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VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

A.D. 1896.

No. 649.

An Act relating to the Mining and Pastoral Occupation of the Northern Territory.

[Assented to, September 2nd, 1896.]

DE it Enacted by the Governor of the Province of South Australia, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of the said province, in this present Parliament assembled, as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as "The Northern Territory Crown Short title and Lands Amendment Act, 1896," and shall be incorporated with "The Northern Territory Crown Lands Act, 1890," hereinafter referred to as the principal Act.

2. The Governor may grant to any person who has taken up or Special permits to who may hereafter take up any Crown lands in the Northern Terrisearch for metals and
minerals. tory on pastoral lease a special permit, in the form in the Schedule hereto, which permit shall, during the period it remains in force, grant, subject to the conditions therein set out, exclusive licence to the grantee thereof to search for metals and minerals over the lands so taken up, or agreed to be taken up, or over such part thereof as shall be specified in the permit: Provided always that no such permits shall be issued to any one person in respect of more than five blocks of land of not more than one thousand square miles each.

3. All special permits heretofore granted in the form in the Validation of special Schedule hereto, or to the like effect, are hereby validated and con-permits heretofore granted. firmed.

The Northern Territory Crown Lands Amendment Act.—1896.

Leases for encouraging establishment of horse-breeding stations.

- 4. The Governor may, for the purpose of encouraging the establishment of horse-breeding stations for the remount service, grant leases of any portions of the Crown lands, not exceeding five thousand square miles in any one lease, for a term of not exceeding forty-two years, subject to the following conditions:—
 - (a) The rent for the first seven years of the lease shall be a peppercorn rent:
 - (b) The rent for the remainder of the term shall be such an amount per square mile as shall be fixed by valuation (irrespective of lessee's improvements) made by the Minister within the first six months of the sixth year of the term: Provided that the rent so fixed shall not be more than Three Shillings per square mile and not less than One Shilling per square mile:
 - (c) The lease shall contain such of the exceptions, reservations, covenants, and conditions prescribed by regulations for the time being in force with respect to pastoral leases as the Governor shall think proper.

Amendment of Part V. of principal Act.

Tenants' Relief Board.

5. Part V. of the principal Act shall hereafter be read as if sections 26 to 37 (both inclusive) of "The Pastoral Act Amendment Act, 1895," had been inserted therein with the words "Minister" or "Minister's" substituted respectively for "Commissioner" or "Commissioner's" wherever such latter words occur in any of the said sections.

Limitation of valuation of rent of pastoral leases. 6. The rent to be fixed by valuation for the remainder of the term of the lease under section 59 of the principal Act shall not be more than fifty per centum above or below the rent payable during the last year of the third period of seven years.

Leases may be surrendered. 7. It shall be lawful for any lessee under this or the principal Act, with the consent of the Minister, to surrender his lease at any time during the currency thereof.

In the name and on behalf of Her Majesty, I hereby assent to this Bill.

T. F. BUXTON, Governor.

The Northern Territory Crown Lands Amendment Act. -1896.

THE SCHEDULE REFERRED TO.

[South Australia, to wit.]

Special Permit.

To all whom it may concern—Greeting: Know ye that I, the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, do hereby grant to , of , and his assigns (hereinafter called the licencee) exclusive licence and authority to search for metals and minerals over the land delineated in the plan annexed hereto and situate in the Northern Territory of the Province of South Australia, except such part or parts of such blocks of land as shall be held under mineral or gold leases or licences or miners' rights at the date of the granting of this permit, for a period of twelve calendar months from the date hereof, but subject to a right of renewal from time to time, as hereinafter provided, for further periods of twelve calendar months: And I hereby reserve the lands subject to this permit from the operation of mineral licences and miners' rights, except such mineral licences and miners' rights as may be issued to the said licencee, his servants, or nominees, during the currency of this permit: And I declare that this permit is granted subject to the conditions following, that is to say:—

- 1. The licencee, his assigns, or servants shall not remove any metals or minerals from any portion of the said area except for the purpose of assay or testing, and the quantity so removed shall not exceed five tons in respect of such test or assay before a mineral or gold lease or claim, under the law relating to mining for the time being in force in the Northern Territory, shall have been taken up in respect of the land wherein the metals or minerals have been found.
- 2. The discovery of payable gold on any part of the said lands shall be reported to a warden of goldfields within three months from the date of the discovery of such payable gold.
- 3. Upon the proclamation in the Government Gazette after such report of a goldfield on any part of the said lands, this permit shall cease to be exclusive as to gold on an area included in a block ten miles square, the sides of which block shall be north, south, east, and west, the place where the discovery has been made being in the centre of such block, and such block shall thereupon be open to gold mining under the laws for the time being in force in the Northern Territory relating to gold mining, and the aforesaid reservation shall cease and determine so far as gold mining is concerned.
- 4. At least one thousand pounds per annum shall be expended in payment of actual wages to prospectors or in permanent work of development on the said block of land, in each year during the currency of this permit or any renewal thereof; but if any one person or company shall become possessed of more than one block of land such expenditure may, with the consent of the Minister for the time being controlling the Northern Territory, be made upon one of such blocks, and a return, showing the amount of such expenditure, shall be furnished to the Minister controlling the Northern Territory half-yearly.
- 5. A royalty of five pounds per centum on the net profits derived from the working of every mine discovered or worked on the said blocks of land by the licencee or any person or company claiming or holding through or under him shall be paid to the Government of South Australia, and the licencee and all companies or persons claiming or holding through or under him shall forward half-yearly returns to the said Minister of their receipts and expenditure in connection with every such mine.
- 6. Subject to the ratification of this permit by Parliament, a renewal thereof from time to time, with the approval of the Minister for the time being controlling the Northern Territory, for further consecutive periods of twelve calendar months, may be granted.

7. The

The Northern Territory Crown Lands Amendment Act.—1896.

7. The licencee shall obtain a miner's right for every person employed in mining upon the said land during the currency of this permit, or any renewal thereof.

Given under my hand and the public seal of South Australia, at Adelaide, this day of

By command,

Treasurer, the Minister Controlling the Northern Territory of South Australia.