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NEW RAILWAYS - PROPOSALS INVESTIGATED - STANDING COMMITTEE'S REPORTS

Additional Suburban Line

Reports on seven railway construction proposals were presented to the State Parliament yesterday by the Railways Standing Committee. The 36th general report of the committee was also presented.

Darling - Glen Waverley.

The committee recommends a new suburban railway, from Darling to Glen Waverley at a cost of £166,000, with £49,671 for rolling stock, to serve the district between the Camberwell to Ferntree Gully and the Oakleigh to Dandenong lines. The selected route leaves Darling station and traverses the existing unused line to a point just north of Waverley road, where a new station is proposed. The line then turns east, and runs parallel with and just north of Waverley road to Batesford road, with a station at the junction of the latter road and Warragul road (or Boundary road); thence north-east, crossing Grandview road and Salisbury street to about the centre of the golf links area adjoining Bayview road on the east side, where a station is proposed; then practically due east to the terminal station, just on the west side of Springvale road, with intermediate stations on the east side of the intersecting cross roads (Stevenson's lane and May's road). The proposed line runs parallel with High street on the north and Waverley road on the south, keeping, for the most part, little closer to High street.

It will be necessary for residents to provide the land for the construction of the railway. The amount necessary for this purpose was estimated in November, 1925, as £30,200; in May, 1920, as £41,500; and when the land is actually resumed it will probably, amount to £50,000.

In addition to providing the land free of charge the residents of the district will be called upon to pay a betterment rate amounting to a maximum of £10,000 per annum for five years, or a total of £50,000, subject, however, to the maximum rate for any year not exceeding the loss on the new line for that year. It is calculated that there are 6,000 acres within one mile of the new line, and on an average rate spread over five years in the case of the betterment rate, and for 15 to 20 years in regard to the land compensation rate, the tax per acre will be £16/13/4. This works out at £4/3/4 per quarter-acre allotment, or approximately 1/3 per foot frontage. It is not intended that a uniform rate shall be charged on each property, but that the rate should be varied according to the distance from the line. A train service of 24 trains daily will be provided, 14 of the trains consisting of six cars. The terminus at Glen Waverley will be 13½ miles from Melbourne, the length of new construction from the Darling line being 5 miles 71 chains, and the time take for the through journey to the city will be approximately 35 minutes.