

FUEL GROUNDS.

9 OF 1901,

TO ESTABLISH FUEL GROUNDS.

W. F. HAYNES SMITH.]

[July 25, 1901.

Short title.

1. This Law may be cited as the Fuel Grounds Law, 1901.

Definitions.

2. In this Law and in any regulations made under this Law:—

“Fuel Ground” means any land set aside under this Law as a Fuel Ground;

“Prescribed manner” means the manner prescribed by this Law or by any regulation made under this Law;

“Tax-payer” means any male person of not less than twenty-one years of age, who is resident in the village and is assessed to pay verghi kimat in respect of property situate within the limits of the village.

Village meetings to decide on establishment of fuel grounds.

3.—(1.) Whenever the Commissioner of any District considers it expedient that a fuel ground should be set aside under this Law for the use of any village, or if he has received a petition from any ten tax-payers praying that a fuel ground shall be so set aside, he shall call a meeting of the tax-payers of the village for the purpose of deciding whether a fuel ground should be set aside, and shall cause notice of the date on which the meeting is to be held to be posted in the village at least ten days before such date.

(2.) The Commissioner or any person by him deputed for the purpose, shall preside at every such meeting, and shall take down in writing the names of the taxpayers present and their respective votes.

Resolution of meeting.

4. Where at any such meeting it is resolved by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the tax-payers there present that a fuel ground should be set apart for the use of their village, the provisions of this Law with regard to the establishment of fuel grounds shall be forthwith put into force with respect to that village.

Formation of fuel grounds.

5. Whenever it has been resolved as aforesaid that a fuel ground should be established for the use of any village, the High Commissioner may from time to time, if he thinks fit, set aside portions of Mevat, or unoccupied land belonging to the Government, or of Delimited State Forest, to be cultivated and planted with trees by the Village Community for the purpose of supplying the wood necessary for fuel and for domestic and agricultural purposes.

6. Where any portion of land is set aside as a fuel ground, notice shall be published in the *Cyprus Gazette*, giving particulars of the situation, extent and boundaries of the fuel ground, together with the name of the village required to plant and maintain it; and a copy of the notice shall be exhibited in some conspicuous place in the village.

Publication
of particulars.

7.—(1.) It shall be the duty of every able-bodied inhabitant of any village mentioned in the notice, in addition to his obligations under the Village Roads Law, 1900, to contribute in each year not more than six days' labour, in the prescribed manner, to the planting, cultivation, protection, management and thinning of trees on the fuel ground referred to in the notice, as though such planting, cultivation, protection, management or thinning were a work undertaken under the provisions of the Village Roads Law, 1900; and the Village Authority referred to in the said Law shall have full power, and shall be bound to carry out such planting and cultivation, and to enforce the other obligations of this Law as regards such fuel grounds, as if the same were a work undertaken under the Village Roads Law, 1900.

Obligation of
able-bodied
inhabitants
to cultivate
fuel grounds.

(2.) Any person who provides a plough with a yoke of oxen for a full day's work shall be deemed to have furnished one and a half days' labour.

(3.) In this section the term "able-bodied inhabitant" bears the same meaning as is assigned to it in the Village Roads Law, 1900.

8. The wood growing upon any fuel ground at the time when it is set apart, or grown subsequently thereon, shall be applied in the prescribed manner for the use of the inhabitants of the Village Communities who are bound by the Law to plant and maintain it, after deducting such amount, not exceeding one shilling in respect of any one fuel ground, as the High Commissioner may direct to be paid as quit rent for the use of the land.

Disposal of
wood.

9. All fuel grounds shall be deemed to be under the protection, control and management of the Government in the manner provided by section 2 of the Forest Law, 1889.

Fuel grounds
under
protection of
Government.

10. The High Commissioner in Council may make and, when made, may alter or revoke regulations for any of the following purposes; that is to say:—

Regulations.

(1.) For regulating the description of trees to be planted in the different localities and soils of the Island;

(2.) For regulating the seasons and times of the year at which the young trees shall be planted out, and the manner in which they shall be replaced;