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REPORTS.

EGMONT NATIONAL PARK AMENDMENT BILL.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Lands Committee has carefully considered the Egmont National Park Amendment Bill, and recommends that it be allowed to proceed without amendment.

7th November, 1933.

NEW PLYMOUTH BOROUGH COUNCIL AND NEW PLYMOUTH HARBOUR BOARD EMPOWERING BILL.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Lands Committee has carefully considered the New Plymouth Borough Council and New Plymouth Harbour Board Empowering Bill, and recommends that, so far as it affects the rights and prerogatives of the Crown, the Bill be allowed to proceed, with the amendment shown on the copy of the Bill hereto attached.

7th November, 1933.

SCENERY PRESERVATION AMENDMENT BILL.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Lands Committee has carefully considered the Scenery Preservation Amendment Bill, and recommends that the Bill be allowed to proceed with the amendment shown on the copy of the Bill hereto attached.

7th November, 1933.

No. 194.—Petition of H. L. HARKER, of Wairoa, Chairman of Wairoa Harbour Board.

PRAYING that a parliamentary Committee be set up to consider and investigate the position of rating of Crown lands.

I have the honour to report that the Lands Committee has carefully considered this petition, and recommends that it be referred to the Government for favourable consideration.

9th November, 1933.

WAIKATO WATER-SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED EMPOWERING BILL.

I HAVE the honour, by direction of the Lands Committee, which has considered the Waikato Water-supply Company Limited Empowering Bill, to report thereon as follows: "This is a Private Bill, and it seeks to confer very wide powers on a private corporation and hands over to it a public utility. It should, therefore, be subject to very close scrutiny in order that the public interest may be safeguarded. The Standing Orders relating to Private Bills provide machinery for this scrutiny by a special Committee, and the Lands Committee therefore confines its report to those provisions of the