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No. , 1919.

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## A BILL

To make further provisions with respect to the management of the Government Savings Bank and for extending and regulating its operations; to amend the Government Savings Bank Act, 1906, the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, the Savings Banks Amalgamation Act, 1914, the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1914, the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1916, and certain other Acts; and for purposes consequent thereon or incidental thereto.

[MR. ASHFORD;— *November, 1919.*]

**B**E 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:—

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Short title  
and com-  
mencement.

**1.** This Act may be cited as the "Government Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, 1919," and shall be construed with the Government Savings Bank Act, 1906 (hereinafter referred to as the Principal Act), the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, the Savings Banks Amalgamation Act, 1914, the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1914, and the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1916, and shall, except where otherwise provided in the Act, commence and come into force on the date when the Royal assent is given to this Act.

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Amendment  
of s. 5 of  
Principal  
Act.

**2.** Section five of the Principal Act is amended by omitting the definition of the term "Crown Lands Acts" and by substituting therefor the following definition:—

"Crown Lands Acts" means Acts dealing with the disposal and tenure of Crown lands and includes the Western Lands Act of 1901, the Wentworth Irrigation Act, the Hay Irrigation Act, 1902, the Closer Settlement Act, 1904, the Irrigation Act, 1912, and any Acts amending or consolidating the same.

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Amendment  
of s. 37 (2) of  
Principal Act  
relating to  
minors'  
accounts.

**3.** Section thirty-seven, subsection two, of the Principal Act, as amended by the Schedule to the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is omitted and the following subsection substituted therefor:—

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(2) Deposits may be received from minors, and such deposits shall be subject to the provisions of this Act and the regulations.

Withdrawals shall not be permitted until the minor is able to write: Provided that if the Commissioners are satisfied at any time before the minor is able to write that the repayment of the amount at credit of such account, or of any portion thereof, to the parent or guardian of such minor is necessary, in order to provide for the support or advancement of such minor, then the amount may be withdrawn by such parent or guardian.

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4. Section thirty-eight of the Principal Act as amended by section eighteen of the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is amended by adding the words "estates or interests" at the end of paragraph (a). Amendment of s. 38 of Principal Act.

5. Section 38A of the Principal Act as inserted by the Schedule to the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is omitted and the following section substituted therefor:— Amendment of s. 38A of Principal Act.

10 38A. Accounts may be opened by or on behalf of friendly, charitable, or other societies or institutions (including a trades union or an industrial union of employers or employees, or organizations registered or proclaimed under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1904-1918) not carried on for purposes of trade or profit, municipalities and shires, or any Government department: Deposits of friendly or other societies, municipalities, &c.

15 Provided that in connection with any municipality or shire the limit of deposit shall be one thousand pounds.

20 6. Section thirty-nine, subsection one, of the Principal Act, as amended by the Schedule to the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is amended as follows:— Amendment of s. 39 (1) of Principal Act.

25 Omit paragraph (a), and substitute the following paragraph:—

30 (a) a friendly, charitable, or other society or institution (including a trades union or an industrial union of employers or employees, or organisations registered or proclaimed under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1904-1918) not carried on for purposes of trade or profit; or

35 Add the following paragraph after paragraph (c):—  
(d) any Government department.

Omit the word "or" after the word "societies" where first occurring, and after the word "institutions" where first occurring insert the words "municipalities, shires, or Government departments."

40

Omit

Omit the second proviso and substitute the following proviso :—

“ Provided also that the maximum rate of interest under the regulations shall be paid on the said accounts up to the maximum interest-bearing balance fixed by regulation under this section, and above that amount the rate shall be a matter of agreement with the Commissioners.”

Amendment of s. 41 (2) of Principal Act.

**7.** Section forty-one, subsection two, of the Principal Act, as amended by the Schedule to the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is omitted, and the following subsection substituted therefor :—

Cheques for friendly societies' accounts, &c.

(2) The accounts of friendly societies, trades unions, or industrial unions of employers or employees, or organisations registered or proclaimed under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1904–1918, may be drawn upon by cheque in such form and subject to such conditions as the Commissioners may direct.

Amendment of s. 42 of Principal Act.

**8.** Section forty-two of the Principal Act is omitted and the following section substituted therefor :—

Commissioners may in certain cases distribute amount at credit of a depositor at the time of his decease without requiring production of probate, &c.

