not be lawful for the Minister of Public Works to incur any expenditure or liabilities in excess of the sum standing for the time being to the credit of the Rangitata River Account; but if by mistake, accident, or otherwise any expenditure or liability is so incurred in excess of that sum the amount thereof shall nevertheless constitute a debt due and payable by the Rangitata River Board to the Crown and charged upon any moneys which may thereafter be standing to the credit of the said account. 15

Land taken for purposes of work to vest in Board.

16. All land taken or acquired by the Minister as for a public work in connection with the said scheme shall vest in the Rangitata River Board and not in the Crown, notwithstanding anything in the Public Works Act, 1908, to the contrary.

Transfer of works to Board.

17. (1.) When the said scheme has been completed by the Minister of Public Works, or has been so far completed by him that in his opinion the control and completion of the works may properly be transferred to the Board, the Minister may publish in the *Gazette* a notice that the works constructed by him under this Act are, as from a date to be specified in that notice, transferred to the Rangitata River Board. 20

(2.) On the day so specified the authority of the Minister of Public Works under this Act in respect of the scheme and the works constructed thereunder shall cease and determine, and the control of all such works shall pass to the Board, which shall thereafter have and exercise the same functions and authority as if the works had been constructed by the Board itself. 30

(3.) Any surplus standing to the credit of the Rangitata River Account after the payment of all costs and expenses incurred by the Minister of Public Works in the exercise of his authority under this Act shall, on the transfer of the works to the Board, be repaid to the Board without further appropriation than this Act, and may be expended by the Board in the construction of river-works or drainage-works within the district in accordance with the aforesaid scheme, or in accordance with any other scheme approved by the Minister of Public Works. 35

(4.) The officer of the Board charged with the control of the works transferred to the Board pursuant to this section shall be an engineer to be approved for the purpose by the Minister of Public Works. 40

Expenses chargeable to Rangitata River Account.

18. Without in any manner restricting the generality of the foregoing provisions of this Act, the expenses payable out of the Rangitata River Account shall include—

(a.) Such charges as the Minister of Public Works may approve in respect of any professional or other services rendered by officers or servants of the Crown in connection with the construction or maintenance of the said works or the preparation or execution of the said scheme : 50

(b.) All compensation payable under the Workers' Compensation Act, 1908, in respect of accidents arising out of the construction or maintenance of the said works or the preparation or execution of the said scheme :

5 (c.) The cost of all machinery, plant, equipment, and appliances procured by the Minister of Public Works for the purpose of the said scheme :

10 (d.) Such charges as the Minister of Public Works may approve in respect of the use of any property of the Crown used for the purpose of the said scheme :

(e.) Compensation payable under the Public Works Act, 1908, whether in respect of land taken or otherwise.

15 19. If any question arises between the Board and the Minister of Public Works as to the expenses payable out of the Rangitata River Account, the question shall be determined by the Audit Office, whose determination shall be final and conclusive.

Questions as to expenses to be determined by the Audit Office.

20 20. Notwithstanding the final approval of a scheme of works by the Minister of Public Works as aforesaid and its adoption by the Board, the Minister shall have full authority at any time and from time to time, whether before or after the authority of the ratepayers has been obtained for the raising of a loan for the execution of the scheme, to amend any errors or defects which may be disclosed in the scheme, and to execute in accordance with this Act the scheme as so amended.

Amendment of errors and defects in the scheme.

25 21. Until the works constructed or in course of construction by the Minister of Public Works under this Act have been transferred to the Board in accordance with this Act, it shall not be lawful for the Board to interfere in any manner with such works, and they shall be exclusively under the control and jurisdiction of the  
30 Minister.

Board not to exercise authority with respect to works prior to transfer by Minister.

35 22. If the Board does not adopt the scheme as approved by the Minister of Public Works under this Act, or fails to submit to the ratepayers a proposal for raising the moneys required for the purpose of that scheme, or if at a poll of ratepayers the proposal is not carried, all expenses theretofore incurred by the Minister of Public Works in respect of the preparation of the aforesaid scheme shall constitute a debt due to the Crown and payable by the Board.

Preliminary expenses, if scheme not adopted, to constitute debt due by the Board to the Crown.

40 23. (1.) So soon as the Rangitata River Account has been duly constituted by the payment of moneys into the Public Works Fund by the Board in pursuance of this Act, there shall be transferred from the Consolidated Fund to the Rangitata River Account the sum of nine hundred and thirty-one pounds, being accumulated revenues derived from the reserves described in the *Second* Schedule hereto.

Revenues of certain reserves to be credited to the Rangitata River Account.

45 (2.) All revenues hereafter derived from the leasing of the said reserves shall, after the constitution of the Rangitata River Account in manner aforesaid, be credited to that account for and in respect of such period or periods as the Governor-General may from time to time direct, and not to the Consolidated Fund.

