

Remaining clauses (22 to 26) and title passed.
Bill read a third time and passed.

TRAVELLING STOCK RESERVES

Adjourned debate on motion of the Minister of Lands:

That portions of the travelling stock reserves adjoining sections 216 and 219, in the hundred of Copley, sections 14 and 15 in the hundred of Gillen, section 1 in the hundred of Handyside and pastoral block 1146 north out of hundreds as shown on the plan laid before Parliament on 5 April 1977 be resumed in terms of section 136 of the Pastoral Act, 1936-1976, for railway purposes.

(Continued from 15 August, Page 487.)

The Hon. R. A. GEDDES: I support this motion, of which the Council has been informed by means of a pamphlet placed on the notice board delineating the travelling stock reserves concerned. I have checked with the Stockowners Association of South Australia Incorporated, which is normally consulted by the Government before any travelling stock routes are closed. That association in turn established contact with the owners of land adjoining the country involved, and they quietly agree with the transfer.

One strange thing about the matter is that the suggested take-over of stock routes in other areas was first made by the Commonwealth Railways in its plan to build the Port Augusta to Whyalla railway line in 1975. It has taken from then until 15 August, when the Minister introduced the motion, to get the matter before Parliament. What a shocking state of affairs it would have been, the railway line having been built and operating, if the landholders or persons concerned had legitimate complaints to lay before Parliament or if they considered that injustices were being done in this respect. It seems to me to be a raw deal, not on the Minister's part, but on the part of those people who advise him, that no action was taken or positive results about what was going to happen were made known until 15 August. Despite this, the railway line has been built and is in use.

My slight criticism is directed not so much at the Government but with sincere intent. If there is to be laxity in departments, and an attitude of "What does it matter; they do not use the stock route, anyway," it could create much hardship, especially in pastoral areas. Who knows what the future holds for the movement of stock, which is at present being carted by rail or motor transport? Who can tell whether, for the movement of cattle, we may in future have to revert to using travelling stock reserves? With those few remarks, I support the motion.

Motion carried.

BARLEY MARKETING ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Received from the House of Assembly and read a first time.

The Hon. B. A. CHATTERTON (Minister of Agriculture): I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

This Bill has two functions. These are to enable the Australian Barley Board to make early payments to growers of barley and oats for grain delivered to the board, and to extend the Governor's powers to make regulations under the Act so that regulations may be made governing the eligibility of growers to vote for representation on the board. Under the present legislation, the board is unable to pay growers until it becomes aware of the expenditure that it has incurred in

relation to the transport, storage and marketing of the grain in question. The Act does not permit the board to make payments pursuant to an estimation of these outgoings. This restriction is capable of causing considerable delay, and financial inconvenience to growers.

The Australian Wheat Board, which operates under a different Act, is not fettered in this manner, and consequently is able to make more prompt payments. Both the Government and the Australian Barley Board believe that the prevailing restrictions in the Barley Marketing Act ought to be removed. This Bill, therefore, will provide for minor amendments to the Act that will enable the board to make payments on the basis of estimated expenditure for transport, storage and marketing.

Turning now to the second matter which is the subject of this Bill, the board has experienced certain difficulties in the past in identifying persons who are eligible to vote for representative board members. Investigations have shown that the most efficient means of identification would be through the board's own register of deliveries, with the stipulation that growers must have lodged a certain minimum tonnage of grain with the board in the previous season to be eligible. The most satisfactory method of introducing such a scheme would be by regulation, but this is precluded by the existing terms of the Act. Consequently, the Bill seeks to modify the regulation-making power so that suitable measures can be introduced. I seek leave to have the explanation of the clauses inserted in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

Explanation of Clauses

Clause 1 is formal. Clause 2 amends section 19 of the Act, which sets out the manner in which the price to be paid by the board for barley is determined. The amendments enable the board to estimate the costs of transport, storage and marketing in order to finalise its calculations. Clause 3 provides for a corresponding amendment to section 19a of the principal Act, which deals with payments for oats.

Clause 4 repeals section 21 of the principal Act, which contains the regulation-making power, and enacts a new section in its place. This restates the existing powers and introduces a new authority to prescribe the manner in which elections contemplated by the Act are to be held, and the eligibility of persons to vote in those elections.

The Hon. R. A. GEDDES secured the adjournment of the debate.

URBAN LAND (PRICE CONTROL) ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Received from the House of Assembly and read a first time.

The Hon. B. A. CHATTERTON (Minister of Agriculture): I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

The principal purpose of this Bill is to provide a flexible basis upon which to implement land price control. Under the Act at present all land that constitutes a vacant allotment of residential land (and fulfils the other requirements specified by the Act) is subject to price control if it is in the areas set out under the definition of "controlled area" in the Act. Because of fluctuating