**42.** (1) Where the whole amount at credit of a depositor, exclusive of interest, does not at the time of his or her decease exceed one hundred pounds, and probate of the will of such depositor or letters of administration of his or her estate and effects is or are not produced to the Commissioners within such time as they think reasonable, the Commissioners may, without requiring probate of the will or letters of administration of the estate and effects of the deceased depositor, in their discretion, pay or distribute the amount at credit as aforesaid, and any interest due thereon, to or among any of the persons hereinafter described or indicated, that is to say—

- (a) any person who has paid the funeral expenses of the depositor ;
- (b) the widow or widower of the depositor ;
- (c) the persons entitled to the effects of the depositor according to the statutes of distribution ;
- (d)

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Government Savings Bank (Amendment).

- (d) the person appearing to the Commissioners to be entitled to take out probate of the will or letters of administration of the estate of the depositor ;
- 5 (e) the Public Trustee ;
- (f) creditors of the depositor ;
- (g) in the case of foreign seamen, the consular authority of any country with which a treaty has been made relative to the payment of moneys due to such seamen ;
- 10 (h) any person undertaking to maintain the children (whether ex-nuptial or otherwise) of the depositor ;
- (i) any ex-nuptial children of the depositor.

15 (2) The receipt of any of the persons mentioned in this section shall be a good discharge to the Commissioners for the sum paid, and such receipt may be signed by any of such persons above the age of fourteen years, and shall be binding on any widow, widower, or next-of-kin, or person appointed as legal representative of the estate of the deceased depositor.

Receipts of persons specified to be good discharge to bank.

20 (3) If the Commissioners under this section pay money to any person who is afterwards proved not to have been legally entitled thereto, the Commissioners shall not be liable at suit of any person who was so entitled.

Indemnity to Commissioners.

25 But this subsection shall not affect the remedy of the last-mentioned person against the person who received the money.

30 9. Section forty-three, subsection two, of the Principal Act is amended as follows :—

Amendment of s. 43 (2) of Principal Act.

35 Omit concluding paragraph and substitute the following paragraph :—

Such notice shall be published in one or more newspapers circulating in the district where such office of the bank is open for the transaction of business, and posted in such places and in such manner as the Commissioners may deem expedient. Such notice shall specify the times and places respectively at which the said pass-books shall be produced for the purposes aforesaid.

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Amendment  
of s. 47 of  
Principal  
Act.

**10.** Section forty-seven of the Principal Act is amended by adding the following words at the end of the section :—

- (vi) upon deposit in the Treasury available at call such sum as the Commissioners shall consider necessary to set aside for the purpose of purchasing debentures from the Advance Department. 5

Amendment  
of s. 50 of  
Principal  
Act.

**11.** Section fifty of the Principal Act is amended—

- (a) by inserting after “exceed” the words “except with the consent of the Governor” ; 10  
(b) by omitting the words after “pounds” where firstly occurring to the end of the section and inserting “nor shall further debentures be issued while the Commissioners have to the credit of their working account a sum exceeding fifty thousand pounds.” 15

New section.

**12.** The following new section is inserted next after section fifty-four of the Principal Act :—

54A. The Colonial Treasurer is empowered to purchase such debentures. 20

Colonial Treasurer may purchase debentures.

Amendment  
of s. 62 of  
Principal Act.

**13.** Section sixty-two of the Principal Act, as amended by the Schedule to the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is amended by adding at the end of paragraph (b) the following words :— 25

(xiii) leases granted under the Western Lands Acts, the Wentworth Irrigation Act, or the Hay Irrigation Act, 1902.

(xiv) homestead leases.

(xv) suburban holdings situate outside city, town, or village boundaries. 30

**14.** Section sixty-three, subsection four, of the Principal Act is repealed.

Repeal of s. 63 (4) of Principal Act.

**15.** Section sixty-eight, paragraph (b), of the Principal Act, as amended by the Schedule to the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is amended by 35

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

adding at the end of the paragraph the following words :—“ Provided that loans may be made upon Western lands leases and homestead leases notwithstanding the existence of prior charges in respect of improvements so long as the amount of any such loan, when 40

when added to the amount owing or legally claimed in respect of such improvements, does not exceed one-half of the sale value of the security."

**16.** Section sixty-eight, paragraph (c), of the Principal Act is amended by omitting after the words "a loan" the words "on the security of land not being a freehold or a certificated conditional purchase shall" and substituting therefor the word "may."

