**PASTORAL ACT AMENDMENT BILL.1953**

**House of Assembly, 12 August 1953, pages 337-8**

Second reading

**The Hon. C. S. HINCKS (Minister of Lands),** having obtained leave, introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Pastoral Act, 1936-1950. Read a first time.

The Hon. C. S. HINCKS—I move—

That this Bill be now read a second time. It makes two amendments to the Pastoral Act, 1936-1950. Under the Pastoral Act Amendment Act, 1950, provision was made for the appointment of a fourth member to the Pastoral Board in order to leave the remainder of the board free to act as Land Court for the Northern Territory, in accordance with a request made by the Commonwealth Government. It was provided by that Act that any person so appointed should not hold office after December 31 of this year. Up to the present, the board has not been appointed to act as Land Court for the Northern Territory but it is anticipated that the appointment will be made shortly, so that it has become desirable to extend or remove the limitation on the term of office of the fourth member of the board. The Government believes that the best course will be to remove the limitation altogether. Clause 3 makes the necessary amendment to section 7 of the principal Act. Section 95 (2) of the Act provides that -where a lessee holds several leases which expire at different dates the term of those first expiring may be extended for a period up to 3 years to enable the expiration of the various leases to coincide. The Director of Lands has advised that the maximum period of three years under this provision is not sufficient to produce the simultaneous expiry of leases in many cases, and recommends that no maximum period be fixed. Accordingly clause 4 of the Bill makes the necessary amendment to section 95 *(2), of* the principal Act.

Mr. O’HALLORAN secured the adjournment of the debate.