

1919.
NEW ZEALAND.

PUBLIC PETITIONS M TO Z COMMITTEE
(REPORTS OF THE).

(MR. J. McC. DICKSON, CHAIRMAN.)

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

ORDERS OF REFERENCE.

Extracts from the Journals of the House of Representatives.

WEDNESDAY, THE 3RD DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1919.

Ordered, "That Standing Order No. 219 be suspended, and that a Select Committee be appointed, consisting of eleven members, to consider all petitions from M to Z that may be referred to it by the Petitions Classification Committee, to classify and prepare abstracts of such petitions in such form and manner as shall appear to it best suited to convey to this House all requisite information respecting their contents, and to report the same from time to time to this House, and to have power to report its opinions and observations thereon to this House; also to have power to call for persons and papers; three to be a quorum: the Committee to consist of Mr. Bollard, Mr. Craigie, Mr. Dickie, Mr. J. McC. Dickson, Mr. J. S. Dickson, Hon. Mr. Hanan, Mr. Mander, Mr. Poole, Mr. S. G. Smith, Mr. Statham, and the mover."—(Right Hon. Mr. MASSEY, for Minister in charge, Hon. Mr. NOSWORTHY.)

THURSDAY, THE 25TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1919.

Ordered, "That all petitions not finally dealt with during the sessions of 1918 be again referred to the same Committees as they were referred to during the said sessions."—(Right Hon. Mr. MASSEY.)

FRIDAY, THE 26TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1919.

Ordered, "That the petition of Caroline A. Williams and another petition be referred to the Public Petitions M to Z Committee."—(MR. BOLLARD.)

TUESDAY, THE 14TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 1919.

Ordered, "That the report of the Public Petitions M to Z Committee on the petition of D. McLennan and others be referred back to that Committee for further consideration."—(MR. SCOTT.)

TUESDAY, THE 21ST DAY OF OCTOBER, 1919.

Ordered, "That the report of the Public Petitions M to Z Committee on the petition of Mrs. W. Tonkin be referred back to that Committee for further consideration." (MR. T. A. H. FIELD.)

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REPORTS.

No. 4 of Session I, 1918.—Petition of D. MCGREGOR and Another, of Wanganui.
PRAYING that they be granted alleged arrears of military pension.
I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee, having regard to the delays of the Defence Department in inquiring into and granting the pensions of petitioners, this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration, with the view of granting compensation for such delays.
24th September, 1919.

No. 9 of Session I, 1918.—Petition of OLIVER NOAKES, of Auckland.
PRAYING for compensation for alleged wrongful imprisonment.
I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee this petition should be referred to the Government for very favourable consideration.
24th September, 1919.

No. 486 of 1917, and No. 7 of Session I, 1918.—Petitions of J. H. NEWLYN, of Christchurch.
PRAYING that his services may be further utilized in aid of the Dominion.
I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.
24th September, 1919.

No. 13 of Session II, 1918.—Petition of CHARLES HOWARD NICHOLLS, of Kaikoura.

PRAYING for compensation for the loss of his launch.

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

24th September, 1919.

No. 363 of 1915.—Petition of HENRY REY, of Rarotonga, Cook Islands.

PRAYING for compensation for certain alleged abuses of authority by the Administrator of the Cook Islands Group.

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

24th September, 1919.

No. 49.—Petition of ALBERT PLUMMER, of Auckland.

PRAYING for relief for loss of contract to supply Maori prisoners with rations in 1865.

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

14th October, 1919.

No. 51.—Petition of C. W. STEPHENSON, of Wellington.

PRAYING for redress for alleged wrongful dismissal from the Post and Telegraph Department.

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

14th October, 1919.

No. 117.—Petition of MICHAEL O'GRADY, of Wellington.

PRAYING for a gratuity or compassionate allowance in respect of expenses incurred through an accident to his son Michael Joseph O'Grady, aged twelve years, on board H.M.S. "New Zealand."

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

14th October, 1919.

No. 130 of Session II, 1918.—Petition of PETER MALONEY, of Nainai, Lower Hutt.

PRAYING for the reopening of a certain Royal Commission to inquire into his dismissal from the Police Force.

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

14th October, 1919.

No. 137 of Session II, 1918.—Petition of GEORGE SEATTER, of Otatau.

PRAYING for compensation for loss of land by river erosion.

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

14th October, 1919.

No. 123 of Session II, 1918.—Petition of H. O. PESKETT, of Christchurch.

PRAYING for payment of moneys alleged to be due to him from the Postal Department.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration, with a view to the carrying-out of the suggestion contained in the report of the Public Service Commissioner dated 2nd October, instant.

14th October, 1919.