Amendment  
of s. 68  
paragraph (c)  
of Principal  
Act.

**17.** Section sixty-eight, paragraph (d), of the Principal Act, as amended by the Schedule to the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is omitted and the following substituted therefor:—

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

(d) At the option of the Commissioners a loan may be made repayable in the following manner:—

(i) At the expiration of a fixed term not exceeding five years and a half, during which interest only shall be payable; or

(ii) by half-yearly instalments with interest added, extending over such period not exceeding thirty-one years from the date of expiration of the fixed term as may be specified in the mortgage.

**18.** Section sixty-eight, paragraph (f), of the Principal Act as amended by the Schedule to the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is repealed, and the following substituted therefor:—

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

(f) The amount of any loan (except under sections 64 and 68A) shall be subject to the following limitations:—

(i) Where the security consists of—  
(a) an estate of inheritance in fee simple;

(b) a conditional purchase in connection with which a certificate of conformity has issued (including any additional conditional purchases or associated conditional leases); or

(c) a settlement purchase in connection with which a certificate of fulfilment of conditions has issued (including any additional settlement purchases),

the loan shall not exceed two-thirds of the sale value of the security.

(ii)

- (ii) In the case of the following tenures under the Crown Lands Acts, that is to say,—
- homestead selections,
  - conditional purchase leases,
  - special conditional purchase leases, 5
  - homestead farms,
  - Crown leases,
  - settlement leases,
  - suburban holdings situate outside city, town, or village boundaries, 10
- in connection with which a certificate of conformity or fulfilment of conditions has issued,
- irrigation farm leases,
  - Wentworth irrigation leases, 15
  - Hay irrigation leases,
- which have had a currency of five years from the date of confirmation,
- the maximum amount loanable shall be three-fourths of the value of the interest of the borrower in the improvements on the land, provided that such loan shall not exceed two-thirds of the sale value of the security :
- Provided, however, that where half the sale value of the security exceeds three-fourths of the value of the interest of the borrower in the improvements advances may be made up to half the sale value of the security.
- (iii) In the case of the following tenures under the Crown Lands Acts, that is to say,—
- homestead selections,
  - conditional purchase leases,
  - special conditional purchase leases,
  - conditional purchases (with or without additional conditional purchases or associated conditional leases), 35
  - homestead farms,
  - Crown leases,
  - settlement leases, 40
  - suburban holdings situate outside city, town, or village boundaries,
- in



in connection with which a certificate of conformity or fulfilment of conditions has not issued,

irrigation farm leases,  
Wentworth irrigation leases,  
Hay irrigation leases,

which have not had a currency of five years from the date of confirmation,

the maximum amount loanable shall be three-fourths of the value of the interest of the borrower in the improvements on the land, provided that such loan does not exceed two-thirds of the sale value of the security.

(iv) In the case of settlement purchases in connection with which a certificate of conformity or fulfilment of conditions has not issued the maximum sum loanable shall be three-fourths of the value of the interest of the borrower in the improvements effected on the land subsequent to the making of the settlement purchase.

(v) In the case of Western lands leases (whether they have or have not had a currency of five years from the date of confirmation) and homestead leases the maximum sum loanable shall be one-half of the estimated sale value of the security, subject, however, to the limitations imposed by section sixty-eight, paragraph (b) of this Act.

**19.** The following new section is inserted after section sixty-eight of the Principal Act:—

68A. (1) In order to assist holders to establish themselves on their holdings in respect of the following tenures under the Crown Lands Acts, that is to say,—

homestead selections,  
conditional purchase leases,  
special conditional purchase leases,  
conditional purchases (with or without additional conditional purchases or associated conditional leases),

homestead

New section.  
Commissioners empowered to make certain advances on uncertificated holdings.

homestead farms,  
 Crown leases,  
 settlement leases,  
 settlement purchases,  
 suburban holdings situate outside city, town, 5  
 or village boundaries,  
 in connection with which a certificate of con-  
 formity or fulfilment of conditions has not issued,  
 irrigation farm leases,  
 Wentworth irrigation leases, 10  
 Hay irrigation leases,  
 which have not had a currency of five years  
 from the date of confirmation,  
 the Commissioners may make advances up to the  
 full value of the interest of the borrower in the 15  
 improvements effected or proposed to be made, and  
 in connection with these advances the following  
 conditions shall apply :—

Limitations  
 of advances.

