

1910.
NEW ZEALAND

LANDS COMMITTEE

(REPORTS OF THE).

(HON. MR. T. DUNCAN, CHAIRMAN.)

Presented to the House of Representatives, and ordered to be printed

ORDERS OF REFERENCE.

Extracts from the Journals of the House of Representatives.

THURSDAY, THE 7TH DAY OF JULY, 1910.

Ordered, "That a Committee be appointed, consisting of ten members, to whom shall stand referred after the first reading all Bills affecting or in any way relating to the lands of the Crown, or educational or other public reserves; the Committee to have power to make such amendments therein as they think proper, and to report generally when necessary upon the principles and provisions of the Bill; the Committee to have power to call for persons, papers, and records; three to be a quorum: the Committee to consist of Mr. Anderson, Hon. Mr. T. Duncan, Mr. Ell, Mr. Forbes, Mr. Guthrie, Mr. Hogg, Mr. Lang, Mr. Lawry, Mr. Witty, and the mover."—(Right Hon. Sir J. G. WARD.)

THURSDAY, THE 4TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1910.

Ordered, "That the Native Townships Bill, having been read a first time this day, stands referred to the Lands Committee."

THURSDAY, THE 11TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1910.

Ordered, "That all petitions not finally dealt with during Session II, 1909, stand referred to the same Committees they were referred to during the said session."—(Right Hon. Sir J. G. WARD.)

FRIDAY, THE 12TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1910.

Ordered, "The Taieri Land Drainage Bill, having been read a first time this day, stands referred to the Lands Committee."—(Right Hon. Sir J. G. WARD.)

FRIDAY, THE 12TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1910.

Ordered, "That the petition of Kingi and others, together with the report of the Native Affairs Committee thereon, be referred to the Lands Committee."—(Mr. JENNINGS.)

The Wanganui Harbour Board Vesting Bill, the Templeton Domain Alteration of Boundaries Bill, and the Anderson's Bay Domain Bill, having been read a first time in the House of Representatives, stand referred to the Lands Committee.

WEDNESDAY, THE 17TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1910.

Ordered, "That the Kauri-gum Industry Bill be referred to the Lands Committee."—(Hon. Mr. MILLAR.)

FRIDAY, THE 19TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1910.

Ordered, "That the Rangitaiki Land Drainage Bill be referred to the Lands Committee."—(Right Hon. Sir J. G. WARD.)

FRIDAY, THE 2ND DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1910.

The Invercargill Tramway Buildings and Works Site Bill, the Thames Harbour Board Empowering Bill, the Waitara Harbour Board and Borough Empowering Bill, the Napier Recreation-ground and the Sir Donald McLean Memorial Park Bill, the Napier Municipal Theatre and Buildings Bill, and the Wyndham Show-ground Reserve Bill, having been read a first time in the House of Representatives, stand referred to the Lands Committee.

TUESDAY, THE 6TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1910.

The Bill intituled "The New Zealand Portland Cement Company (Limited) Reclamation and Empowering Act," having been read a second time on the 6th day of September, stands referred to the Lands Committee for report.

WEDNESDAY, THE 7TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1910.

The Land Laws Amendment Bill, having been read a first time in the House of Representatives on Wednesday the 7th day of September, 1910, stands referred to the Lands Committee for report.

THURSDAY, THE 8TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1910.

The Education Reserves Amendment Bill, having been read a first time in the House of Representatives, stands referred to the Lands Committee.

FRIDAY, THE 9TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1910.

The Bills intituled 'The Waikouaiti County Council Reserve Vestings Act' and 'The Otago Harbour Board Lands Vesting Act,' having been read a first time in the House of Representatives on the 9th day of September, 1910, stand referred to the Lands Committee for report.

TUESDAY, THE 13TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1910.

The Bill intituled 'The Taranaki Scholarships Endowment Act,' having been read a first time in the House of Representatives on the 13th day of September, 1910, stands referred to the Lands Committee for report.

WEDNESDAY, THE 14TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1910.

The Bill intituled 'The Lyttelton Harbour Board Reclamation and Empowering Act,' having been read a first time in the House of Representatives on the 14th day of September, stands referred to the Lands Committee for report.

TUESDAY, THE 20TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1910.

Ordered, 'That Papers Nos. 127, 128, 130, and 227, relative to the Canterbury Pastoral Runs Commission, be referred to the Lands Committee.'—(Right Hon. Sir J. G. WARD.)