Nos. 53 and 78.—Petitions of JOHN SCOTT MYERS, of Marshlands, Christchurch.

PRAYING for compensation for an alleged miscarriage of justice.

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

14th October, 1919.

No. 40.—Petition of THOMAS WILLIAM SMITH, of Morrinsville.

PRAYING for compensation on account of being accidentally shot at a Territorial Camp at Kiwitahi.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration, and that the Government should pay petitioner the sum of £100 in full and final settlement.

14th October, 1919.

No. 60.—Petition of CAROLINE A. WILLIAMS, of Auckland.

PRAYING for compassionate allowance on account of the loss of her husband, who was killed in a railway accident while employed as a mailman on the Main Trunk express.

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

14th October, 1919.

No. 61.—Petition of CAROLINE P. MARTIN, of Auckland.

PRAYING for compassionate allowance on account of her son, who was killed in a railway accident while employed as mailman on the Main Trunk express.

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

14th October, 1919.

No. 52.—Petition of JOSEPH STACHURSKI and 12 others, of Taranaki.

PRAYING for redress and the granting of naturalization papers.

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

14th October, 1919.

No. 72.—Petition of JOHN MAHER, of Taumarunui, Farmer.

PRAYING that he be reimbursed expenses for defending an action for libel arising out of his duties as a constable.

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

14th October, 1919.

No. 67.—Petition of JOHN MACFARLANE, of Christchurch.

PRAYING for refund of moneys paid to Flying School by his late son.

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

14th October, 1919.

No. 48.—Petition of ALFRED EDWARD WELLBOURN, of Broad Bay.

PRAYING for maintenance on account of disability incurred as a result of military service.

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

14th October, 1919.

No. 10 of Session I, 1918.—Petition of WALLACE HUGH ROSS, of Ramarama Creek, Ohinemuri County.

PRAYING for compensation for the alleged loss of certain sheep through the alleged inaction of the police authorities at Waihi, which precluded him from obtaining any redress from the persons responsible for the loss.

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

15th October, 1919.

No. 59. Petition of H. L. WORTHINGTON, of Petone.

PRAYING for compensation, and that an Order in Council be gazetted compelling owners of foreign-going ships to use a combined disc and rat-trap on their hawsers.

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

15th October, 1919.

No. 4. Petition of JAMES EARL READ, of Wellington.

PRAYING for a compassionate allowance in respect of his retirement from the Public Service.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee this petition should be referred to the Government for further consideration, having regard to the specially unfortunate circumstances of the case.

15th October, 1919.

No. 274. Petition of MARY MAHONEY, of Wellington.

PRAYING for further compensation on account of the loss of her husband at the Upper Hutt fire in 1914.

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

15th October, 1919.

No. 91 of Session II, 1918. Petition of D. McLENNAN and 204 Others, of Heriot. (First Report.)

PRAYING for the reinstatement within a licensed electorate of the Railway Hotel, Heriot.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make, but suggests that the electoral margin of 550 voters either way is not sufficiently large for the purposes of electoral redistribution.

15th October, 1919.

No. 272.—Petition of THE NEW ZEALAND POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION
(INCORPORATED).

PRAYING that, in order to give better and reasonable opportunities for promotion in the Service, all officers with forty years' service or more and who are entitled to a pension of not less than £250 per annum should be compulsorily retired.

I am directed to report that, the matter involved being one of policy, the Committee has no recommendation to make.

17th October, 1915.

No. 54.—Petition of ARTHUR OLIVER, of Christchurch.

PRAYING for a compassionate allowance or that his military pension be increased.

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

17th October, 1919.

No. 33.—Petition of R. E. G. THOMAS, of Auckland.

PRAYING for compensation for services rendered to the State.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee, having regard to the long service of petitioner and the exceptional circumstances of the case, this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

17th October, 1919.

No 14.—Petition of STEPHEN SHALFOON and Another, of Opotiki.

PRAYING that the stigma of being or having been enemies of the British Empire may be removed from their names.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration; and the Committee desires to call attention to the British Orders in Council to which reference is made in paragraph 7 of the petition.

17th October, 1919.

No. 273.—Petition of JAMES WYLIE, of Nelson, Engineer.

PRAYING for inquiry and relief in connection with certain works carried out for the Nelson City Council.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.
21st October, 1919.

No. 237.—Petition of Mrs. W. TONKIN, of Nelson.

PRAYING that her husband be granted a rehearing *re* his dismissal from the Police Force.

I am directed to report that the Committee has no recommendation to make.
21st October, 1919.

No. 109.—Petition of EMILY MACKENZIE, of Auckland, and 4 Others.

PRAYING for full inquiry in connection with the presentation to the House of the petition of Mrs. A. S. Bedford during the session of 1918.

