

SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Tuesday, the 4th Day of October, 1898.

OLD-AGE PENSIONS BILL.

Mr. G. HUTCHISON, in Committee, to move to add the following new clause :—

B. This Act shall not come into operation until after a vote shall be taken of the electors of the colony in favour of this Act coming into operation. Such vote shall be taken under and in accordance with the following conditions :—

- (1.) A copy of this Act shall immediately after the present session be deposited for reference at every post-office in the colony.
- (2.) On a date to be appointed by Proclamation in the *New Zealand Gazette*, giving not less three clear months' notice after the first publication thereof, a poll shall be taken as to whether this Act shall become law or not.
- (3.) Such poll shall be taken in each electoral district of the colony under "The Electoral Act, 1893"; and for that purpose the Governor in Council shall appoint Returning Officers and Deputy Returning Officers, poll-clerks, and other necessary officers, and shall fix and notify the polling-places at which the vote may be taken. At every polling-place a copy of this Act shall be available for perusal by any elector free of charge.
- (4.) The voting-paper shall set out the title of this Act, and shall state thereunder the question, "Shall this Act come into operation?" followed by the following words in separate lines :—

" Yes. "
" No. "

And shall be followed by directions thereunder that the elector, if desirous of voting for the Act coming into operation, shall erase the word "No," and if desirous of voting for the Act not coming into operation shall erase the word "Yes." The poll shall, subject to these variations, be taken in all respects as nearly as may be in accordance with a poll to be taken at a contested election under "The Electoral Act, 1893." The result shall be ascertained by the Clerk of Writs counting together the numbers of all the votes certified to him by the Returning Officers of the several electoral districts in the colony; and the Clerk of Writs shall forthwith certify to His Excellency the Governor the total numbers for and against the coming into operation of this Act, and according as a majority shall have voted so shall the decision be. And such decision shall forthwith be notified in the *New Zealand Gazette*. In the event of a clear majority of votes being notified as given in favour of the Act coming into operation, then it shall be lawful for the Governor, by Proclamation, to bring the Act into operation on some date to be fixed by such Proclamation, not being less than three months after the first publication in the *New Zealand Gazette* of such Proclamation.

Mr. MASSEY, in Committee, to move the following :—

(a.) This Act shall not come into operation until approved by the electors of New Zealand by a poll to be taken in manner hereinafter provided.

(b.) On the day of general election next following the passing of this Act a poll of those qualified to vote for members of the House of Representatives shall be taken in the manner provided for by the Electoral Act for a general election of members of the House of Representatives.

(c.) The question to be submitted to the electors shall be, " Shall ' The Old-age Pensions Act, 1898,' be brought into operation ? "

(d.) If a majority of those voting shall vote in favour of the proposition, then it shall be deemed to be carried, and the Act approved of by the electors.

(e.) If the approval of the electors shall be so signified, the Governor in Council may appoint a date on which this Act shall be brought into operation.