

Hon. Mr. McKenzie.

LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACT AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

Title.	3. Governor may prohibit sale of pastoral land in Nelson and Marlborough.
1. Short Title.	4. Section 21 of previous Act amended.
2. Governor may acquire lands for settlement by purchase or exchange, or may take lands compulsorily.	

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend "The Land for Settlements Act, 1892." Title.

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

1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Land for Settlements Act Amendment Act, 1893." It shall be read and construed together with "The Land for Settlements Act, 1892" (herein referred to as "the said Act"). Short Title.

2. Section four of "The Land for Settlements Act, 1892" (herein referred to as "the said Act"); the said Act is hereby repealed, and the following substituted in lieu thereof:— Governor may acquire lands for settlement by purchase or exchange, or may take lands compulsorily.

For the purpose,—

- (1.) Of providing land for settlement under the Land Acts; or
- (2.) For the acquisition of sites for homesteads for neighbouring high-lying pastoral land; or
- (3.) For acquiring low-lying land necessary for the settlement of neighbouring high pastoral land; or
- (4.) For the exchanging low-lying or agricultural land suitable for settlement for high land suitable only for pastoral purposes,—

the Governor, on behalf of Her Majesty, may from time to time contract for the purchase or exchange of any lands, at such price, or for so much equivalent land, as may be agreed upon between any owner or lessee and the Governor on the recommendation of the Board.

In the event of any such owner refusing to sell or exchange, or on failure to come to an agreement with such owner in respect of the sale or exchange of, any land required for the aforesaid purposes, the Governor may take such land compulsorily, or so much thereof as he shall deem necessary, under "The Public Works Act, 1882," the provisions whereof shall apply to such taking as if it were a taking of land for a public work within the meaning of that Act; and the compensation to be paid for such taking shall be assessed in manner provided by that Act.

The Governor, under the provisions of section five of the said Act, may do all such things in relation to any exchange of land, or the taking of land compulsorily, as he is authorised by the said section to do in relation to the purchase of any land under the said Act.

New clause.

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2A. The *last-preceding* section shall be read subject to the limitations and conditions following, that is to say,—

(1.) No land shall be taken compulsorily under this Act from any person not owning more than one thousand acres of first-class land, or two thousand acres of second-class land, or five thousand acres of pastoral land in one complete estate; and 10

(2.) Any person owning more than one thousand acres of first-class land, or two thousand acres of second-class land, or five thousand acres of pastoral land shall have the right to select any part of such land not exceeding the last-mentioned areas respectively, which shall be excepted from being taken compulsorily under this Act: Provided that such owner shall make his selection of the land to be excepted as aforesaid within three months from the date of the posting of a registered letter addressed to the said owner containing a notification from the Board that the Governor intends to take the said owner's land, or part thereof, under the authority of the said Act or this Act. 15 20 25

3. Notwithstanding any right accrued or reserved to any lessee or licensee of pastoral land under "The Nelson Crown Lands Leasing Act, 1867," or "The Marlborough Waste Lands Act, 1867," to purchase such land or any part thereof, the Governor, by notification in the *Gazette*, may declare any such land to be required for any of the purposes mentioned in section *two* of this Act; and after the publication of any such notification no sale of any land described therein shall be made by any Commissioner of Crown Lands until notice has been given to the Minister of such intended sale, who, if he thinks fit, may at any time within twelve months after the receipt of such notice acquire for Her Majesty, under the provisions of this Act, such land or any part thereof. 30 35

Governor may prohibit sale of pastoral land in Nelson and Marlborough.

New paragraph.

Subject, nevertheless, that the lessee shall be entitled to compensation for any loss he may sustain by reason of such acquisition, and that such compensation shall be ascertained in the manner provided by "The Public Works Act, 1882." 40

4. Section twenty-one of the said Act is hereby amended by the substitution in the citation of "The Land Act, 1885," of the figures "1892" in place of "1885." 45

Section 21 of previous Act amended.