Hon. Mr. McLeod.

HUTT VALLEY LANDS SETTLEMENT AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

Title.
1. Short Title.
2. Modification of usual procedure in disposing by auction of lands subject to principal Act.
3. If land not disposed of when offered, the capital value may be immediately reduced.
4. Special provisions as to disposal of land for industrial purposes.
5. Repeal.
6. Section 11 of principal Act amended.
7. Section 13 of principal Act amended.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the Hutt Valley Lands Settlement Act, 1925. Title.

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Hutt Valley Lands Settlement Amendment Act, 1926, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Hutt Valley Lands Settlement Act, 1925 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act). Short Title.

2. (1.) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Land Act, 1924, or in the Land for Settlements Act, 1925, in their application to lands subject to the principal Act, it shall not be necessary for the Land Board, in giving notice, as required by section seventy-seven of the Land Act, 1924, with respect to any lands intended to be offered for sale or lease, to state in the notice the upset price at which the several allotments are to be offered. Modification of usual procedure in disposing by auction of lands subject to principal Act.

(2.) Any notice given under the said section with respect to any such lands may, if the Land Board thinks fit, be for a less period than the period prescribed by paragraph (*b*) of the said section.

(3.) Any allotment offered by public auction and not disposed of shall, unless and until withdrawn by the Land Board, remain open for disposal on application at the upset price.

3. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Land for Settlements Act, 1925, in its application to land subject to the principal Act, where any such land has been offered for sale or lease and has not been disposed of, the capital value thereof may be reduced at any time before the expiration of the period of three months prescribed by section fifty-four of the said Act. If land not disposed of when offered, the capital value may be immediately reduced.

4. For the purpose of providing sites for commercial and industrial purposes, any land subject to the principal Act may, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any other Act, be disposed of for such purposes by way of sale in fee-simple, subject to the conditions following, that is to say:— Special provisions as to disposal of land for industrial purposes.

(*a.*) The Governor-General may, from time to time, by notification in the *Gazette*, declare that any such land shall be available for purchase as a site or sites for commercial or industrial purposes.

(*b.*) Every such notification shall specify an approximate price which shall be acceptable as a basis of negotiations with respect to the purchase of any land referred to in the notification.

(*c.*) No sale shall be made under this section except with the consent of the Minister, and the sale price shall be finally fixed by the Minister in the manner prescribed by section six of the principal Act with respect to sales by auction.

(*d.*) For the purposes of any such sale the provisions of the principal Act, or of any other Act relating to declarations, formal applications, or public auction shall not apply.

(*e.*) The provisions of section eighty-five of the Land for Settlements Act, 1925, shall have no application with respect to lands sold under this section.

Repeal.

5. Section seven of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing paragraph (*b*) thereof.

Section 11 of principal Act amended.

6. Section eleven of the principal Act is hereby amended as from the passing thereof by omitting from paragraph (*e*) of subsection two the words "Public Works Fund," and substituting the words "separate account established under the Railways Improvement Authorization Act, 1914."

Section 13 of principal Act amended.

7. Section thirteen of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting all words after the words "it shall not be lawful for any person," and substituting the words "to acquire more than two allotments of land subject to this Act under the special provisions set out in paragraph (*c*) of section seven hereof, and where any person so acquires two allotments, such allotments shall be contiguous."

By Authority: W. A. G. Skinner, Government Printer, Wellington.—1926.