**WHEAT DELIVERY QUOTAS ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1973**

**Legislative Assembly, 22 November 1973, page 1936**

Second reading.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Works): I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

I seek leave to have the second reading explanation inserted in Hansard without my reading it.

Leave granted.

Explanation of Bill

This relatively short Bill proposes two changes of great significance in the principal Act, the Wheat Delivery Quotas Act, 1969, as amended. First, it proposes that nominal quotas may be established for certain production units from traditional wheatgrowing areas from which for one reason or another wheat was not produced and delivered to a licensed receiver during the “prescribed period”, that is, the five consecutive seasons concluding on September 30, 1969. Secondly, it will permit farmers to trade in wheat delivery quotas by making such quotas or portions of quotas transferable with the approval of the advisory committee.

I will now deal with the Bill in some detail. Clauses 1 and 2 are formal. Clause 3 is consequential on an amendment effected by clause 7. Clause 4 amends section 19 of the principal Act at paragraph (a) by striking out a reference to bushels in pursuance of the policy of converting to the metric system of measurement, and at paragraph (b) by ensuring that the penalty for making a false or misleading statement in an application under section 19 of the principal Act will apply equally to a false or misleading statement in an application made under proposed new section 249 of the Act, which deals with applications for special nominal quotas. Clause 5 provides that a person who would otherwise be allocated a wheat delivery quota for a quota season may request the advisory committee not to allocate such a quota for that season. Such a request will not prejudice the right of that person to be allocated a wheat delivery quota in respect of subsequent quota seasons.

Clause 6 provides for the establishment of special nominal quotas in respect of production units adverted to above. A production unit will qualify under this provision if wheat was produced and delivered from it during two or more of the 10 consecutive seasons that concluded on September 30, 1964, this period being the period immedi­ately preceding the period on which wheat delivery quotas were originally based. The highest special nominal quota that can be allocated under this section is 109 tonnes, or about 4 000 bushels. The method of calculating the special nominal quota is set out in proposed subsection (4). Upon establishment, special nominal quotas will be regarded as ordinary nominal quotas established under section 24a of the Act.

Clause 7 provides for the transfer of quotas on a season to season basis; in short, only the right to deliver wheat for a particular season can be transferred. With one exception, a wheat delivery quota increased as a result of an approved transfer will for all purposes be regarded as a wheat delivery quota allocated in respect of a production unit. The exception is that, where all the wheat from a production unit delivered in respect of a season is less than the amount by which the wheat delivery quota for that production unit was increased by way of a transfer of a quota, the difference between the amount of the increase and the amount actually delivered will not be taken into account in determining the short-fall of that production unit. Clause 8 provides for the exception adverted to in relation to clause 7, and clause 9 makes a minor drafting amendment to the principal Act.

Mr. WARDLE secured the adjournment of the debate.