WEDNESDAY, THE 21ST DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1910.

The Bill intituled 'The Whangarei Abattoir Site Repeal Act,' having been read a first time in the House of Representatives on the 21st day of September, 1910, stands referred to the Lands Committee for report.

TUESDAY, THE 27TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1910.

Ordered, 'That the petition of E. C. Banks and others be referred direct to the Lands Committee.'—(Mr. JENNINGS.)

THURSDAY, THE 6TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 1910.

The Bills intituled 'The New Plymouth Racecourse Reserve Leasing Act' and 'The Waiapu County Council (Tokomaru Harbour) Empowering Act,' having been read a first time in the House of Representatives on the 6th day of October, 1910, stand referred to the Lands Committee for report.

WEDNESDAY, THE 26TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 1910.

Ordered, 'That the petition of the Waipara County Council be referred to the Lands Committee.'—(Mr. CRAIGIE.)

The Bill intituled 'The Scenery-preservation Amendment Act,' having been read a first time in the House of Representatives on the 26th day of October, 1910, stands referred to the Lands Committee for report.

WEDNESDAY, THE 9TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1910.

Ordered, 'That the petition of T. Moriarty be referred direct to the Lands Committee.'—(Mr. COLVIN.)

FRIDAY, THE 11TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1910.

The Fruit-farms Settlement Bill, having been read a first time in the House of Representatives, stands referred to the Lands Committee.

THURSDAY, THE 17TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1910.

Ordered, 'That the petition of L. Garden and others be referred to the Lands Committee.'—(Mr. J. C. THOMSON.)

MONDAY, THE 28TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1910.

The Bill intituled 'The Reserves and other Lands Disposal and Public Bodies Empowering Act,' having been read a first time in the House of Representatives on the 28th day of November, 1910, stands referred to the Lands Committee for report.

INDEX.

No.	Petition, Bill, or Paper.	Page.	No.	Petition, Bill, or Paper.	Page.
	Anderson's Bay Domain Bill	5		Fruit-farm Settlements Bill	9
514	Banks, E. C., and 66 others	7	747	Garden, Louis, and 89 others	9
87	Berry, W., and 115 others	5	157	Gordon-Jones, J., and 25 others	4
14	Blair, James W., and 159 others	6	15	Gow, James, and 171 others	6
45	Brodie, John R.	4		Invercargill Tramway Buildings and Works Site Bill	4
618	Bussell, W. S., and 7 others	9			
88	Butcher, E., and 49 others	5	157	Jones, J. Gordon, and 25 others	4
89	Cameron, J., and 29 others	5		Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Bill	8
	Canterbury Pastoral Runs (Papers Nos. 127, 128, 130, and 227)	6	218	Kauri Timber Company	4
4, 26	Corston, Harriette J.	7	72	Kingi and 28 others	8
90	Cox, J. W. M., and 27 others	5		Land Laws Amendment Bill	6
433	Curtis, Robert R.	6		Lyttelton Harbour Board Reclamation and Empowering Bill	6
91	Dodson, J., and 44 others	5			
	Education Reserves Amendment Bill	6	230	Mackie, Robert	3
	Evans, O. T., and 8 others	5	94	Matthews, H. T., and 49 others	5
	Final Report	10	631	Moriarty, Timothy	8
93	Fitzgibbon, M., and 48 others	5	726	Moriarty, Timothy	9
571/09 330/10	Forrest and Clarke	4	86/09	Munn, W., and 11 others	5

INDEX—continued.

