

No. , 1915.

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# A BILL

To define and provide the qualifications for enrolment of electors in shires and municipalities.

[MR. GRIFFITH ;— , 1915.]

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**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 :—

**1.** This Act may be cited as the "Local Government Short title. (Franchise) Act, 1915", and shall be read with any Act for the time being in force relating to the local government of shires and municipalities.

Requisite qualifications for enrolment.

**2.** Any natural born or naturalised British subject, male or female, of the age of twenty one years or upwards shall be entitled to be placed on the list and to be enrolled as an elector for a shire or municipality under any Act for the time being in force relating to the local government of shires and municipalities if on the day prescribed he has the requisite qualification of—

- (a) a "resident"; or
- (b) an "occupier"; or
- (c) a "ratepaying lessee"; or
- (d) an "owner."

Qualification of resident.

**3.** In order to have the requisite qualification of a "resident" in respect of an area a person must—

- (a) be resident in the area; and
- (b) be enrolled, or produce proof that he is entitled to be enrolled on an electoral roll, or supplemental roll, for the time being in force under the law relating to the election of members of the Legislative Assembly for the electoral district under the said law which embraces the part of the area in which he resides.

Qualification of occupier.  
Vide L. G. Acts, 1906-8, ss. 48, 55.

Tenants.

**4.** In order to have the requisite qualification of an "occupier" in respect of an area a person must—

- (a) have been continuously, during the three months next preceding such prescribed day, in joint or several occupation as direct tenant of the owners or ratepaying lessees under lease in writing or oral tenancy made bona-fide of ratable land in the area which, with or without any houses or other buildings thereon, is of a yearly value of five pounds or upwards:

Joint tenants.

*Provided* that only one of such joint occupiers shall be entitled to be placed on the roll as occupier. The joint occupier who shall be so entitled shall be determined by a majority of the occupiers, evidenced by agreement signed by such majority, and delivered to the clerk, or, failing such agreement, according to the alphabetical order of the surnames of the occupiers; or

(b)

- 5 (b) be the person nominated in writing as an elector by a body corporate which is, or by trustees who are, in occupation as tenant as aforesaid of ratable land in the area, which, with or without any houses or other buildings thereon, is of a yearly value of five pounds or upwards: *Provided* that the body corporate or trustees may not nominate more than one person for enrolment as occupier in the area; or
- 10 (c) be in occupation as resident manager of ratable land in the area which, with or without any houses or other buildings thereon, is of a yearly value of five pounds or upwards; or
- 15 (d) have been continuously, during the three months next preceding such prescribed day, in joint or several occupation of ratable land in the area, by virtue of a miner's right or business license under the Mining Act, 1906; or
- 20 (e) have been continuously, during the three months next preceding such prescribed day, in occupation of ratable land in the area as a share farmer thereof—that is to say, a person holding a written license to occupy and cultivate ratable land of a yearly value of five pounds or upwards in consideration of sharing the produce of such land or of dairying operations thereon; or
- 25 (f) be in occupation of lands or buildings within the area owned by the Crown or by any person on behalf of or in trust for the Crown, and, directly or indirectly, paying rent for the same by way of deduction from salary or otherwise.
- 30 **5.** In order to have the requisite qualification of owner.
  - 35 an "owner" in respect of an area a person must—
    - (a) be severally the owner of ratable land in the area; or
    - (b) be jointly such owner as aforesaid; or
    - 40 (c) be the person nominated in writing as an elector by a body corporate which is, or trustees who are, such owner as aforesaid: *Provided* that the
      - Representative of company, &c.
      - Resident manager of ratable land.
      - Occupier under miner's right or business license.
      - Share farmer.
      - Occupier of Crown land—public servant.
      - Qualification of owner. Vide L. G. Acts, 1906-8, ss. 49, 56.
      - Joint owners.
      - Representative of company, &c.

- the body corporate or trustees may not nominate more than one person for enrolment as owner in any one ward or riding, or, where a municipality is not divided into wards, in any such municipality; or 5
- Crown lessees. (d) be the holder of a lease, promise, or contract of lease or license from the Crown of ratable Crown land situate in the area; or
- Resident manager of Crown lease. (e) be the resident manager of any lease, promise, or contract of lease, or license, from the Crown 10 of ratable Crown land situate in the area.
- Qualification of ratepaying lessee. 6. In order to have the requisite qualification of a "ratepaying lessee" in respect of an area a person must—
- Vide L.G. Acts, 1906-8, s. 57.
- Ratepaying lessees. (a) be severally the lessee of ratable land in the 15 area, and, under a lease in writing, or other documents of title relating to such land, liable to pay to any person the whole or any part of any local government rates which may be made and levied in respect of such land; or 20
- Joint lessee. (b) be jointly such lessee as aforesaid, and so liable as aforesaid;
- Representative of company. (c) be the person nominated in writing as an elector by a body corporate which is, or trustees who are, such lessee so liable as aforesaid: *Provided* 25 that the body corporate or trustees may not nominate more than one person for enrolment as ratepaying lessee in any one ward or riding, or, where a municipality is not divided into wards, in any such municipality. 30