50 24. If the moneys borrowed with the authority of the ratepayers for the purposes of the scheme, as approved by the Minister of Public Works and adopted by the Board under this Act, are found to be insufficient for the completion of that scheme, the Board

Supplementary loans authorized.

may from time to time with the approval of the Minister borrow under the Local Bodies' Loans Act, 1913, without a poll of the rate-payers, such further sums as may be estimated to be required for the completion of the scheme, and all moneys so borrowed shall be dealt with in the same manner as moneys borrowed under section *twelve* of this Act.

Schedules.

## SCHEDULES.

### FIRST SCHEDULE.

#### BOUNDARIES OF RANGITATA RIVER DISTRICT.

THE Rangitata River District shall comprise all the area within the following boundaries, viz:—

Commencing at the Arundel Bridge, situated in Block VI, Orari Survey District, and following in an easterly direction the line of the Studholme Road to its junction with the Rangitata River Road; thence south-easterly, the line of the Rangitata River Road and the Ealing-Coldstream Road, to the northern corner of Section 23991, Block I, Coldstream Survey District; thence by the line of the riverside road to Trig. Station 68A; thence following the line of Lower Beach Road to the north-east boundary of Reserve 99, Block IV, Coldstream Survey District; thence by that boundary to the sea; thence following south-westerly the line of high-water mark to the road between Sections 13900 and 13899, Block IV, Arowhenua Survey District; thence following this road to its junction with road forming the south, south-east, and north-east boundaries of Section 4B, Block IV, Arowhenua Survey District; thence following the same road on south-west side of Native Reserve 905 to Rolleston Road; thence following Rolleston Road to its junction with McDonald's Road; thence following the last-named road to the Badham's-Rangitata Road in a north-westerly direction; thence following the Badham's-Rangitata Road north-easterly to its junction with a road between Sections 27780 and 25579, Block XII, Geraldine Survey District; thence by that road in a north-westerly direction to its junction with Taylor's Road; thence along Taylor's Road to the south-eastern corner of Section 24904, Block III, Geraldine Survey District; thence following the eastern boundary of Sections 24904 and 25441, part of north boundary of Section 25441, the east and north boundaries of Section 26260, the western boundary of Sections 28437 and 28436, Block III aforesaid to Cooper's Creek and Rangitata Station Road; thence by last-mentioned road to the south corner of Section 31698, Block VIII, Orari Survey District; thence following the south-eastern boundary of Sections 31698 and 27887 to the Geraldine and Peel Forest Road; thence by the Geraldine and Peel Forest Road to the north-western corner of Section 32091, Block VI, Orari Survey District; thence by the northern boundaries of Sections 32091, 32693, and 26406, Block VI aforesaid, to Bridge Road; thence by Bridge Road to the commencing-point.

SECOND SCHEDULE.  
RESERVES IN THE CANTERBURY LAND DISTRICT.

Reserve Number.	Block.	Survey District.	Area.		
			A.	R.	P.
2746 ... ..	III	Kapunatiki ... ..	115	2	0
2747 ... ..	"	" ... ..	370	0	0
2749 ... ..	"	" ... ..	27	1	0
2750 ... ..	IV	" ... ..	91	2	0
2887 ... ..	VIII	" ... ..	239	0	0
2889 ... ..	II	" ... ..	34	0	0
2890 ... ..	III	" ... ..	38	0	0
2891 ... ..	IV, VII	Geraldine ... ..	39	0	0
2892 ... ..	VIII	" ... ..	200	0	0
2893 ... ..	"	" ... ..	31	0	0
2894 ... ..	"	" ... ..	18	0	0
2895 ... ..	III	Kapunatiki ... ..	57	0	0
2896 ... ..	"	" ... ..	24	0	0
2897 ... ..	"	" ... ..	29	0	0
2898 ... ..	VIII	Geraldine ... ..	135	0	0
2901 ... ..	IV	Kapunatiki ... ..	22	0	0
2748 ... ..	III	" ... ..	29	1	0
2751 ... ..	"	" ... ..	86	0	0
2880 ... ..	IX	Rangitata ... ..	202	0	0
2881 ... ..	I	Coldstream ... ..	149	3	8
	IX	Rangitata ... ..			
2882 ... ..	IV	Coldstream ... ..	164	1	0
2883 ... ..	II	Kapunatiki ... ..	171	0	0
2884 ... ..	"	" ... ..	164	2	0
2885 ... ..	IV	Geraldine ... ..	21	0	0
2886 ... ..	"	" ... ..	52	0	0
2888 ... ..	II	Kapunatiki ... ..	144	0	0
2899 ... ..	VIII	Geraldine ... ..	57	0	0
2900 ... ..	XII	" ... ..	16	0	0
2879 ... ..	IV	" ... ..	5	1	8

By Authority : MARCUS F. MARKS, Government Printer, Wellington.—1918.