No.	Petition; Bill, or Paper.	Page.	No.	Petition; Bill, or Paper.	Page.
420	McGowan, S., and 23 others .	7	334	Stephens, A., and 11 others	9
95	McGowan, W., and 51 others ..	5		Special Report (Chairman)	10
96	McIntosh, R., and 38 others	5		Special Report (Clerk)	10
617	McKay, Hugh .	7		Taieri Land Drainage Bill	6
68	McQuoid, D. R., and 399 others	7		Taranaki Scholarships Endowment Bill	8
375	McTaggart, J., and 109 others .	5	100	Taylor, J. T., and 8 others	5
	Napier Municipal Theatre and Buildings Bill	5		Templeton Domain Alteration of Boundaries Bill	4
	Napier Recreation-ground and the Sir Donald McLean Memorial Park Bill	5		Thames Harbour Board Empowering Bill	5
	Native Townships Bill	3	442	Voght, Harry	7
	New Plymouth Recreation and Racecourse Reserve Leasing Amendment Bill	8		Waiapu County Council (Tokomaru Harbour) Empowering Bill	8
	New Zealand Portland Cement Company (Limited) Reclamation and Empowering Bill	4		Waikouaiti County Council Reserve Vesting Bill	5
	Otago Harbour Board Lands Vesting Bill..	6		Waipara County Bill	8
97	Pepper, E., and 29 others	5	101	Waitara Harbour Board and Borough Empowering Bill	5
	Rangitaiki Land-drainage Bill	4	636	Waller, J., and 49 others	5
104	Rathie, J., and 164 others	7		Wallis, A. R., and 88 others	9
	Reserves and other Lands Disposal and Public Bodies Enabling Bill	9		Wanganui Harbour Board Vesting Bill	3
417	Reynolds, F. G., and 12 others	7	443	Whangarei Abattoir-site Repeal Bill	6
98	Rhodes, F. S., and 41 others ..	5	102	White, Thomas, jun., and 5 others	8
597/99	Robison, M. C., and 17 others ..	3	183	White, W., and 21 others ..	5
	Scenery Preservation Amendment Bill	9	371	Wick, H. C., and another	8
99	Smith, H., and 12 others	5	103	Wordsworth, W., and 65 others	7
				Wright, G. H., and 21 others	5
				Wyndham Show-ground Reserve Bill	4
			104	Youngman, J. R., and 38 others	5

REPORTS.

No. 230.—Petition of ROBERT MACKIE, of Te Aroha.

PETITIONER prays for compensation for loss of land forfeited for non-payment of rent.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make on this petition.
18th August, 1910.

No. 597 (1909).—Petition of M. C. ROBISON and 17 Others, of Waitoa, Auckland.

PETITIONERS pray that the Piako County Council be prevented from discharging water into the Waitoa River.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make on this petition.
18th August, 1910.

NATIVE TOWNSHIPS BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Native Townships Bill, has the honour to report the same without any amendment, and recommends that it be referred to the Native Affairs Committee.

18th August, 1910.

WANGANUI HARBOUR BOARD VESTING BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Wanganui Harbour Board Vesting Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

18th August, 1910.

TEMPLETON DOMAIN ALTERATION OF BOUNDARIES BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Templeton Domain Alteration of Boundaries Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

18th August, 1910.

Nos. 571 (1909) and 330 (1910).—Petitions of Messrs. FORREST and CLARKE, of Paeroa.

PETITIONERS pray that they may have permission to work, and for relief in connection with, timber on the Te Mata watershed, Thames County

I have the honour to report that the Committee is of opinion that the petitions should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

25th August, 1910

No. 45.—Petition of JOHN R. BRODIE, of Rangitata, Canterbury

PETITIONER prays that effect be given to the report of the Lands Committee on the 10th November, 1907

I am directed to report that the Committee is of opinion that the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration, with a recommendation that the petitioner be granted the sum of £250 as an act of grace.

25th August, 1910

No. 218.—Petition of the KAURI TIMBER COMPANY (LIMITED), of Auckland.

PETITIONER prays for an equitable title to all timber-trees on the Waiwhakaurunga River watershed.

I am directed to report that the Committee is of opinion that the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration, conditional upon the Kauri Timber Company, in the event of the Government giving effect to their prayer, paying the whole of the taxation due, from the original date of the Kauri Timber Company's lease.

The minutes of evidence are attached hereto (see I.—5A)

25th August, 1910.

RANGITAIKI LAND DRAINAGE BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Rangitaiki Land Drainage Bill, after carefully considering the Bill, has the honour to report the same without amendment.

25th August, 1910.

No. 157.—Petition of J GORDON-JONES and 25 Others, of Taheke, Auckland.

PETITIONERS pray for reinstatement as Crown tenants.

I am directed to report that the Committee is of opinion that this petition should be referred to the Government for inquiry

2nd September, 1910

NEW ZEALAND PORTLAND CEMENT COMPANY (LIMITED) RECLAMATION AND EMPOWERING BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the New Zealand Portland Cement Company (Limited) Reclamation and Empowering Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends it be allowed to proceed without amendment.

8th September, 1910.

