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Mr. Fisher.

WELLINGTON CITY EMPOWERING.

[LOCAL BILL.]

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to confer Additional Powers upon the Mayor, Councillors, and Citizens of the City of Wellington, and to provide for other Matters. 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. The Short Title of this Act is "The Wellington City Empowering Act, 1899." Short Title.

10 2. In this Act, if not inconsistent with the context,— Interpretation.
"City" means the City of Wellington;
"Corporation" means the Mayor, Councillors, and Citizens of the said city;
"Council" means the Council of the said city.

15 3. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any public, or private, or local Act, it shall be lawful for the Council or for the Corporation to borrow any sum or sums of money by way of special loan for all or any of the purposes set out in the Schedule hereto (not exceeding for any such purpose the amount set opposite the description thereof in such Schedule) if three-fifths of the votes Three-fifths majority to obtain on raising scheduled loans.
20 actually given upon the taking of any poll required by law to be taken on the proposal to borrow any such sum shall be in favour of such proposal.

25 4. Any poll taken on a proposal to raise any sum of money under section three may be taken either at one polling booth situate within the city or at several polling-booths so situate, at such convenient place or places polling-booths situate within the city (being not less than one in each ward) as the Returning Officer shall appoint, Several polling-booths allowed.

anything in subsection three of section one hundred and eighty-one of "The Municipal Corporations Act, 1886," notwithstanding.

Saving of existing powers.

5. Nothing in this Act contained shall be held to take away from the Council or Corporation any power to raise money by way of special loan or otherwise that the Council or Corporation possess under any general or private or local Act.

Section 7 of "The Wellington City Empowering Act, 1897," amended.

6. Section seven of "The Wellington City Empowering Act, 1897," is hereby amended as follows:—

"(1.) For the purposes of subsection one of the said section seven, the said Act shall be deemed a special Act within the meaning of section fourteen of 'The Public Works Act, 1894.'"

"(2.) In subsection three of the said section seven the words 'special order under the Act' are hereby substituted for 'special loan under the said Act or this Act,' and it shall accordingly be unnecessary to take any poll upon any loan raised under the same subsection."

Application of rents, rates, and purchase-moneys derived from Town Hall properties.

7. (1.) The net rents and profits to be derived from any letting of the present Corporation Offices and Town Hall site (being the land comprised in certificate of title, Volume LVIII., folio 186, and the buildings thereon), and from any letting of the proposed Town Hall, and of any shops, offices, or other buildings erected in connection therewith, or of any land set apart for, or occupied with, the said Town Hall or other buildings, and the city rates to be derived from the said present premises, when let or sold, and from tenants of any shops, offices, or other buildings erected in connection with the Town Hall, or of any such land as last aforesaid, shall be appropriated to meeting interest or sinking fund on, or in relation to, the special loan or loans hereby authorised to be raised for erecting the said Town Hall and Corporation Offices and other buildings.

(2.) If the Council shall sell the said present premises, or any part thereof, before raising any part of the said loan, the net purchase-moneys shall be applied towards erecting the new buildings, and the amount of the said special loan shall be reduced correspondingly; but if such sale shall take place after any part of the said special loan shall have been raised, the said net purchase-moneys shall be appropriated to a sinking fund in connection with the said special loan.

(3.) Section five of "The Wellington City Empowering Act, 1897," is hereby repealed.

Permanent fire-brigade may be established.

8. In addition to the powers conferred upon the Council by "The Municipal Corporations Act, 1886," in relation to the prevention and extinguishing of fires, it shall be lawful for the Council to establish a permanent fire-brigade, composed of a Superintendent, with or without other officers, and of firemen and other persons employed directly under the Council, or to continue its present fire-brigade; and it shall also be lawful for the Council to pay out of the General Account such fixed or other salaries or other remuneration, as the Council shall think fit, to all persons employed directly under it in connection with any fire-brigade.

New leases may be granted under "The Wellington Corporation Leasehold Act, 1885."

9. Notwithstanding anything contained in the last proviso in section five of "The Wellington Corporation Leaseholds Act, 1885," any such new lease as is referred to in that section may, on such sur-

render of the existing lease as in such section is mentioned, be granted at any time within one year from the coming into operation of this Act.

10. The net rents and the city rates to be derived from the letting by the Corporation of the present fire-brigade premises, situate in Brandon Street and in Manners Street, shall be applied by the Council towards paying the interest on and providing a sinking fund for the moneys to be borrowed under "The Wellington City Empowering Act, 1897," and this Act for erecting a fire-brigade station on the reclaimed land.

Net rents and city rates to be set aside for sinking fund.

SCHEDULE.

Schedule.

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| 1. The acquisition or purchase, whether compulsorily or voluntarily, of any tramway undertaking, or any part thereof, and any real or personal property held or used, and any rights and privileges existing, in connection with a tramway or (in the alternative) the construction of a tramway, and the acquisition or purchase of any property in connection therewith or for the purposes thereof | ... £100,000 |
| 2. The extension of the water-supply system of the city, and the acquisition of any lands, buildings, streams, and easements, and the construction or acquisition of any works or plant in connection with the supply of water to the city | ... £120,000 |
| 3. The acquisition or purchase compulsorily or voluntarily of any electric-light works, and of any lands, buildings, plant, rights, and privileges in connection therewith | ... £45,000 |
| 4. The providing or constructing of public baths at Te Aro, and the widening and improving Clyde Quay and Esplanade on Oriental Bay (in addition to the two several sums of £2,000 mentioned in the Second Schedule to "The Wellington City Empowering Act, 1897") | ... £16,000 |
| 5. The erecting a Town Hall and Corporation Offices and any shops, Offices, or any other buildings in connection therewith. | ... £50,000 |
| 6. The erecting a fire-brigade station on the reclaimed land (in addition to the sum of £3,000 mentioned in the aforesaid Second Schedule) | ... £5,000 |
| | <hr/> £336,000 |