

# REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE ON LAND ORDINANCE, 1870.

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January 17th, 1873.

Present—Messrs. Humphreys, Bunster, Booth, Smithe, and the Chairman, Mr. Semlin.

*Resolved*, That we think it advisable to amend those sections of the Land Law of 1870 so as to simplify the granting of pre-emption records;

Also, to make definite in yards the length and breadth of the amount of the pre-emption where it is practicable to have such land rectangular in form.

That every Commissioner, and Deputy Commissioner, should have power to Register pre-emption records without reference to the Lands and Works Department.

That the occupation of a pre-emptor may be either by himself or his agent.

That free grants should be given upon the requisite improvements having been made.

That grants should be issued at any time upon the improvements having been made.

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January 18th, 1873.

Present—Messrs. Semlin, Smithe, Booth, Humphreys; Mr. Semlin in the Chair.

That no Pastoral Leases should be granted on Vancouver Island, or islands adjacent thereto; but we recommend that Pastoral Leases of land on the Mainland should be granted, upon proper enquiry that such leases would not injure *bona fide* settlers settled in the vicinity of the land proposed to be leased, and that in such leases reservations should be made that any portion of the land leased susceptible of being used for agriculture may be pre-empted, and the pre-emptor may enter thereon, and pass and re-pass over the land leased without being deemed a trespasser.

That before records of water privileges should be granted, notice of the intention to apply for such record should be given to all *bona fide* settlers whose land may be affected by granting such record.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. A. SEMLIN, *Chairman*.