INVERCARGILL TRAMWAY BUILDINGS AND WORKS SITE BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Invercargill Tramway Buildings and Works Site Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

8th September, 1910

WYNDHAM SHOW-GROUND RESERVE BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Wyndham Show-ground Reserve Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

8th September, 1910

ANDERSON'S BAY DOMAIN BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Anderson's Bay Domain Bill, has the honour to report the same without amendment.

8th September, 1910.

No. 86 (1909).—Petition of W MUNN and 11 Others, of West Oxford (and 19 similar Petitions as per Schedule attached).

PETITIONERS pray for payment of "thirds" from Crown land conveyed to the Midland Railway Company, or, in the alternative, for a full investigation of the claims of the local Road Boards by a Royal Commission or a Committee of the House of Representatives, with power to finally determine the rights involved.

I am directed to report that the Committee considers that the petitioners have no claim to any portion of the Land Fund, but under the special circumstances of the case would recommend that the Government have an inquiry made into the circumstances of the various local bodies in the district covered by the petitions, with a view of making a reasonable grant for roading the back portion of their districts.

The minutes of evidence are attached hereto (see I.—5B).

13th September, 1910.

SCHEDULE.

1909.	1909.
No. 87.—Berry, W., and 115 others.	No. 97.—Pepper, E., and 29 others.
„ 88.—Butcher, E., and 49 others.	„ 98.—Rhodes, F. S., and 41 others.
„ 89.—Cameron, J., and 29 others.	„ 99.—Smith, H., and 12 others.
„ 90.—Cox, J. W. M., and 27 others.	„ 100.—Taylor, J. T., and 8 others.
„ 91.—Dodson, J., and 44 others.	„ 101.—Waller, J., and 49 others.
„ 92.—Evans, O. T., and 8 others.	„ 102.—White, W., and 21 others.
„ 93.—Fitzgibbon, M., and 48 others.	„ 103.—Wright, G. H., and 21 others.
„ 94.—Mathews, H. T., and 49 others.	„ 104.—Youngman, J. R., and 38 others.
„ 95.—McGowan, W., and 51 others.	„ 375.—McTaggart, J., and 109 others.
„ 96.—McIntosh, R., and 38 others.	

NAPIER MUNICIPAL THEATRE AND BUILDINGS BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Napier Municipal Theatre and Buildings Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

15th September, 1910.

NAPIER RECREATION-GROUND AND THE SIR DONALD McLEAN MEMORIAL PARK BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Napier Recreation-ground and the Sir Donald McLean Memorial Park Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

15th September, 1910.

WAIKOUAITI COUNTY COUNCIL RESERVE VESTING BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Waikouaiti County Council Reserve Vesting Bill, has the honour to report that it has considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

15th September, 1910.

WAITARA HARBOUR BOARD AND BOROUGH EMPOWERING BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Waitara Harbour Board and Borough Empowering Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

15th September, 1910.

THAMES HARBOUR BOARD EMPOWERING BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Thames Harbour Board Empowering Bill, has the honour to report the same without any amendment.

15th September, 1910.

EDUCATION RESERVES AMENDMENT BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Education Reserves Amendment Bill, has the honour to report the same without amendment.

15th September, 1910.

OTAGO HARBOUR BOARD LANDS VESTING BILL

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Otago Harbour Board Lands Vesting Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed with the amendments shown on the copy of the Bill attached hereto.

28th September, 1910.

WHANGAREI ABATTOIR-SITE REPEAL BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Whangarei Abattoir-site Repeal Bill, has the honour to report the Bill without amendment.

4th October, 1910

LYTTLETON HARBOUR BOARD RECLAMATION AND EMPOWERING BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Lyttelton Harbour Board Reclamation and Empowering Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

4th October, 1910

No 433.—Petition of ROBERT R. CURTIS, of Feilding.

PETITIONER prays for a refund of £15 10s, rent paid on an abandoned section of land in Takahue District.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

19th October, 1910.

LAND LAWS AMENDMENT BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Land Laws Amendment Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed with the amendments shown on the copy attached hereto. (See I.—5c.)

19th October, 1910.

PAPERS NOS. 127, 128, 130, AND 227, RELATIVE TO THE CANTERBURY PASTORAL RUNS COMMISSION
(SEE C.—12, C.—12A, C.—12B, C.—12C).

