

By-laws of the Ratana Trust Board, Under the Maori Purposes Act, 1941, Approved

Office of the Minister of Maori Affairs,
Wellington, 20th July, 1949.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Governor-General has been pleased to approve of the following By-laws made by the Ratana Trust Board, under the provisions of section 14 of the Maori Purposes Act, 1941.

P. FRASER, Minister of Maori Affairs.

RATANA TRUST BOARD BY-LAWS

PURSUANT to the provisions of subsection (24) of section 14 of the Maori Purposes Act, 1941, the Ratana Trust Board hereby makes the following By-laws, which shall come into operation on the publication thereof in the *Gazette* after having been approved by the Governor-General in Council:—

INTERPRETATION

1. In these By-laws, unless inconsistent with the context—
 - “Board” means the Ratana Trust Board.
 - “Ratana Pa” or “Pa” means the land referred to in subsection (29) of section 14 of the Maori Purposes Act, 1941, and includes any other land that may become vested in or be acquired by the Board.
 - The words “Inspector,” “Sanitary Inspector,” “Inspector of Health,” and “Medical Officer of Health” shall have the meaning assigned to those words by the Health Act, 1920.

DEATHS

2. Where any inhabitant of Ratana Pa has died, the corpse shall be buried, if the death occurs between the 15th day of March and the 15th day of September (both days inclusive) in any year, within four days after death; and if the death occurs between the 16th day of September and the 14th day of March of the following year (both days inclusive) within three days after death, unless the Medical Officer of Health or any person authorized by him shall otherwise direct.

3. Where death has occurred from an infectious disease, the corpse shall be buried within twenty-four hours after death. The corpse shall be removed from the dwelling, tent, hospital, or place where death occurred to the place of burial without being allowed to lie in state, and no tangi shall be held.

4. It shall be the duty of the nearest relatives of the deceased or, in their absence, of the owner or occupier of the house or premises wherein the deceased died, to comply with the provisions of By-laws Nos. 2 and 3; and any person aforesaid who fails so to do shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £5.

5. No human corpse shall be buried, except with the permission of the Board, in any place other than a recognized burial-ground or a place reserved or set apart by some duly constituted authority as a burial-ground, nor shall any corpse be buried other than in a casket constructed of sound timber or other approved materials to the specifications of the Inspector of Health for the District.

6. No human corpse shall be permitted to lie in state inside any meetinghouse in the Pa except with the consent of the Chairman of the Board, which consent shall only be given if the corpse is enclosed in an approved casket.

BUILDINGS

7. (a) Any person before commencing the erection of any building within the Pa shall first obtain from the Board a permit for the work.

(b) The application for the permit shall be accompanied by appropriate plans and specifications, and no deviation from the plans or specifications as approved by the Board shall be allowed without the prior consent of the Board.

(c) The applicant shall pay such fees for the issue of a permit as the Board in its discretion shall prescribe.

8. No person shall erect a dwellinghouse upon any site not having natural or artificial subsoil drainage sufficient to prevent such site being damp, or upon any site having matter thereon which may prove injurious to the health of the occupants of such buildings. The ground underlying every dwellinghouse shall be so formed and graded that no water can flow or lodge thereon or under any part of such building. Where the site of an erected dwellinghouse is considered injurious to the health of the occupants, the Board may order the owner or occupier to remove such building to a more healthy site.

9. Every person who shall erect a dwellinghouse within the Pa shall construct every room intended to be used as a living-room or sleeping-room so that the same shall be not less than 8 ft. 6 in. in height from the floor to the ceiling in every part; provided that every room intended to be used as aforesaid with a sloping roof shall be not less than 8 ft. in height, from the floor to the roof over one-half the superficial area of such room, and no wall thereof shall have a height of less than 5 ft. before any slope of the roof commences.

10. Every person who shall erect a dwellinghouse shall provide that for every sleeping-room therein there shall be at least 63 square feet of floor space to each person above the age of ten years or every two children under ten years of age sleeping in that room, and there shall be a window-space clear of frame equal in area to at least one-tenth of the area of the floor of such room, of which window-space at least one-half shall be made to open.

11. Every person who shall erect a dwellinghouse shall provide each sleeping-room with a boarded floor so that there shall be between the underside of every joint, plate, stringer, and bearer on such floor and the upper surface of the ground a space of 9 in. at the least in every part, and he shall cause the area below such floor to be thoroughly ventilated by some effectual method.

