

Validating Proceedings in connection with Picton Borough Council's Land Acquisition, Reclamation, and Improvement Loan of £6,000.

LIVERPOOL, Governor.
ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Government House at Wellington, this twenty-third day of August, 1915.

Present :

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

WHEREAS the Picton Borough Council lately proposed to raise a loan of six thousand pounds under the Local Bodies' Loans Act, 1913 (hereinafter referred to as "the said Act"), for the purposes of land acquisition and reclamation and improvement works :

And whereas irregularities or defects occurred both in the notice published in pursuance of section nine of the said Act and in the voting-paper used at the poll upon the said proposal, in that though the proposed security for such loan and the provision for repayment thereof were stated to be a special rate over the whole rateable area of the Borough of Picton to cover interest and sinking fund, the amount of such rate (namely, three-fourths of one penny in the pound on the rateable value, on the basis of the unimproved value, of all rateable property within the said borough) and the period of the proposed loan (namely, thirty-six years and a half) were not set forth in such notice and voting-paper :

And whereas it appears that the ratepayers have not been misled by such irregularities or defects, and it is expedient to validate the same :

Now, therefore, His Excellency the Governor of the Dominion of New Zealand, in pursuance and exercise of the powers and authorities conferred on him by section one hundred and eleven of the said Act, and acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council of the said Dominion, doth hereby declare that the proceedings in connection with the said loan shall be as valid to all intents and purposes as though the said amount of such rate and the said period of the said loan had been stated in the said notice and voting-paper, and that the said proceedings shall not be called in question by reason only of the irregularities or defects aforesaid.

J. F. ANDREWS,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

Regulations under the War Pensions Act, 1915.

LIVERPOOL, Governor.
ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Government House at Wellington, this twenty-third day of August, 1915.

Present :

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

IN pursuance and exercise of the power and authority conferred on him by the War Pensions Act, 1915 (hereinafter referred to as "the said Act"), His Excellency the Governor of the Dominion of New Zealand, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council of the said Dominion, doth hereby make the following regulations for the purposes of the said Act.

REGULATIONS.

INTERPRETATION.

1. In these regulations—
 - "The Board" means the War Pensions Board appointed under the said Act :
 - "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Pensions appointed under the Pensions Act, 1913, who, with the approval of the Public Service Commissioner, shall be Secretary to the Board :
 - "Registrar" means a Registrar of Pensions appointed under the Pensions Act, 1913 :
 - "Guardian" means a person who for the time being has the care or control of any child entitled to a pension under the said Act or of any other person entitled to a pension, and being of unsound mind, but not detained in an institution under the Mental Defectives Act, 1911 :
 - "Pension year" means the year commencing on the first day of the month in which the pension commences, and the corresponding period in each year thereafter :
 - "Income year" means the year ending one month prior to the commencement of the pension year.

PENSION-CLAIMS.

2. Pension-claims shall be issued only to or on behalf of *bona fide* applicants for a pension, and shall when completed be delivered to the Registrar of the district wherein the applicant resides. The claim by a member of the Forces for a pension in respect of his disablement shall be in the form No. 1 in the Schedule hereto ; the claim by a dependant of a member for a pension in respect of his death or disablement shall be in the form No. 2 in the said Schedule.

3. Every application for a pension under the said Act shall be supported by a declaration to the effect that to the best of the knowledge and belief of the applicant the contents of his pension-claim are true and correct in every material point.

4. The Registrar shall record the receipt of every claim in a book kept for the purpose, and shall forthwith transmit the claim to the Commissioner with a report as to the eligibility of the applicant, and the Commissioner shall submit the claim (together with the Registrar's report) for investigation and determination by the Board.

5. The Commissioner shall keep a Claim Register, in which all claims received by him shall be duly recorded.

6. In connection with the investigation of pension-claims the following provisions shall apply :—

(1.) If in the course of investigation evidence is required on any specific matter, the Board, or any person authorized by it, may inquire into the same, and for the purpose of such inquiry free access shall be given to—

(a.) The registers and records of any State Department or office :

(b.) All real and personal property of the applicant, and all books, vouchers, and documents relating to such property or to the income of the applicant.

(2.) The powers of inquiry and search hereby given shall be limited to specified applications for pension, and shall not be construed as authorizing any general search or inquiry.

(3.) It shall be the duty of all officers of the aforesaid Departments and offices, and of any bank, insurance company, or other corporation carrying on business in New Zealand, and of all officers of the Post Office Savings-bank, and of any other Government Department which receives investments of money from the public, and of any private individual, to make true answers to all questions, and to afford (without fee) all such information as may be reasonably required for the purpose of prosecuting such inquiry as aforesaid.

(4.) The Board may, in its discretion, accept as testimony for or against the claim—

(a.) A declaration made by any reputable person who therein declares to what he knows of his own knowledge to be true ; or

(b.) Any other documentary evidence, whether strictly legal evidence or not ; or

(c.) The spoken evidence of a reputable person who deposes to what he knows to be true :

(d.) The knowledge or observation of the Board itself.

(5.) The valuations for the time being appearing in the general valuation roll under the Valuation of Land Act, 1908, shall, so far as the same are applicable, be used for the purpose of assessing the value of any property of an applicant for a pension, if the value of such property is relevant to the determination of the claim.

7. The pension-claim, with a minute of the Board's decision attached thereto, shall be submitted to the Minister of Defence for approval, and on receipt of the Minister's approval shall be filed by the Commissioner.

8. If the claim is rejected, a notification to that effect shall be sent to the applicant under the hand of the Commissioner, specifying the grounds for rejection, which shall be duly noted in the Claim Register.

9. If the claim is established, the Commissioner shall issue to the applicant a pension-certificate setting out on the face thereof the amount of pension granted, the office of payment, and the date on which the first instalment falls due, and shall enter particulars thereof in the Pension Register.

10. The Pension Register shall contain particulars of every pension established, and there shall also be recorded therein particulars of any circumstances affecting the payment of any pension.

PAYMENT OF PENSIONS.

11. There shall from time to time be paid out of the Consolidated Fund into the Post Office Account by way of imprest whatever moneys are necessary in order to enable the instalments of pensions granted under the said Act to be paid out of such account, and the Postmaster-General shall thereupon pay such instalments accordingly.

12. Every pension granted shall be payable by equal monthly instalments, of which the first shall be payable on the 1st day of the month next after the commencement of the pension year : Provided that an instalment payable on the