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the above-mentioned papers, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that the Statutory Commissioners' report be adopted with regard to the runs inspected and reported on, with the exception of Double Hill and Glynnwyne Runs, and that further investigation be held with regard to these two runs, with a view of ascertaining if it is practicable to reduce the areas.

19th October, 1910.

NOS. 14 AND 15.—Petitions of JAMES W BLAIR and 159 Others, and JAMES GOW and 171 Others, of Taieri.

PETITIONERS pray that the present Taieri Drainage District should be abolished, and that a new district and Board should be constituted to deal with the lands on the western side of the Taieri River

I am directed to report that, as the subject-matter of the petitions has been dealt with in the Taieri Land-drainage Bill, the Committee has no recommendation to make.

The minutes of evidence taken on the Bill and petitions are attached hereto.

20th October, 1910.

TAIERI LAND-DRAINAGE BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Taieri Land-drainage Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed with the amendments as shown on the copy attached hereto.

20th October, 1910.

No. 68.—Petition of D. R. McQuoid and 399 Others, of Coromandel.

PETITIONERS pray for amendment of the Land Act, 1908, in respect of leasing lands in the Hauraki Mining District.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

Evidence and documents are attached hereto (see I.—5D).

26th October, 1910.

No. 417.—Petition of F. G. REYNOLDS and 12 Others, of Waiorongomai, Auckland

PETITIONERS pray that the tenants of the Thames High School endowments at Waiorongomai may have their leases taken over by the Government.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

26th October, 1910.

Nos. 4 and 26.—Petitions of HARRIETTE CORSTON, of Auckland.

PETITIONER prays for a grant of land, or compensation in lieu thereof.

I am directed to report that the Committee is of opinion that this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration, with a recommendation that the petitioner be granted a compassionate allowance of £20.

26th October, 1910.

No. 420.—Petition of S. McGOWAN and 23 Others, of Raglan County, Auckland.

PETITIONERS pray for remission of rent as lessees of Te Akau B Block, Raglan County.

I am directed to report that the Committee is of opinion that this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

26th October, 1910.

No. 442.—Petition of HARRY VOGHT, of Omata, New Plymouth.

PETITIONER prays that he be granted compensation for loss sustained through being unable to obtain possession of a section of land at Huntly

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

26th October, 1910.

No. 514.—Petition of E. C. BANKS and 66 Others, settlers of Matamata County

PETITIONERS pray that they be granted the right of purchasing the freehold.

I am directed to report that this petition should be referred to the Government for consideration.

26th October, 1910.

No. 371.—Petition of W. WORDSWORTH and 65 Others, of Te Kopuru.

PETITIONERS pray that the reservation on Sections 24 and 127, Te Kopuru, be not lifted until the sections are drained and the lower depths of kauri-gum are worked.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make on this petition.

26th October, 1910.

No. 617.—Petition of HUGH McKAY, of Stratford.

PETITIONER prays for return of deposit paid on a flax reserve, Hauraki Swamp.

I am directed to report that the Committee is of opinion that this petition should be referred to the Government.

26th October, 1910.

No. 104.—Petition of J. RATHIE and 164 Others, of Clive.

PETITIONERS pray that the diversion of the Tutaekuri River be not allowed.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make on this petition.

26th October, 1910.

TARANAKI SCHOLARSHIPS ENDOWMENT BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Taranaki Scholarships Endowment Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed with the amendments as shown on the copy attached hereto.

26th October, 1910.

NEW PLYMOUTH RECREATION AND RACECOURSE RESERVE LEASING AMENDMENT BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the New Plymouth Recreation and Racecourse Reserve Leasing Amendment Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

26th October, 1910.

WAIAPU COUNTY COUNCIL (TOKOMARU HARBOUR) EMPOWERING BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the above-mentioned Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed as amended by the Local Bills Committee.

26th October, 1910.

KAURI-GUM INDUSTRY AMENDMENT BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed with the amendments as shown on the copy attached hereto.

26th October, 1910.

No. 631.—Petition of TIMOTHY MORIARTY (No. 1), of Greymouth.

PETITIONER prays for redress in connection with his section of land at Stillwater.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make on this petition.

2nd November, 1910.

No. 443.—Petition of THOMAS WHITE, jun., and 5 Others, Tenants of Kinlock Estate, Te Ōka.

PETITIONERS pray for an inquiry into the position of the tenants of the Kinlock Estate who have exchanged the lease in perpetuity for the renewable lease.