I am directed to report that, in the opinion of the Committee, on the evidence tendered by the Hon. the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Clerk of the House, it is clear that the petition referred to in this present petition was not placed before any Committee of this House because of an informality in the body of the petition, and your Committee therefore has no recommendation to make.

22nd October, 1919.

No. 19.—Petition of G. L. RINGS, of Christchurch.

PRAYING for compensation for alleged wrongful dismissal from the Police Force.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for consideration, with a view to the case being reviewed.

22nd October, 1919.

No. 121 of Session II, 1918.—Petition of SARAH ANN McDEVITT, of Wellington.

PRAYING for compensation for the loss of her husband, an employee on the Government steamer "Tutanekai."

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

22nd October, 1919.

No. 63.—Petition of G. L. CRABB, of Hamilton, and 3 similar Petitions (as per Schedule attached).

PRAYING for reimbursement of loss occasioned by being compelled to remain at Sydney for an undue period by the New Zealand Health authorities during the influenza epidemic, and for increased pay and allowances as munition workers and otherwise.

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

22nd October, 1919.

SCHEDULE.

No. 62.—E. L. Forrest.
No. 278.—A. Baker.

No. 111.—J. E. Stych.

No. 73. Petition of WILLIAM HAM, of Wellington, and 8 similar Petitions (as per Schedule attached).

PRAYING for reimbursement of loss occasioned by being compelled to remain at Sydney for an undue period by the New Zealand Health authorities during the influenza epidemic.

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

22nd October, 1919.

SCHEDULE.

No. 24.—F. W. Mason.
No. 55.—James Dobbie.
No. 65.—J. A. L. Feran.
No. 66.—L. F. Simmons and another.

No. 106.—E. Simon and another.
No. 107.—C. W. Blackford.
No. 288.—J. W. Smith.
No. 303.—Isaac Helper.

No. 5.—Petition of FANNY SAMPSON, of Wanganui.

PRAYING for a compassionate allowance on account of her late husband's services in the Post and Telegraph Department.

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

27th October, 1919.

No. 178.—Petition of THOMAS WATSON, of East Bay, Marlborough, and 35 Others.

PRAYING that the settlement at East Bay, in Queen Charlotte Sounds, be connected up with the nearest telephone bureau.

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

27th October, 1919.

No. 333.—Petition of JANE G. MIDDLETON, of Wellington.

PRAYING for compensation for loss caused by non-payment of war risk on a policy of life insurance in the Australian Mutual Provident Society on the life of her son, who died whilst a member of the New Zealand Expeditionary Forces.

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

27th October, 1919.

No. 37.—Petition of WILLIAM WILSON MCCARDLE, of Walton, farmer.

PRAYING that some permanent record or substantial memento be made in recognition of his services to the Dominion of New Zealand.

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

27th October, 1919.

No. 91 of Session II, 1918. Petition of D. McLENNAN and 204 Others, of Heriot. (Second Report.)

PRAYING for a reinstatement within a licensed electorate of the Railway Hotel, Heriot.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration. And the Committee further recommends that legislation should be passed next session to amend the various anomalies recognized to have been created by the operation of the law under which the Representation Commissioners act.

27th October, 1919.

No. 316.—Petition of BRIDGET M. SULLIVAN, of Wellington.

PRAYING for the restoration of the license of the building and premises at one time known as the Porirua Hotel.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration, with a view to legislation being passed next session to amend the various anomalies recognized to have been created by the operation of the law under which the Representation Commissioners act.

27th October, 1919.

No. 238.—Petition of ADAM URQUHART, of Auckland.

PRAYING for relief in regard to non-payment of wages while working on the Matiere Tunnel.

I am directed to report that, in view of the offer made by the Public Works Department, the Committee has no recommendation to make.

27th October, 1919.

No. 20.—Petition of FLORA F. McRAE, of Urenui.

PRAYING that she be paid the sum of £300 due on an insurance policy on the life of her son, who was killed in action, all due payments of premiums having been paid to the Government Life Insurance Department.

I am directed to report that, in view of the payment now agreed to be made by the Government Life Insurance Department, the Committee has no recommendation to make.

27th October, 1919.

No. 125.—Petition of THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE OF NEW ZEALAND.

PRAYING that the value of the library presented to the nation should be exempted from the dutiable estate of the late Alexander Horsbrugh Turnbull.

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

27th October 1919.

No. 235.—Petition of JOHN STEVENSON, of Waianiwa.

PRAYING that his war pension in right of his deceased son, of £26 per annum, be increased to the sum of £60 from the date of the granting of the existing pension.

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

27th October, 1919.

No. 179.—Petition of H. A. VOLLHEIDE, of Wellington.

