

thereof, the Company may file in any one of the superior courts of law or in any one of the superior courts having chancery or equity jurisdiction, a petition stating such doubts and praying for an order or judgment adjudicating and awarding the said shares, bonds, debentures, obligations, dividends, coupons or proceeds to the parties legally entitled thereto; and such court shall have authority to restrain any action, suit or proceeding against the Company, the directors and officers thereof, for the same subject matter pending the termination of the petition; and the Company and the directors and officers thereof shall be fully protected and indemnified by obedience to such order or judgment against all actions, suits, claims and demands in respect of the matters which shall have been in question in such petition, and the proceedings thereupon. Provided always, that if the court adjudges that such doubts were reasonable, the costs, charges and expenses of the Company in and about such petition and proceedings shall be a lien upon such shares, bonds, debentures, obligations, dividends, coupons or proceeds and shall be paid to the Company before the directors shall be obliged to transfer or assent to the transfer of, or pay such shares, bonds, debentures, obligations, dividends, coupons or proceeds to the person found entitled thereto.

23. The Company may stipulate for, demand and receive in advance or otherwise, monthly, quarterly, half-yearly or yearly or at any other periods that may be agreed upon, the interest from time to time accruing on any loans granted by the Company, and may charge interest on the arrears of interest or principal, at the rate of interest payable on the principal money not in arrear.

24. The Company may hold real estate for the purpose of or in connection with its places of business; but no parcel of land or interest therein at any time acquired by the Company, and not required for its actual use and occupation or not held by way of security, shall be held by the Company or by any trustee on its behalf for a longer period than ten years after the acquisition thereof, but such land or interest therein shall be absolutely sold and disposed of so that the Company shall no longer retain any interest therein unless by way of security. Provided that any such parcel of land, or any interest therein, not within the exceptions hereinbefore mentioned which has been held by the Company for a longer period than ten years without being disposed of shall be forfeited to Her Majesty. Provided that Her Majesty may extend the said period from time to time not exceeding in the whole twelve years. Provided further that no such forfeiture shall take effect or be enforced until the expiration of at least six calendar months, after notice in writing to the Company of the intention of Her Majesty to claim such forfeiture; and the Company shall, when required, give the Minister of Finance a full and correct statement of all lands at the date of such statement held by the Company, or in trust for the Company, and subject to these provisos.

Interest on loans.

Power to hold real estate.

Forfeiture.

Extension of term.

Statement for Minister of Finance.