

SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, the 28th Day of September, 1903.

LAND ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Hogg, in Committee, to move the following new clauses:—

A. (1.) Every applicant for land under Parts III., IV., and V. of the Land Act shall make a statutory declaration setting forth the total area of land that he holds under any form of tenure.

(2.) The Land Board may require any applicant to appear and give evidence as to his ability to cultivate the land and comply with the conditions prescribed.

(3.) If any applicant fails to satisfy the Board on any material point, the Board may, by resolution, reject his application, and in such case the rejection shall be final and the application shall be deemed to be void.

(4.) If there is more than one applicant for the same allotment, applicants who are landless shall have preference over those who are not, and the decision of the Land Board as to who are landless and who are not shall be final.

(5.) An applicant shall be deemed to be landless if, at the time of his application, he does not hold under any tenure such area of rural land as, in the opinion of the Board, is sufficient for the maintenance of himself and his family.

B. Section one hundred and forty-three of the principal Act, relating to the residence conditions, is hereby amended by adding thereto the following subsection:—

“(5.) The Board may dispense with residence during the first ten years if the selector employs a substitute, whose name shall be registered with the Commissioner of Crown Lands, to fulfil the residential and improvement conditions of his lease.”

C. Section eighty-three of the principal Act, relating to covenants and conditions as to rents, transfers, &c., is hereby amended by the addition of the following subsection:—

“(10.) Except under special circumstances, and upon the resolution of the Land Board, no transfer shall be allowed if the original selector fails to reside continuously on his selection for a term of two years.”