REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE.

PURCHASE AND ASSESSMENT OF LANDS.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Committee, composed of Messrs. Fletcher, Booth, Stoddart, Semlin, and Sword, appointed to examine and report to the House on the answer given by the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Work on Wednesday, 25th February, to section (c) of the question asked by Mr. Sword; and also to ascertain whether lands applied for under section 29 of the "Land Act" are placed on the assessment roll when such application is made, beg to report as follows :—

1. That they have held three meetings, and find that about 26,000 acres @ \$2.50 per acre, and about 161,000 acres @ \$1 per acre, were applied for more than six months before the date of the return, on which the ten per cent. deposit was paid, but the purchase had not been completed at that date.

2. That these lands, so far as appears on the return, have nearly all lapsed to the Crown, and the deposits have been forfeited.

3. That, with reference to the answer given in the Journals of the Legislature for 1889, folio 26, to a similar set of questions, they have not ascertained what proportion of the uncompleted applications referred to in that answer have since been completed.

4. That these lands are not placed on the assessment roll when applied for, and that they recommend that where any extension of time for completing the purchase is granted, care should be taken that these lands then become assessable.

> C. B. SWORD, Chairman.

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SECOND REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE.

PURCHASE AND ASSESSMENT OF LANDS.

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MR. SPEAKER :

Your Select Committee, composed of Messrs. Fletcher, Booth, Stoddart, Semlin and Sword, appointed to examine and report to the House on the answer given by the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works on Wednesday, 25th February, to section (c.) of the question asked by Mr. Sword; and also to ascertain whether lands applied for under section 29 of the "Land Act" are placed on the Assessment Roll when such application is made, beg to report as follows :---

1. That they have held four meetings, and find that about 26,000 acres, at \$2.50 per acre, and about 161,000 acres, at \$1 per acre, were applied for more than six months before the date of the return, on which the ten per cent. deposit was paid, but the purchases had not, so far as appears on the return, been completed at that date.

2. That these lands, so far as the return shows, have nearly all lapsed to the Crown.

3. That with reference to the answer given in the Journals of the Legislature for 1889, folio 26, to a similar set of questions, they have not ascertained what proportion, if any, of the uncompleted applications referred to in that answer are still uncompleted.

4. That these lands are not placed on the Assessment Roll when applied for.

C. B. Sword, Chairman.

14th April, 1891.