

(Rough Draft for Consideration Only.)

No. , 1911.

A BILL

To amend the Crown Lands Acts, and for other purposes.

BE it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :—

1. This Act shall come into force on the day of , one thousand nine hundred and eleven, and may be cited as the "Crown Lands (Amendment) Act, 1911."

Homestead selections.

2. (1) A homestead selection applied for after the commencement of this Act (not being a homestead selection without residence before grant or a homestead selection which is a conversion of any lease or of a part thereof) shall not be subject to the payment of any rent for a period of five years from the date of the application therefor ; Provided that the applicant shall during each year of the said period of five years expend in improving the land a sum equal to two and one-half per centum of the capital value of the homestead selection : Provided also that in addition to the prescribed survey fee or instalment thereof there shall be paid with such application a deposit at the rate of one shilling per acre of the land applied for, as a guarantee of the applicant's good faith, and that he will duly perform the conditions attaching to the homestead selection.

(2) If after due inquiry the local land board shall find that the conditions attached to the homestead selection have been fulfilled, and that the homestead selector is entitled to a homestead grant, the said deposit of one shilling per acre shall be credited towards payment of the rent prescribed by the Crown Lands Act, but which shall become due and payable half-yearly in advance on and after the expiration of the said period of five years : Provided further that if after inquiry as aforesaid the local land board shall find that such conditions have not been fulfilled, and that the homestead selector is not entitled to have issued to him a homestead grant, his interest in the homestead selection may be declared forfeited by notification in the Gazette, and thereupon the said deposit shall also be forfeited to His Majesty.

(3) The capital value of the homestead selection, irrespective of improvements the property of the holder, shall be determined by the local land board after the expiration of twenty years from the issue of the homestead grant, and shall be similarly determined for every such successive period of twenty years.