

tendent, to despatch to the Commissioner of Crown Lands for the district in which the leasehold is situated a notice of the application, in order that the Commissioner may at once furnish the Superintendent with a report respecting the property. And with regard to this notice, for which the form is, as already indicated, to be obtained from the Postmaster, and which is as soon as possible after it is received by the Commissioner to be forwarded to the Superintendent with the required report, the following instructions have been issued to the Commissioners by the Under-Secretary of the Department of Lands and Survey:—

“ Under ‘ The Government Advances to Settlers Act, 1894,’ section 25, subsections (2), (3), and (4), the Advances to Settlers Office may advance money on first mortgage of the following classes of lands:—

- “ (2.) Crown Land held on perpetual lease under ‘ The Land Act, 1885’ ; or,
- “ (3.) Crown Land held under Parts III. and IV. of ‘ The Land Act, 1892’ ; or,
- “ (4.) Crown Land held on lease as a small grazing-run under ‘ The Land Act, 1885’, or under ‘ The Land Act, 1892.’

“ To the consideration of each application for such advance, a report from the Commissioner of Crown Lands for the district in which the relative security is situated will be required by the Superintendent of the Advances to Settlers Office, and it has been arranged, with a view to save time, that the applicant should, before posting the application, give the Commissioner notice in the form which any post office will supply, and of which a copy is enclosed, and that the Commissioner should make the required report on the receipt of such notice.

“ The Commissioners who may receive notice of the applications for advances are requested to transmit to the Superintendent as soon as possible afterwards the required reports, which should convey all the information that the Commissioners can give on the question whether the applicant’s interest in the land is a satisfactory security for a loan.

“ A reference to the form of Valuer’s report, of which a copy also accompanies this circular, will enable the Commissioners to readily ascertain respecting the security all the questions on which it may be desirable that the Superintendent should receive what information can be afforded.

“ The information which you are to supply is to be such only as can be obtained from your records, or personal knowledge, without any cost to the department, and, should you in any case be unable to give the desired information or advice without inspecting the land, be good enough to say so.”

FORM OF NOTICE TO THE COMMISSIONER.

Particulars of Leasehold.
 Class of land (not being urban or sub-urban lands):
 Survey definition:—
 Section:
 Block:
 Survey district:
 Area:
 No. and date of issue of lease:

SIR,—

To the Commissioner of Crown Lands at
 Having applied to the Superintendent of the Government Advances to Settlers Office, Wellington, for an advance on first mortgage of my interest in the leasehold described in the margin, I beg to request that you will furnish him by the first mail with your report respecting the security.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
 (Signature and address of the Applicant.)

NOTE.—This notice should be posted in an envelope, to be obtained at any post-office.

NOTE.—The Commissioner’s remarks should include the answers that he can make to the following questions:—

1. Is the above description of land correct?
2. Is the rent regularly paid, and without objection or complaint?
3. For what default, not in respect of rent, is lease liable to forfeiture?
4. Have improvement covenants of lease been regularly and satisfactorily complied with? And what, generally, has been the extent of the improvements, and what the care of the land?
5. What is the estimated market value of the improvements; and of the applicant’s interest in the land? And is this interest regarded as a good security for a loan; and, if so, for what amount?

Crown Lands Office,

The Superintendent, Government Advances to Settlers Office, Wellington.

SIR,—

In compliance with the foregoing request, I beg to enclose a copy of the last report of the Crown Ranger respecting the property, and to supplement the report with the following remarks:—

The Chief or Reviewing Valuers are Mr. Hugh Carswell, for the Provincial District of Otago and Southland; Mr. W. Duncan, for the Provincial District of Auckland, excluding the Counties of Cook and Waiapu; Mr. Thomas Kennedy Macdonald, for the Provincial Districts of Taranaki and Hawkes Bay, the Counties of Cook and Waiapu, and the Provincial Districts of Wellington, Nelson, Marlborough, and Westland. The salary attached to each of these three appointments is £500 a year, with a travelling-allowance of 10s. 6d. a day, and Messrs. Carswell and Duncan were appointed from the 1st January, 1895, their appointments being notified in the *New Zealand Gazette* of the 14th of February last, while Mr. Macdonald was appointed from the 1st February, his appointment being notified in the *New Zealand Gazette* of the 28th February. Mr. J. W. A. Marchant has acted from the 28th February as the Reviewing Valuer for the Provincial District of Canterbury, but he has not yet received any remuneration for this service, and no remuneration has yet been authorised.

The instructions to each Reviewing Valuer may be sufficiently indicated by the following quotation of the instructions to Mr. T. K. Macdonald, who was informed that he was—