- (a) The maximum sum loanable on such full  
 value basis shall be six hundred pounds. 20
- (b) After the maximum advance on the full  
 value basis has been made, the Com-  
 missioners may make further advances on  
 the basis of one-half of the interest of the  
 borrower in the value of further improve- 25  
 ments effected, or proposed to be made,  
 until the total amount advanced reaches  
 three-fourths of the value of the improve-  
 ments.
- (c) After the total amount so advanced reaches 30  
 three-fourths of the value of the improve-  
 ments on the holding further advances  
 may be made (if additional improvements  
 have been effected) on the basis of three-  
 fourths of the interest of the borrower in 35  
 the value of all the improvements on the  
 holding :

Provided that in the case of all the  
 holdings specified in this section (except  
 settlement purchases) such further advances 40  
 when added to the total amount outstanding  
 in

in respect of the previous advances made to the borrower shall not exceed two-thirds of the sale value of the security.

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(d) Advances on full value basis of improvements shall only be made on such improvements as, in the opinion of the Commissioners, are required for the profitable working of the farm by any holder.

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(e) Where advances under this section are made for the purpose of effecting improvements such improvements shall be specified or approved by the Commissioners.

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(f) Advances may be made by instalments as the work proceeds, but in such cases the payments shall be subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by regulation as well as those set out in the mortgage.

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(g) Where an advance is made by instalments and the borrower, in the opinion of the Commissioners, has failed or neglected to complete the improvements in accordance with the terms and purposes specified, the Commissioners may forthwith take possession of the holding included in the security and complete such improvements and any other improvements as they may consider necessary.

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All costs and expenses thereby occasioned to the Commissioners shall be deemed to be included in any mortgage or other security given by the borrower, and shall be added to the debt, and may be recovered from the borrower, with interest at a rate of one per centum per annum higher than the rate named in the mortgage or other security.

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(h) If at any time in the opinion of the Commissioners any money advanced under this section has not been applied to the purpose for which it was advanced, or has not been carefully and economically expended, the Commissioners may refuse to pay any

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any further instalments of the proposed advance, and may at once call in the whole amount already advanced, together with all costs and expenses incurred in connection therewith, whereupon the borrower shall forthwith repay the same. 5

- (i) Upon default being made by a borrower under this section, either in the use of funds advanced by instalments or under the mortgage, the Commissioners shall have all the powers conferred upon them by Division 2 of Part VI and by Part VII of this Act, in addition to those provided by the mortgage deed and the regulations. 10
- (j) Except as otherwise provided in the Government Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, 1919, loans made under this section shall be subject in all respects to Parts VI and VII of this Act. 15

(2) All transactions and accounts relating to advances under this section shall be kept separate and distinct from those relating to the other departments of the bank. 20

(3) The cost of administration in connection with transactions under this section shall be equitably apportioned by adjustments made by the Commissioners. 25

(4) There shall be a special reserve fund at the bank to which shall be carried any profit or loss arising from transactions under this section. 30

Any deficiency in such fund at the end of any financial year of the bank shall be made good from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, upon such deficiency being certified to by the Commissioners.

(5) The provisions of this section shall come into force on a date to be proclaimed by the Governor, and published in the Gazette. 35

**20.** The following new section is inserted after section 68A of the Principal Act (added by the last preceding section of this Act):— 40

68B. Where holders of homestead farms or of Crown leases are allowed by the Crown Lands Acts to

Value of certain improvements to be excepted in certain cases.

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5 to effect improvements on their holdings in lieu of payment of rent any advance made by the Commissioners to any such holder shall be based upon the bank's value of all the borrower's improvements on the holding after deducting therefrom the amount of the remitted rent.

**21.** Section sixty-nine of the Principal Act, as amended by the Schedule to the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is amended as follows:—

Amendment of s. 69 of Principal Act.

10 Omit paragraph (a) and substitute the following paragraph:—

15 (a) Where such land (except as specified in paragraph (b1)) is held under the Crown Lands Acts, and has become forfeited for non-compliance with conditions under those Acts, it shall thereupon vest in the Commissioners, and may be sold by them to any person, who shall hold the same subject to any conditions prescribed by the Crown  
20 Lands Acts binding upon the former holder, but free from any liability for any breach before such sale of any such conditions; and the purchaser shall have six months from the time of sale for complying with any unfulfilled improvement conditions in relation to  
25 the land.

