

Mr. Wakefield.

Public Libraries.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to promote the Establishment of Public Libraries.

WHEREAS it is expedient to promote the establishment of free public libraries for the instruction and recreation of the people:

BE IT THEREFORE 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 shall be "The Public Libraries Act, 1877."

2. "The Public Libraries Act, 1869," is hereby repealed.

3. The word "district," where used in this Act, shall mean "a school district."

4. Any library established and supported by voluntary contributions in any district, or any library incorporated under "The Public Libraries Powers Act, 1875," shall be deemed a public library.

5. Any Committee appointed by the persons who shall have contributed towards the establishment and support of a public library as aforesaid shall be a Library Committee within the meaning of this Act.

6. Any Library Committee who shall certify that the voluntary contributions paid towards the establishment and support of a public library within the district have amounted within any financial year to any sum not less than ten pounds, shall be entitled to receive, out of any moneys appropriated by the General Assembly for the purposes of public libraries, a sum equal to any sum so voluntarily subscribed, and the Colonial Treasurer shall, on the receipt of such certificate, issue and pay such sum to such Library Committee.

General management
of libraries.

7. The general management, regulation, and control of libraries established under this Act shall be vested in and exercised by the Library Committees of the districts within which such libraries are situated. And such Library Committees may from time to time purchase, provide, and deal with all things necessary for the use of such libraries, and appoint officers and dismiss the same, and make rules and regulations for the safety and use of the libraries, and for the admission and convenience of the public.

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Admission to and
use of library.

8. The admission to all libraries established under this Act shall be open to the public free of all charge: Provided that no person not being a contributor of any sum not less than five shillings a year shall be entitled to take books out of any public library.

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