12. In the case of houses already erected, the Board may require the owner or occupier of any dwellinghouse which does not comply with By-laws Nos. 10 and 11 to make such alterations or additions as it may deem necessary.

13. The Board may order the removal or destruction of any building in a dirty or unwholesome state, if, in its opinion, it is unsuitable for human habitation, or if the owner or occupier thereof fails, after due notice, to clean, renovate, take down, remove, or destroy the same.

14. The Chairman of the Board, or any person duly authorized by the Board in that behalf, may, by notice in writing, direct the owner or occupier of any house or other building in a dirty or unwholesome state to clean or cause the same to be cleaned within a time to be specified in the notice.

15. Any person refusing or neglecting to comply with the requirements of or directions of the Board or of any person duly authorized by the Board under By-laws Nos. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £1 for the first offence and not exceeding £5 for every subsequent offence, and in the case of any person persisting in refusal or neglect to comply with any requirements or directions as aforesaid, the Board may take such measures as, in its discretion, are necessary for the execution of its requirements or directions. Any cost incurred by the Board in and about the removal, alteration, or cleaning of any building, shall be a debt due to the Board recoverable as liquidated damages by action in a Magistrate's Court.

16. The Board may, in its discretion, modify the application of the foregoing By-laws Nos. 8, 12, 13, and 14 in respect of a building occupied by an old, ill, or infirm person.

17. The occupier of a dwellinghouse shall be held responsible for preventing more persons sleeping in any room thereof than are allowed by the floor space laid down in By-law No. 10. Failure to comply with By-law No. 10 shall render the occupier aforesaid liable to a penalty not exceeding 5s. for a first offence and not exceeding 10s. for every subsequent offence.

MEETINGHOUSES

18. All provisions of the clauses in these By-laws relating to buildings used as a dwellinghouse shall apply to meetinghouses.

19. All meetinghouses shall be provided with sufficient privy accommodation for each sex to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health.

20. No sweepings or rubbish shall be deposited under the floor of a meetinghouse.

21. The Board shall direct the carrying out of any necessary alterations or additions under these By-laws, and in the event of the owner or persons concerned in the meetinghouse refusing to carry out such alterations or additions such meetinghouse may be closed down until the By-laws are complied with.

MOVABLE AND TEMPORARY DWELLINGS

22. Every person who shall own or temporarily occupy a tent, shed, whare, or similar structure shall keep the same clean, dry, weatherproof, and ventilated.

23. Every person who shall own or occupy a tent, shed, whare, or similar structure which is in such a state as to be a nuisance or injurious to health, or which is so overcrowded as to be injurious to the health of the inmates, whether or not members of the same family, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £1 for the first offence and not exceeding £5 for every subsequent offence.

DRAINAGE

24. Any person who causes any waste water from any dwellinghouse in Ratana Pa to be discharged over the ground in such a manner as to cause a nuisance, or into any dry ditch within, or watercourse flowing through Ratana Pa, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £2.

25. Where any system of drainage for the disposal of waste water is installed in any dwellinghouse, the occupier shall, if he fails to keep the drainage system in good order and repair, be liable to a penalty not exceeding £2.

NUISANCES

26. No nightsoil, refuse, or offensive rubbish or matter shall be cast or deposited or allowed to flow into any spring, stream, or watercourse in Ratana Pa.

27. No person who is the owner of any premises within Ratana Pa shall permit or suffer any nightsoil, refuse, or any offensive rubbish or matter of any kind whatever, to accumulate or to be in or upon such premises so as to be injurious or dangerous to health or as to cause any offensive smell.

28. No horses, cattle, sheep, dogs, or other animals, shall be buried within Ratana Pa.

29. No person shall throw or leave any dead animal, or cast or deposit any nightsoil or refuse or any offensive rubbish or matters of any kind whatever on any public or private property within Ratana Pa whereby any nuisance is or is likely to be created.

30. The occupier of every dwelling in Ratana Pa shall cause all household refuse and rubbish either to be disposed of in a place set apart for such purpose by the Board, or, in the absence of such place, to be buried or burned on his section in such manner as to cause no nuisance.

31. Every person who commits a breach of any of the By-laws Nos. 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30 shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £5.