

Government Savings Bank (Amendment) Bill, 1922.

EXPLANATORY NOTE.

THE purpose of the Bill is to effect certain necessary amendments to the Government Savings Bank Act for the more efficient administration of that institution.

In clauses 2 and 3 it is proposed to increase the Commissioners' salaries, which are payable out of the funds of the Bank, and are at present £1,500 per annum for the President and £1,200 per annum for each of the other two Commissioners, to £2,000 and £1,750 respectively for the financial year 1921-22, and to £2,500 and £2,000 per annum respectively from the beginning of this financial year.

In clause 4 of the Bill it is proposed to allow the Savings Bank Department of the Bank to purchase Inscribed Stock issued by the Rural Bank or Advances for Homes Department.

Clause 5 obviates the present necessity for amounts owing for Crown improvements, wire-netting, and other statutory charges on land offered as security, to be paid off when any advance is made by the Bank. As these amounts are repayable by easy terms and generally at a low rate of interest, it is a disadvantage to a borrower to pay them off. It is therefore proposed to let the charges stand, but allow for them when making the loan.

Clause 6 will give the Commissioners more time in which to realise on forfeited securities, and satisfy and overcome certain objections that have been made by purchasers in realisations effected under the present section 69.

Clause 7 provides that the Commissioners must be bound by garnishee or vesting orders issued by the High Court of Australia or the Supreme Court of New South Wales. The Commissioners have been advised by Counsel that they are not at present bound by such orders.

Clause 8 is an internal machinery clause allowing the Advances for Homes Department to issue Inscribed Stock as well as Debentures.

By clause 9 the limit of £300,000 to be advanced in any one year in the Homes Department without the approval of the Governor-in-Council is rescinded.

Clause 10 deals with consequential alterations following clauses 2 and 3 of the Bill.

No. , 1922.

A BILL

To amend the Government Savings Bank Act, 1906, and certain other Acts ; and for purposes connected therewith.

[MR. COCKS ;— *October, 1922.*]

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 may be cited as the "Government Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, 1922," and shall be construed with the Government Savings Bank Act, 1906, and any Acts amending the same. The Government Savings Bank Act, 1906, as so amended, is hereinafter called the Principal Act.

Payment for services of commissioners for financial year 1921-22.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Principal Act the salary payable to the president for the financial year commencing on the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-one, shall be two thousand pounds, and the salary payable to each of the other commissioners for the same year shall be one thousand seven hundred and fifty pounds. 5

Amendment of s. 11 of Principal Act.

3. The Principal Act is amended by omitting section eleven and substituting therefor the following new section :— 10

Payment for services of commissioners.

11. From the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-two, the president shall, for his services, be paid out of the funds of the bank a salary at the rate of two thousand five hundred pounds per annum, and each of the other commissioners shall be paid out of the said funds a salary at the rate of two thousand pounds per annum. 15

Amendment of s. 47 (b) (iv) of Principal Act.

4. Paragraph (b) of section forty-seven of the Principal Act is amended in subparagraph (iv) (as inserted by section twenty of the Government Savings Bank (Rural Bank) Act, 1920) by inserting after the word "debentures" the words "or inscribed stock." 20

Amendment of s. 68 (b) of Principal Act.

5. Section sixty-eight of the Principal Act (as inserted by section thirty-four of the Government Savings Bank (Rural Bank) Act, 1920) is amended by omitting the proviso to paragraph (b) and inserting the following proviso in lieu thereof :— 25

Provided that such loans may be made notwithstanding the existence of prior charges in respect of Crown improvements, or wire-netting, or of other statutory charges upon the land, so long as the amount of any such loan, when added to the amount owing or legally claimable in respect of such charges, does not exceed the limitations imposed by paragraphs (c), (d), or (e) of this section, respectively. 35

Amendment of s. 69 of Principal Act.

6. Section sixty-nine of the Principal Act (as inserted by section thirty-seven of the Government Savings Bank (Rural Bank) Act, 1920) is amended as follows :— 40

Forfeited Crown lands securities.

(a) By inserting after the words "Crown Lands Acts" where first appearing the words "and whether

whether such loan has been made or such land forfeited before or after the commencement of the Government Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, 1922”;

5 (b) in subsection one omit the words “not exceeding twelve months” and insert in lieu thereof the words “of two years” and by adding at the end of the subsection the words “taking effect or for such further period as the Minister
10 for Lands (or the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission, if the land is within an irrigation area) may allow”;

(c) in subsection two after the word “forfeiture” insert the words “or such further period as may be agreed to by the commissioners”;

15 (d) in subsection four after the words “to sell the land” insert the words “under this subsection or”;

20 (e) in subsection five omit the words “twelve months” and insert in lieu thereof the words “two years or such further period as may have been allowed,” and at the end of the said subsection add the following proviso:—

25 Provided that at any time before the Minister for Lands or the Commission notifies the land as available for any class of holding the commissioners may revoke in writing the notice that they are unable to sell the land;

30 (f) by adding the following subsections next after subsection five:—

(6) Any sale under this section may be made on such terms and conditions as the commissioners think fit, and no sale made by the commissioners prior to the commencement
35 of the Government Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, 1922, shall be deemed to be invalid by reason only of the non-compliance with any of the provisions of this section.

40 (7) Upon any sale by the commissioners under this section a purchaser shall not be bound to see or inquire as to whether a case has arisen to authorise the sale. **7.**

Vesting
orders.

7. The following new section is added to the Principal Act next after section ninety-five:—

96. Upon the commissioners being served with any order made by the High Court of Australia or a justice thereof, or the Supreme Court of New South Wales, or a judge thereof, relating to inscribed stock or debentures having the effect of vesting inscribed stock or debentures in any person, or having the effect of vesting in any person money at the credit of any depositor, or having the effect of vesting in any person surplus money held by the bank after a sale of any security, the commissioners shall carry such order into effect.

Amendment of s. 14 of Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913.

8. Section fourteen of the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is amended by inserting after the word "debentures" the words "or inscribed stock."

Repeal of s. 17 of Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913.

9. Section seventeen of the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is hereby repealed.

Amendment of Act 13 of 1913.
Schedule.

10. The Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is amended by omitting from the Schedule the second paragraph which amends section eleven of the Government Savings Bank Act, 1906.