The proceeds of such sale shall be applied in the following order:—

Proceeds of sale, moneys of forfeited lands.

- 30 (i) In payment of any outstanding moneys due under the Crown Lands Acts at the date of forfeiture not exceeding one year's rent or instalments (as the case may be).
- 35 (ii) In liquidation of the claims of the Commissioners.
- (iii) Towards meeting any further outstanding Crown dues.
- 40 (iv) Any balance remaining thereafter to be paid into the Treasury to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue.

Where

Where the proceeds of any sale by the Commissioners is not sufficient to pay the bank's debt and the Crown dues outstanding at date of forfeiture in full the balance of any such Crown dues shall be made a charge 5 upon the Consolidated Revenue.

In the event of the Commissioners failing to find a purchaser within twelve months, or within such less period as they may determine and so notify the Secretary for 10 Lands, or in the case of Western lands leases or homestead leases notify the Western Land Board, or in the case of irrigation farm leases, Wentworth, or Hay irrigation leases, notify the Water Conservation and Irrigation 15 Commission, the land may be disposed of as Crown lands under the Crown Lands Acts :

Provided that before the Commissioners shall exercise the power of sale conferred upon them by this section they shall first submit 20 the land to the Secretary for Lands, or in the case of irrigation farm leases, Wentworth, or Hay irrigation leases to the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission, to ascertain whether the Secretary for Lands or the 25 Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission (as the case may be) would be prepared to satisfy the bank's claim in full.

If the Secretary for Lands or Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission (as the 30 case may be) is prepared to satisfy the bank's claim in full, or if not so prepared is willing to pay to the Commissioners such reduced amount as they may agree to accept, the Commissioners shall not exercise the power 35 of sale hereinbefore referred to but will, upon payment by the Secretary for Lands or by the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission (as the case may be) of the bank's claim, or of such reduced amount as 40 may be agreed upon, forthwith notify the Secretary

Secretary for Lands or the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission (as the case may be) that the subject land may be disposed of as Crown lands under the Crown Lands Acts.

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Omit paragraph (b) and substitute the following paragraph:—

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(b) Where any such land (except as specified in paragraph (b1)) is so forfeited and disposed of as Crown lands, any money received by the Secretary for Lands or Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission (as the case may be) in respect of the improvements on such land shall, to the extent of the amount owing to the Commissioners for principal and interest and for expenses incurred in connection with the loan, be paid to the Commissioners:

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Provided that this paragraph shall not apply when the Secretary for Lands or the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission (as the case may be) satisfies the bank's claim or pays to the Commissioners such reduced amount as may be agreed upon as provided in paragraph (a).

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Insert the following paragraph after paragraph (b):—

(b1) Whenever any land acquired as a settlement purchase under the Closer Settlement Act, 1904—

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(i) is the subject of an advance made by the Commissioners under this Act on the basis of improvements on the land (a certificate of fulfilment of conditions not having issued in respect of the subject holding at the time such advance was made) and such holding has become forfeited and has not been resold by the Commissioners and transferred to a purchaser prior to the commencement of the Government Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, 1919; or

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New paragraph (b1) relating to forfeiture of settlement purchases.

(ii)

(ii) is the subject of an advance made by the Commissioners after the commencement of the Government Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, 1919, on the basis of improvements on the land (as specified in section 68 (f) (iv) of this Act as amended by the Government Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, 1919, or in section 68A (added by the last-mentioned Act), and such land becomes forfeited,

it shall vest in His Majesty the King and shall not be available for application for settlement purchase until again notified for that purpose in the Gazette.

In the case of land referred to in subparagraph (i) the vesting shall take place on the commencement of the Government Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, 1919, and in the case of land referred to in subparagraph (ii) the vesting shall take place on forfeiture.

Upon such vesting as aforesaid the value of the improvements effected on the holding subsequent to the making of the settlement purchase shall be immediately determined by the Secretary for Lands and the Commissioners, and thereupon the Secretary for Lands shall pay to the Commissioners such value, but not exceeding the amount owing to the Commissioners for principal and interest and for expenses incurred in connection with such advance :

Provided that in any case in which negotiations for the sale and transfer of any such land have been entered into by the Commissioners and not completed prior to the commencement of the Government Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, 1919, such negotiations may thereafter be carried on and completed by the Secretary for



5 for Lands by vesting the land as a settlement purchase in the purchaser by notification in the Gazette, and upon such vesting in the purchaser the land shall be held by him subject to the conditions of the Closer Settlement Acts and to such other conditions as the Secretary for Lands may notify.

