**STATUTES REPEAL (AGRICULTURE) BILL 1988**

**Legislative Council, 13 October 1988, page 996**

Second reading

The Hon. BARBARA WIESE (Minister of Tourism): I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time. The purpose of the Bill is to repeal:

the Chaff and Hay Act 1922; the Tobacco Industry Protection Act 1934; and the Veterinary Districts Act 1940.

The objective of the Chaff and Hay Act 1922 was to prevent the adulteration of chaff and hay with unwanted seeds and to control and regulate its sale. At the introduction of the legislation there was a large market for chaff and hay required to feed horses that were then used on most farms to pull agricultural equipment. Hay and chaff contaminated with weed seeds posed a serious risk of spreading weeds between farms and districts. Weed control is now managed by the Animal and Plant Control (Agricultural Protection and Other Purposes) Act 1986.

Hay and chaff were sold by weight and not volume, and there was opportunity for unscrupulous dealers to increase the weight of their product by adding moisture. The legislation set an upper limit of moisture content that was acceptable. With modern technology and the reduction in the number of working farm horses to almost nil, use is now made of baled hay as stock feed. The sale of chaff is now almost totally confined to the limited market of recreational and thoroughbred horses and does not need legislation to control quality. The need for the legislation has lapsed. The United Farmers and Stockowners Association has given support to repealing the legislation.

The Tobacco Industry Protection Act 1934 was introduced in November 1934 to provide for the control of disease in tobacco plants. The object of the Act was to require every person growing tobacco plants to completely destroy all plants before 31 July each year. This was considered necessary to prevent the spread of disease from one season to the next. The Act also contained provisions for control of the sale of tobacco seeds and seedlings.

The tobacco growing industry was never successful in South Australia mainly due to a combination of unsuitable soil types and poor climate. In or about 1939, the Australian tobacco industry declined, and since that time South Australia has not been involved in the commercial growing of tobacco. It is extremely unlikely that the tobacco growing industry will ever be re-established in South Australia and therefore the need for the legislation has disappeared.

The Veterinary Districts Act 1940 was introduced to provide for the establishment of veterinary districts with the power to raise funds from stockowners with the aim of encouraging veterinarians to establish rural practices throughout the State, at a time when veterinary services in South Australia were restricted. The legislation has had very limited use, and the need for it now has been overtaken with the independent establishment of rural practices throughout the State sufficient to service the needs of the community. The South Australian Veterinary Association and the United Farmers and Stockowners Association have given their support to repealing the legislation. I seek leave to have the detailed explanation of the clauses inserted in Hansard without my reading it.

Leave granted.