**FRUITGROWING INDUSTRY (ASSISTANCE) BILL 1972**

**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, 19 SEPTEMBER 1972, PAGE 1374**

**Second Reading**

His Excellency the Governor, by message, recommended to the House of Assembly the appropriation of such amounts of money as might be required for the purposes mentioned in the Bill.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Works) obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to enable the Government of the State to enter into, carry out and generally give effect to an agreement with the Government of the Commonwealth to provide certain assistance to the fruitgrowing industry, and for other purposes. Read a first time.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

This short Bill is intended to authorise the Government of this State to enter into an agreement with the Government of the Commonwealth to provide certain assistance to the fruitgrowing industry of this State. This agreement is still in the course of negotiation and, although these negotiations have reached an advanced stage, it is desirable that formal authority be given to the Government to enter into the agreement and for the Premier to execute the agreement on behalf of the State. It is also desirable that the Government be given statutory power to do what is necessary to carry out and give effect to the agreement.

In the terms of this Bill, a copy of the agreement will be tabled in this House as soon as practicable after it is made. I have given a copy of the agreement to the Leader. In summary, the agreement will provide for a scheme of assistance to the fruitgrowing industry by providing a payment to fruitgrowers for each tree they pull out. In this manner, it is hoped that the over-supply of certain fruit that appears endemic in the industry will, to some extent, be controlled. The moneys necessary to make these advances to growers will be provided by the Commonwealth by way of grant. However, this State will, out of its own resources, be required to bear the costs of the administration of the agreement.

I will now deal with the Bill in some detail. Clauses 1 and 2 are formal. Clause 3 makes clear that the application of the Rural Assistance (Special Provisions) Act, 1971-1972, will not be affected by the operation of this Act. Clause 4 provides the definitions necessary for the purposes of this Act. Clause 5 formally authorises the Government to enter into an agreement of the kind specified in subclause (1) of this clause, and at subclause (3) authorises the Premier to execute the agreement on behalf of the State.

Clause 6 provides that the Government of the State may do all things necessary, con­venient or expedient to carry out or give effect to the agreement and for the Minister to whom the administration of the measure is committed to be the “authority” for the purposes of the agreement. Clause 7 ensures that such moneys as are required for the purposes of giving effect to the measure will, to the extent that they are not available from other sources, be payable out of moneys appropriated by Parliament. Clause 8 establishes a fund in the Treasury to be known as the Fruitgrowing Assistance Fund, and sub clauses (2) and (3) providefor payments into and out of the fund. Clause9 provides a usual exemption from stamp and other duties in respect of documents executed for the purposes of obtaining assistance under the measure. Clause 10 provides that acopy of the agreement and any amendmentthereto will be laid on the table of this House.

Dr. EASTICK secured the adjournment of the debate.