10 **22.** Section seventy of the Principal Act, as amended by the Schedule to the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is amended by inserting the following words at the end of paragraph (a): "or of some officer appointed by them in that behalf."

15 **23.** The following new section is inserted next after section seventy of the Principal Act:—

70A. (1) Advances may be made to registered co-operative societies established for the purpose of advancing rural industries subject to the following conditions:—

20 (a) The Secretary for Lands must approve of the society and signify in writing his consent to the advance being made.

(b) The rules and regulations of such society must empower the society to borrow money and give security for the repayment thereof.

25 (2) The amount of the advance shall be within the discretion of the Commissioners.

30 (3) Security for the repayment of any such advance shall be taken as the Commissioners may determine, and may be limited to the personal guarantee of all or any of the members of such society.

(4) The term for repayment of any such advance and the rate of interest payable thereon shall be fixed by the Commissioners.

35 (5) The limitations imposed by this Act in regard to other advances shall not apply to advances made under this section.

40 (6) All transactions and accounts relating to advances under this section shall be kept separate and distinct from those relating to the other departments of the bank.

(7) The costs of administration in connection with transactions under this section shall be equitably apportioned by adjustments made by the Commissioners.

(8) There shall be a special reserve fund 5 at the bank to which shall be carried any profit or loss arising from transactions under this section.

Any deficiency in such fund at the end of any financial year of the bank shall be made good from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, upon such deficiency 10 being certified to by the Commissioners.

(9) The provisions of this section shall come into force on a date to be proclaimed by the Governor and published in the Gazette.

Repeal of s. 75 of Principal Act.

**24.** Section seventy-five of the Principal Act is 15 hereby repealed.

Amendment of s. 75A of Principal Act.

**25.** Section 75A of the Principal Act, inserted by the Schedule to the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is omitted and the following section substituted therefor:— 20

Powers of Commissioners not restricted by provisions of certain other Acts.

75A. The powers and remedies conferred upon the Commissioners under this Act are not in any way limited or restricted by the provisions of the Crown Lands Consolidation Act, 1913, the Closer Settlement Act of 1904, the Western Lands Act, 25 1901, the Wentworth Irrigation Act, the Hay Irrigation Act, 1902, the Irrigation Act, 1912, or by any amendment or consolidation thereof.

New section 75c.

**26.** The Principal Act is amended by the addition of the following new section:— 30

Consent of Secretary for Lands, &c., not required to the registration of certain transfers.

75c. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Crown Lands Acts or in the regulations made thereunder the consent of the Secretary for Lands (or in the case of irrigation farm leases, Wentworth and Hay irrigation leases, the consent of the Water 35 Conservation and Irrigation Commission) shall not be required in connection with the registration of transfers to the Commissioners to secure advances made under this Act, nor shall such consent be required in connection with the registration of 40 transfers by way of release of mortgage to the original borrowers. **27.**

**27.** Section seventy-six of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the words "or Solicitor-General" after the words "Attorney-General" wherever occurring.

Amendment of s. 76 of Principal Act.

**28.** Section thirteen of the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is amended by inserting the words "sixty-nine" after the word "sections" where secondly occurring, and by inserting the words "seventy-four" after the words "seventy-three."

Amendment of s. 13 of the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913.

**29.** Section fourteen of the Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913, is amended by omitting the word "quarterly" and substituting the word "annually," and by adding at the end of the section the words "at the close of the bank's financial year."

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

**30.** Section seventeen of the Savings Banks Amalgamation Act, 1914, is amended as follows:—

Amendment of s. 17 of the Savings Banks Amalgamation Act, 1914.

At the end of subsection one add the following paragraph:—

**20** "The provisions of this section shall be applicable to leases of lands within irrigation areas as defined in the Wentworth Irrigation Act and the Hay Irrigation Act, 1902."

**25** Subsection two: After the words "Government Savings Bank Amendment Act, 1913" insert the words "and any further amendments thereof."

Subsection four: Omit the word "quarterly" and substitute the word "annually," and at the end of the subsection add the words "at the close of the bank's financial year."

**30 31.** All advances made by the Commissioners upon the security of Western lands leases prior to the passing of this Act are hereby validated.

Validation of certain advances.