

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

(Rough Draft for Consideration Only.)

No. , 1923.

A BILL

To make provision for the setting apart of land for overseas settlers; to amend the Crown Lands Consolidation Act, 1913, and certain other Acts; and for purposes connected therewith.

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:—

Preliminary.

1. This Act may be cited as the "Land Settlement Short title. (Overseas Settlers) Act, 1923."

2. (1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, Interpretation.

“Minister” means Secretary for Lands, except in the case of an irrigation area, when it shall be read as the Minister for Agriculture.

“Overseas settler means a person who has arrived in New South Wales from the United Kingdom after the passing of this Act is resident in the State, and has obtained a certificate from a qualification committee that he is a suitable person to be allotted an area of land set apart in pursuance of this Act.

(2) Unless the context necessarily requires a different meaning, expressions defined in the Crown Lands Consolidation Act, 1913, the Closer Settlement Acts, or the Irrigation Act, 1912, shall bear the same meanings in this Act.

3. The Minister may, by notification in the Gazette, set apart any area of Crown land or of land acquired under the Closer Settlement Acts or lands within an area which has been constituted as an irrigation area under section six of the Irrigation Act, 1912, to be disposed of under the Crown Lands Consolidation Act, 1913, or the Closer Settlement Acts, to overseas settlers exclusively: Provided that the area to be so set apart shall not exceed one half of the total area made available for settlement in any one year.

4. No person shall be entitled to apply for or obtain an area of land set apart in pursuance of this Act unless he shall have obtained a certificate of qualification under this Act. Qualification of applicants.

5. (1) The holder of a qualification certificate may apply in the prescribed manner and form to the Minister for a farm.

(2) The Minister may, in the prescribed manner, if the farm applied for is—

- (a) Crown land set apart under this Act, confirm the application;
- (b) land acquired under the Closer Settlement Acts, allow the application;
- (c) land within an irrigation area, grant the application.

(3)

(3) The farm when the application is confirmed, allowed or granted as the case may be, shall be held for the tenure and under the Act prescribed in the notification setting the land apart under this Act.

6. The Minister may appoint classification committees, and the members of a committee shall not be less than three nor more than five in number. Classification committees.

A committee shall investigate the qualifications of each overseas settler who applies for a certificate of qualification, and if satisfied that the applicant possesses the necessary knowledge, experience, and qualification to be allotted a farm in pursuance of this Act, shall issue a certificate to that effect in the prescribed manner. The certificate shall set out the class of farming for which the applicant is found to be qualified, and shall be available for that class only.

7. (1) The Governor may make regulations for carrying the provisions of this Act into effect. Regulations.

- (2) The regulations shall—
 - (a) be published in the Gazette ;
 - (b) take effect from the date of such publication or from a later date to be specified in such regulations ;
 - (c) be laid before both Houses of Parliament within fourteen sitting days if Parliament is in session, and if not, then within fourteen sitting days after the commencement of the next session. If either House of Parliament passes a resolution of which notice has been given at any time within fifteen sitting days after such regulations have been laid before such House disallowing any regulation or part thereof, such regulation or part shall thereupon cease to have effect.

8. This Act shall remain in force until the first day of January, one thousand nine hundred and thirty, and no longer. Duration of Act.