**WHEAT INDUSTRY STABILIZATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1973**

**Legislative Assembly, 22 November 1973, page 1955**

Second reading

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

The Hon. L. J. KING (Attorney-General): I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

The object of this Bill, which amends the Wheat Industry Stabilization Act, 1968, as amended, is to extend for one season the stabilization arrangements the subject of that Act. Members will be aware that the legislative framework within which these arrangements operate is constituted by an Act of the Commonwealth, the Wheat Industry Stabilization Act, 1969, and substantially uniform Acts of each State that together provide for the operation of the guaranteed price scheme.

The need for State Acts to support, as it were, the Commonwealth legislation is to ensure that within the framework of the Australian Constitution there is sufficient legislative power to render the scheme effective. In the ordinary course of events the stabilization scheme at present under consideration would have ceased to have effect after the wheat, of the season ending on October 31 last, had been sold. Accordingly, this measure of itself contains what I suggest is an entirely desirable feature of retrospectivity.

Clause 1 is formal. Clause 2 sets out the commencement clause in a somewhat expanded form. The purpose of this provision is to ensure that the Act presaged by this Bill will come into operation or, as the case requires, shall be deemed to have come into operation on the day that the Commonwealth Act comes into operation or was deemed to have come into operation. Clause 3 is the operative clause of the Bill and amends section 6 of the principal Act by extending for one season the number of seasons to which the principal Act will apply. Clauses 4 and 5 make certain amendments consequent on the adoption of the metric system of measurement.

Clause 6 amends section 14a of the principal Act by providing for a possible increase in the overall Australian wheat quota of the amount specified in proposed new subsection (5). Clause 7 enacts a new section 20aa of the principal Act and sets out the method by which the guaranteed price will be ascertained for the year commencing on December 1, 1973. Clause 8 makes certain consequential amendments to section 20a of the principal Act, and clause 9 fulfils a similar function in relation to section 21 of the principal Act. Clause 10 makes certain formal amendments to the provisions of the principal Act specified in the first column of the schedule to the Bill. These amendments provide for the expression of quantities in metric terms.

Mr. NANKIVELL secured the adjournment of the debate.