AN ACT to amend the Agricultural Lands Purchase Act, 1896.

[Assented to, 23rd December, 1897.]

BE it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of Western Australia, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. THIS Act may be cited as the Agricultural Lands Purchase Amendment Act, 1897.

2. THE tenth section of the Agricultural Lands Purchase Act, 1896, hereinafter called the principal Act, is hereby amended by adding to the said section as follows:

   "The Minister, with the approval of the Governor, may dispose of town and suburban lands, set apart under this section in like manner as town and suburban lands may, for the time being, be disposed of under the statutes and regulations in that behalf."
3. THE twelfth section of the principal Act is hereby amended by striking out the word “shall,” in the second line of the said section, and inserting in lieu thereof the word “may,” and by adding to the said section as follows:—

“The Minister may, nevertheless, with the approval of the Governor, put up to public auction any unsold portion of land at an upset price ascertained in accordance with the last preceding section.

“All sales by auction shall be previously notified in not less than three successive issues of the Government Gazette and in one newspaper circulating in the locality for such time as the Minister shall think fit, and such notices shall specify the time and place of sale, and the number and upset price of each lot. Provided that any lot may be withdrawn from sale by the Minister at any time prior to the same being actually offered for sale and bid for.

“The highest bidder, on paying into the hands of the auctioneer the first year’s instalment in accordance with the last preceding section, shall be entitled to the lease therein provided for.

“The auctioneer acting at such sale need not be a licensed auctioneer.”

In the name and on behalf of the Queen I hereby assent to this Act.

GERARD SMITH, Governor.