

SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 31st day of October, 1884.

AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE LOCAL BILLS COMMITTEE (B.), IN THE
HOKITIKA STEAM TUG BILL.

New clauses :—

To stand as clause 8 :

For the purposes of this Act, the harbour district shall be the Boroughs of Hokitika and Ross, and the Riding of Kanieri, in the County of Westland.

To stand as clause 9 :

Consent of rate-
payers to be
obtained before
loan is raised.

Before the loan authorized by this Act is raised, the consent of the ratepayers in the harbour district shall first be obtained, in the mode hereinafter prescribed :—

(1.) A notice shall be published in a newspaper circulating in the district, and shall specify the time and place in each borough and riding at which meetings are to be held to consider a proposal to raise such special loan, or any part thereof, and the following particulars, namely :—

(1.) The particular work proposed to be undertaken :

(2.) The sum proposed to be borrowed for such purpose :

(3.) Any special rate or tolls or the rents and profits of any property which it is proposed to pledge as security for such loan, not being moneys received by way of grant from the General Government, or moneys theretofore pledged as security for any loan, or appropriated to any special purpose.

To stand as clause 10 :

Chairman to call
meeting of rate-
payers to con-
sider proposal to
borrow.

The Chairman shall call meetings of the ratepayers, to be held within each borough situate within the district, and of the ratepayers of each riding within the County of Westland, upon a day not more than ten days after the last publication of such notice, to consider the said proposal ; and shall appoint one of the members of the Municipal Corporation or County Council elected for the riding, as the case may be, to preside at each meeting, if such member shall be willing to act ; and if no such member is willing to Act, or becomes incapacitated from acting from any cause, then such person as the Chairman thinks fit.

The member or person so appointed shall be called the "Presiding Officer," and he shall preside at the meeting to be held in the borough or riding for which he has been appointed, and shall also preside at the taking of any poll as hereinafter provided.

After due consideration and discussion of the proposal, the Presiding Officer shall give notice that a poll will be taken.

How poll to be
taken.

The poll shall be taken as follows :—

(1.) The Chairman shall publish a notice setting forth the day, not less than one nor more than three weeks from the day of the said meeting, on which the poll will be taken :

- (2.) The Chairman shall give notice in writing to the Presiding Officer, requiring him to take the poll upon the day appointed :
- (3.) The Presiding Officer shall, upon the day so appointed, proceed to take the poll in the manner provided by "The Regulation of Local Elections Act, 1876," for taking a poll at any election, and shall provide voting papers and all things necessary for taking the poll :
- (4.) The voting papers shall be printed in the form in the *Third* Schedule hereto attached, with the words, "I vote for the above proposal," and "I vote against the above proposal," legibly printed at the foot of each voting paper :
- (5.) The voter shall erase one or other of the said lines, and his vote shall be deemed to be given according to the one of the said lines which he leaves un erased :
- (6.) All the provisions of "The Regulation of Local Elections Act, 1876," as regards taking a poll, shall, so far as they are applicable, and except as by this section otherwise provided, apply to the taking of a poll on the proposal to raise a special loan ;
- (7.) A separate poll shall be taken in each borough and riding or road district as aforesaid, and each voter shall have and may exercise as many votes as he has and may exercise at any election of the members of the local governing body of such borough, road district, or county respectively.

To stand as clause 11 :

As to number of votes for each ratepayer.

Every ratepayer within the district shall be entitled to vote according to the following scale, that is to say,—

- (1.) If his rateable property is valued on any valuation roll at not more than one thousand pounds, he shall have one vote :
- (2.) If such property is so valued at more than one thousand but not more than two thousand pounds, he shall have two votes :
- (3.) If such property is so valued at more than two thousand but not more than three thousand pounds, he shall have three votes :
- (4.) If such property is so valued at more than three thousand but not more than seven thousand five hundred pounds, he shall have four votes :
- (5.) If such property is valued at more than seven thousand five hundred pounds, he shall have five votes.

To stand as clause 12 :

When resolution to be deemed to be carried.

If the number of votes given for the proposal represent an absolute majority of the votes exercisable within the harbour district, the resolution in favour of the proposal shall be deemed to be carried, and the Board may proceed with the proposal accordingly ; but if there is not such a majority in favour of the proposal the resolution shall be deemed to be rejected, and the Board shall not so proceed.

Chairman to declare numbers polled.

As soon as conveniently may be after the result of the poll has been ascertained the Chairman shall give public notice of the number of votes recorded for and against the proposal as above provided, and shall declare the resolution to be carried or rejected, as the case may be.

To stand as clause 13 :

Chairman to send result of polling to Colonial Secretary. Gazette notice final.

When any such resolution is carried the Chairman shall send a notice thereof to the Colonial Secretary, who shall publish the same in the *Gazette* ; and such notice so gazetted shall be final that the raising of the loan to which it refers has been duly authorized under the provisions of this Act, notwithstanding any omission or

irregularity in any provision, matter, or thing required to be done hereunder or under "The Regulation of Local Elections Act, 1876."

To stand as clause 14 :

Board may levy
rate.

The Board, after the passing of this Act, shall, if the resolution in favour of the proposal be carried as aforesaid, make and levy a rate in the proportions in the different parts of the district hereinafter mentioned not exceeding *one penny* in the pound upon all rateable property in the harbour district.

To stand as clause 15 :

Application of
rate.

The proceeds of such rate shall be applied towards payment of the annual charges to accrue in respect of any loans to be raised under this Act.

The amount to be levied by the Board in each year shall not exceed such amount as is required to provide for the payment of interest on the aggregate amount for which debentures shall at that time be issued, and in addition one pound per centum per annum on such aggregate amount to be appropriated for the purposes of the sinking fund hereinbefore mentioned, after taking into account whatever sum of money may be available from the revenue of the Board for the previous year for payment of interest and sinking fund on the loan hereby authorized to be made.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS ACT 1876 AMENDMENT BILL.

The Honourable Mr. J. C. RICHMOND to move, when in Committee on the Municipal Corporations Amendment Bill,—

To strike out clause 4, for the purpose of inserting the following in lieu thereof :—

Whenever, in the opinion of the Council, damage to public or private property within the borough is likely to arise from the overflow of any stream by reason of any rocks, stones, gravel, timber, or other impediment to its flow, it shall be lawful for the Resident Magistrate, upon the application of the Council, and after such inquiry as he may think necessary, to grant an order authorizing the Council to apply the borough funds in or towards the removal of such impediments, and for that purpose to enter upon such stream and upon the adjoining lands, notwithstanding the same may be private lands.

Clause 9. Omit "this Act, by inserting therein," and substitute "The Rating Act, 1876," or "The Rating Act, 1882," as may be the case, by inserting in the rate-book;" also omit "the Rating and Corporation Acts," and substitute "such of the Rating Acts aforesaid as shall be in force in the borough."

Clause 10. Before "one-fifth," insert "not less than."

To add the following clauses as the last of the Bill :—

The Council of every borough, for the order and good government thereof, may from time to time, as shall seem to them fit, make by-laws for any of the purposes provided by section three hundred and forty-nine of the said Act, or for any of the purposes authorized by the said Act, or by any Act or Acts amending the same.

This Act shall be read in connection with and as part of the said Act and the several Acts amending the same.