

open for inspection for the statutory period, was forwarded to the Hon. Colonial Secretary by Mr C. E. Salter, barrister and solicitor of Christchurch, on the 21st of February, 1891.

On the 11th of May, 1891, in reply to the request made by the Colonial Secretary that Mr Salter should suggest some suitable person for appointment as Town Clerk and Returning Officer, also a convenient day of the week for the election of a Mayor, six Councillors and recommend a day of the week, house and place for the first meeting of the Borough Council, Mr Salter replied submitting the name of Mr Crawford for appointment as Town Clerk and the name of Clement Lester Wiggins for appointment as Returning Officer.

With regard to the election of a Mayor and Councillors, Mr Salter suggested that Saturday would be a convenient day, "because many ratepayers resident in Christchurch would be able to attend and vote." That the Sumner Town Board Office in Hardwicke Street would be a convenient place and that Tuesday evening a convenient time for the first meeting of the Borough Council. By proclamation, these arrangements were fixed and the appointments made on the 23rd of May, 1891. Saturday, the 20th of June, was appointed as the day on which the first election of six Councillors should be held. Saturday, the 27th of June, was fixed as the date for the Mayoral election. Tuesday, the 30th day of June, 1891, at 8 o'clock in the evening was set down as "the time and the Sumner Town Board's Office as the place at which the first meeting of the Sumner Borough Council shall be held."

The proclamation of Sumner as a Borough reads as follows:

Proclaiming Borough of Sumner, County of Selwyn, under
"The Municipal Corporations Act, 1886."
(L.S.) ONSLOW, Governor.

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS by "The Municipal Corporations Act, 1886," the Governor is empowered, by Proclamation, to declare any portion of the Colony of New Zealand to be a borough under the said Act, from and after a day to be named in such Proclamation:

Now, therefore, I, William Hillier, Earl of Onslow, the Governor of the Colony of New Zealand, in pursuance and exercise of the powers and authorities vested in me by the said Act, do hereby proclaim and declare that the district described in the schedule hereto shall be, and the same is hereby constituted as from the first day of June, one thousand and eight hundred and ninety-one, a borough under the said Act.

And I do further proclaim and declare that the name of such Borough shall be the Borough of Sumner, and that the boundaries thereof shall be those described in the Schedule hereto.

SCHEDULE

All that area in the Provincial District of Canterbury, situated in the Survey Districts of Christchurch, Sumner, and Pigeon Bay, bounded towards the north-east by the Estuary of the

Heathcote and Avon Rivers, and by the ocean from a point due north to the northernmost corner of Section No. 866, Block XVI, Christchurch Survey District to Godley Head;—thence towards the south generally by Lyttelton Harbour to the Borough of Lyttelton; thence towards the west and south-west generally by the said Borough of Lyttelton to the Mount Pleasant Road, near the south-western corner of Section No. 274a, Block II, Sumner Survey District; thence by the eastern side of the said Mount Pleasant Road to the Christchurch and Sumner Road; thence by that road to the northernmost corner of Section No. 866 aforesaid; and thence by a line due north across the said Christchurch and Sumner Road to the Estuary of the Heathcote and Avon Rivers.

Given under the hand of His Excellency the Right Honourable William Hillier, Earl of Onslow, of Onslow in the County of Salop, Viscount Cranley of Cranley, in the County of Surrey; Baron Onslow, of Onslow in the County of Salop, and of West Clandon in the County of Surrey; Baron Cranley, of Imbercourt Baronet; Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George; Governor and Commander-in-chief in and over Her Majesty's Colony of New Zealand and its Dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same; and issued under the Seal of the said Colony, at Wellington, this twenty-second day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one.

P. A. BUCKLEY.

God Save the Queen!

The first Council of the Borough of Sumner, which met on the 30th day of June, 1891, was constituted as follows:

Mayor, J. M. Wheeler, resigned, 3/11/91.

Mayor, F. Pratt, 4/11/91 to 15/12/91.

Mayor W. Hayward, 16/12/91 to 26/12/92.

Councillors: J. S. Monck, W. A. Carpenter, F. Pratt, Jas. Tait, W. Hayward, A. N. Gilchrist (resigned 22/9/91), J. C. Hughes (elected 22/9/91), and W. Kitson (elected 23/11/91).

With the course set and riders in the saddle who knew something of its difficulties and the hurdles to be faced, the race for municipal progress began. The receipts for the first year amounted to £614, the payments to £768. Assets amounted to £129, and liabilities to £81.

Despite the effect of two economic depressions, the spectre of unemployment with its accompanying horror of some of our people reaching a point below the breadline, high rates of interest, and low valuations, a ghastly epidemic and the disorganisation and after-effects resulting from the war of 1914-1918, much was accomplished by the first and succeeding Councils of the Borough of Sumner.

Gasworks, waterworks, electric light and sewerage systems were established, a fire-brigade was organized, a town hall obtained; roads and paths were constructed and an effective street lighting system installed.

Other amenities were also provided for the benefit of residents of the Borough and visitors thereto. The result: Sumner is today the only self-contained local body in the Metropolitan area.