PRAYING for reinstatement in the Public Service, or, in lieu thereof, compensation for loss of office.

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

27th October, 1919.

No. 244.—Petition of JOHN WILSON, of Dunedin.

PRAYING for a refund of duty on articles used in alterations to the old police-station at Dunedin.

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

27th October, 1919.

No. 263.—Petition of MARION C. SOUFFLOT, of Ohakune.

PRAYING for a compassionate allowance in consideration of the services rendered by her late husband in the public service.

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

27th October, 1919.

No. 74.—Petition of J. J. W. WHITE, of Blenheim.

PRAYING for compensation for loss incurred in conducting the Blenheim Public Trust Agency.

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

27th October, 1919.

No. 350.—Petition of CHARLES MURPHY, of Gore.

PRAYING for reimbursement of loss occasioned by being compelled to remain at Sydney for an undue period by the New Zealand Health authorities during the influenza epidemic.

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

29th October, 1919.

No. 267.—Petition of THE NEW ZEALAND POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION (INCORPORATED).

PRAYING for an inquiry into certain alleged intimidation.

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

29th October, 1919.

No. 332. Petition of WILLIAM MCKEEVER, of Tweed, New South Wales.

PRAYING for the military pension to be paid to him as a holder of the New Zealand Maori War medal, notwithstanding that he is living out of the Dominion.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee this petition should be referred to the Government for favourable consideration. The Committee desires further to recommend that the statutory provision which debars holders of the Maori War pension resident out of the Dominion from receiving such pension whilst so resident should be repealed by a short Act this session.

29th October, 1919.

No. 337.—Petition of WILLIAM W. CRUMP, of Brooklyn.

PRAYING for reimbursement of loss occasioned by being compelled to remain at Sydney for an undue period by the New Zealand Health authorities during the influenza epidemic.

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

29th October, 1919.

No. 327.—Petition of JAMES STEPHEN PIPE, of New Plymouth.

PRAYING for payment of his superannuation allowance which was deducted from salary earned while acting as bailiff in a temporary position in the Magistrate's Court at New Plymouth.

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

29th October, 1919.

No. 346.—Petition of BESSIE WHITE and 913 Others, of Poverty Bay.

PRAYING for the immediate restoration of the pre-war reduced passages for women and girls suitable for domestic help, and calling attention to the low birth-rate.

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

4th November, 1919.

No. 319.—Petition of MICHAEL D. VITALI, of Auckland.

PRAYING for the issue to him of a license under the War Legislation Act, 1918, enabling him to hold land in New Zealand.

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

4th November, 1919.

No. 237.—Petition of Mrs. W. TONKIN, of Nelson. (Second Report.)

PRAYING that her husband be granted a rehearing *re* his dismissal from the Police Force.

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

4th November, 1919.

No. 271.—Petition of DONALD MACINTOSH, of Wellington.

PRAYING for an inquiry into the reasons for his incarceration in a mental hospital.

I am directed to report that in the opinion of the Committee the petition should be referred to the Government for consideration and further inquiry.

4th November, 1919.

No. 318.—Petition of WILLIAM MARTIN, of Plimmerton.

PRAYING for the remission of certain stamp duties and registration fees.

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

4th November, 1919.

No. 276.—Petition of JOHN MARSH, of Wellington.

PRAYING for assistance on account of services rendered to the State as chief steward on a Government steamer.

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

4th November, 1919.

SPECIAL REPORT.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Public Petitions M to Z Committee desires to record its hearty appreciation of the tact, courtesy, and ability displayed by the Chairman, Mr. J. McC. Dickson, in his conduct of the business of the Committee throughout this session of Parliament; and further desires that this resolution shall be recorded in the minutes of the Committee and be reported to the House.

4th November, 1919.

FINAL REPORT.

I AM directed to report that the Public Petitions M to Z Committee, consisting of eleven members, has during this session held twelve meetings, the average attendance being eight.

The following table shows the disposal of the business which came before the Committee :—

| | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|
| Number of petitions referred to the Committee | .. | .. | .. | .. | 79 |
| Number of petitions dealt with | .. | .. | .. | .. | 73 |
| Number of reports presented to the House | .. | .. | .. | .. | 62 |
| Number referred for favourable consideration | .. | .. | .. | .. | 29 |
| Number referred for consideration and further inquiry | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Number for inquiry and consideration | .. | .. | .. | .. | 11 |
| Number referred for consideration | .. | .. | .. | .. | 11 |
| Number of petitions given " No recommendation " | .. | .. | .. | .. | 19 |
| Number of petitions referred to Government direct | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Number of petitions held over by request | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Number of petitions held over, not having been returned from the Department to which they were sent for report | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 |

4th November, 1919.

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