



Agricultural Land (Utilisation) Act 1931

1931 CHAPTER 41

PART II

SMALL HOLDINGS AND ALLOTMENTS

Small Holdings

9 Power of Minister to act in default of county councils who have not provided sufficient small holdings

- (1) Subject as hereinafter provided, if the Minister is satisfied that the council of any county have not provided sufficient small holdings to satisfy the demand of persons who desire to buy or lease and will themselves cultivate the holdings and are able to cultivate them properly, the Minister shall have power, without prejudice to the powers and duties of the county council, to provide small holdings for such persons :

Provided that, before exercising his powers under this section, the Minister shall give to the county council notice of his intention to do so and, if within such period as may be specified in the notice the council represent to him that in their opinion sufficient small holdings have been provided to satisfy the demand aforesaid, shall hold a local inquiry; and the county council and such other persons as the person holding the inquiry thinks fit to allow shall be entitled to appear and be heard at the inquiry.

- (2) The person appointed to hold a local inquiry for the purpose of this section shall be a person to be agreed upon between the Minister and the county council or, in default of such agreement, a barrister of not less than ten years' standing to be nominated by the President of the Law Society, and, in relation to the inquiry, the person so appointed shall be deemed for the purposes of section fifty-seven of the Small Holdings and Allotments Act, 1908, to be an officer of the Ministry.
- (3) Every county council shall furnish to the Minister such information as he may require for the purposes of this section.