I am directed to report that the Committee is of opinion that this petition should be referred to the Government with a view that the petitioners be supplied with the information asked for in the petition.

2nd November, 1910.

No. 596.—Petition of WAIPARA COUNTY COUNCIL, Canterbury

PETITIONER prays for the restoration to the Waipara County Council of land taken by the Government for a post-office site.

I am directed to report that the Committee is of opinion that this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration, with a recommendation that a clause to meet the case be inserted in the usual "washing-up" Bill to be brought forward in Parliament this session.

2nd November, 1910.

No. 72.—Petition of KINGI and 28 Others, of Whangarei.

PETITIONERS pray for an amendment in the Whangarei Harbour Act, 1907, and protest against the lands described in the Second Schedule thereto being vested in the Whangarei Harbour Board.

I am directed to report that the Committee is of opinion that this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

2nd November, 1910.

No. 183.—Petition of H. C. WICK and Another, of Auckland.

PETITIONERS pray for refund of deposit forfeited in connection with certain allotments in Paeroa Township.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

2nd November 1910.

No. 334.—Petition of A. STEPHENS and 11 Others, of Westport.

PETITIONERS pray for relief in connection with the tenure of certain lands in the Town of Westport.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

8th November, 1910.

No. 618.—Petition of W. S. BUSSELL and 7 Others, of Kaikoura, Canterbury

PETITIONERS pray for an amendment of the Public Reserves Act.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration

8th November, 1910.

SCENERY PRESERVATION AMENDMENT BILL.

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the Scenery Preservation Amendment Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed with the amendments as shown on the copy of the Bill attached hereto.

8th November, 1910.

No. 726.—Petition of TIMOTHY MORIARTY (No. 2), of Stillwater, Greymouth.

PETITIONER prays that he be allowed to explain before the House his claim for redress in connection with his section of land at Stillwater

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make on this petition.

25th November, 1910.

No. 747.—Petition of LOUIS GARDEN and 89 Others, of Pahia, Southland.

PETITIONERS pray that lands near Pahia Railway-station, Southland Land District, be opened for selection

I am directed to report that the Committee is of opinion that this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

25th November, 1910.

FRUIT-FARMS SETTLEMENT BILL

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the above-mentioned Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed without amendment.

28th November, 1910.

RESERVES AND OTHER LANDS DISPOSAL AND PUBLIC BODIES ENABLING BILL

THE Lands Committee, to whom was referred the above-mentioned Bill, has the honour to report that it has carefully considered the same, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed with the amendments as shown on the copy attached hereto.

29th November, 1910.

No. 636.—Petition of A. R. WALLIS and 88 Others, of Southland.

PETITIONERS pray that the State Forest Regulations, 1886, may be interpreted, and that the areas in Southland held by H. A. Massey may be investigated, and, if necessary the law be amended so that their validity may be decided by the Supreme Court.

I am directed to report that the Committee recommends the prayer of the petitioners to the Government for favourable consideration, and with the view of settling the question in dispute the Committee also recommends that a full inquiry be instituted into the legality or otherwise of the sawmilling leases executed in the district.

And, further, the Committee recommends that in future it is desirable for the Government to reserve areas of bush throughout the Dominion adjacent to close settlements as timber reserves for the settlers, and as the timber is cut on these areas provision be made for replanting them.

The minutes of evidence, correspondence, &c., are attached hereto.

29th November, 1910

SPECIAL REPORT

I HAVE the honour to report that the Lands Committee desires to place on record its appreciation of the courtesy and tact manifested by the Chairman (Hon Mr T Duncan) in presiding over the deliberations of the Committee during the session.

29th November, 1910.

F W LANG,
Member of the Committee.

SPECIAL REPORT

I AM directed to report that the Lands Committee wishes to place on record its appreciation of the able manner in which Mr Collings, Clerk to the Committee, has carried out the duties devolving on him in connection with the work of the Committee, his work being performed with the utmost care and despatch.

The Committee would recommend him for the favourable consideration of the Government in view of any permanent appointments being made of the Committee Clerks.

29th November, 1910.

FINAL REPORT

I HAVE the honour to report that the Lands Committee has during the past session held 31 meetings, of which members attended on the average 26·7

The number of petitions referred to the Committee was 50, the number of papers 4, and the number of Bills 26, all of which have been reported to the House.

29th November, 1910.

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