

SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Friday, the 6th day of August, 1886.

RABBIT ACT 1882 AMENDMENT BILL.

Hon. Mr. TOLLE, in Committee, to move the following:—

PART III.

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION.

Governor in Council
may proclaim
county as a district.

31. The Governor from time to time, by Order in Council, may, on petition in that behalf from a majority of the county electors therein, constitute and declare any county in the colony to be a county district or district for the purposes of this Part of this Act.

Board of Trustees.

32. For every county constituted a district under this Part of this Act there shall be a Board of Trustees (herein referred to as "the Board"), to consist of as many members as there are ridings in the county, who shall be elected in the manner hereinafter directed, one Trustee and no more being elected for each riding.

Immediately on the constitution of such county as a district, "The Regulation of Local Elections Act, 1876," and "The Rating Act, 1882," shall be in force respectively in such district and in the same manner, and shall apply therein to the same degree as the said Acts apply in respect to the county as such.

Election of first
Trustees.

- (1.) The Governor shall appoint such Inspector under the said Act or other person as he shall think fit to be the Returning Officer to hold the first election of Trustees.
- (2.) The Governor shall appoint the day for the first election of the Trustees, and shall have full power to do all things of what kind soever necessary to provide for bringing this Part of this Act into operation in such county, according to the true intent and purpose thereof.
- (3.) The rolls of the county electors for the several ridings for the time being in force shall be the rolls to be used at such first election, and at every subsequent election.
- (4.) The Trustees elected at such first election shall hold office until the month of November in the year following the year in which they are elected, or until the election of their successors at the first triennial election held as hereinafter mentioned.

Duration of their
office.

All provisions relating to the qualifications, disqualifications, and voting at elections for members of a County Council shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, and be in force in respect to elections of Trustees for a county under this Part of this Act.

Triennial election
of Trustees after
the first.

33. On the first Monday in the month of November in the year following the year in which the first Trustees for any county district are elected, and on the same day in each succeeding third year thereafter, the electors of a county district shall elect the required number of persons to be members of the Board of Trustees of such district, who shall hold office till the election of their successors.

- (1.) If at any such appointed day no election is held, or if at any election of Trustees no persons are duly elected as such, or if a less number is elected than by law required to be elected, then the Governor may appoint such and so many as are qualified to be such Trustees as the occasion may require.

- (2.) If any Trustee shall die, or by writing addressed to the Chairman shall resign his office as such Trustee, or shall cease to reside permanently in the colony, or shall absent himself from four consecutive meetings of the Board without leave being granted, or shall otherwise become incapable to act as such Trustee, an election shall be held of a person in lieu of the Trustee so dying, resigning, ceasing to reside, absenting himself, or otherwise becoming incapable to act as aforesaid; and the person so elected shall hold office as Trustee for the period or residue of the period his predecessor in such office would have held the same had he remained a member.

Notice of every election of a Trustee shall be gazetted, and the *Gazette* containing such notice shall be conclusive evidence that the person, notice of whose election is gazetted, has been duly elected a Trustee. Notice of election to be gazetted.

34. Sections *sixteen to nineteen*, both inclusive, of this Act shall apply to every Board of Trustees elected under this Part of this Act in the same manner as they apply to Trustees elected under Part II. hereof. Functions and powers of Trustees.

35. The Board are hereby empowered to do all such acts and things as may appear to them proper and necessary to be done to insure the destruction of rabbits in the district, or to prevent the increase of rabbits therein, and for that purpose may, out of moneys received by them by virtue of this Part of this Act, offer rewards or bonuses for the destruction of such rabbits. Board to destroy rabbits.

36. It shall be lawful for the Board, after not less than ten days' public notice by advertisement in a newspaper having general circulation within the district has been given of their intention, to levy in each year for the purposes of this Part of this Act a rate not exceeding *three-sixteenths of a penny* in the pound on the rateable value in the county, and may appoint a time and place for the payment of rates levied under this Part of this Act, and all rates not so paid may without further notice be recovered by the Board in any Court of competent jurisdiction. Rate.

The valuation roll and rate books for the time being in force within the county shall be the valuation roll and rate books for the county as a district under this Act, and shall be conclusive evidence of the liability of the persons whose names are therein respectively for the rate to be levied as aforesaid. Valuation roll of county to be in force.

37. The invalidity of any rate or assessment as a whole shall not avail to prevent the recovery of the rate, unless such invalidity be on the ground that such rate is a rate at a greater amount than the Board is empowered to levy. Invalidity of rate not to bar its recovery.

38. There shall be issued and paid out of the Consolidated Fund during each financial year, commencing with the first day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven, to the Board of each district wherein this Part of this Act is in operation, a sum equal to the amount received by such Board in such year by way of rates levied under this Part of this Act, but not exceeding the amount so receivable on a rate of *three-sixteenths of a penny* in the pound as hereinabove mentioned. Subsidy to be paid out of Consolidated Fund.

39. All moneys whatsoever levied, received, or recovered under the authority of this Part of this Act shall be at the sole and absolute disposal of the Board, to be by them applied in such manner as they see fit for the purpose of destroying rabbits in such district, and generally in carrying out the purposes of the said Act and this Act in the district, and to no other purpose. Moneys coming to Board how to be expended.

40. Sections *twenty-six to twenty-nine*, both inclusive, of this Act, and section *thirty*, so far as it is applicable, shall apply to every Board elected under this Part of this Act in the same manner as they apply to Trustees elected under Part II. thereof. Accounts and audit.