

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

Tuesday, August 21, 1951.

The PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir Walter Duncan) took the Chair at 2 p.m. and read prayers.

**EYRE PENINSULA RAILWAY SERVICE.**

The Hon. E. H. EDMONDS—A news item appears in today's *Advertiser* concerning new rail cars to be provided for certain country lines, but no mention was made of the Eyre Peninsula railways. Can the Chief Secretary say whether new rail cars will be provided for Eyre Peninsula and, if not, why not?

The Hon. A. L. McEWIN—I will refer the honourable member's question to the Minister of Railways and get the information desired.

**ONE BRAND PETROL STATIONS.**

The Hon. K. E. J. BARDOLPH—In the press yesterday and today appeared an announcement regarding the Shell Co. of Aust., Ltd., embarking upon a policy of having garages to sell only one brand of petrol. In view of the opposition to the proposal, will the Chief Secretary make inquiries to see if it conflicts with any of the existing statutes which prohibit such a monopoly being established in South Australia?

The Hon. A. L. McEWIN—I saw the report referred to and wish that the honourable member had been more explicit when asking me to look up statutes, because if the Government is to be asked to look into every announcement made by every firm it will monopolize much time of departmental officers. I take it that the proposal is purely an arrangement between the firm and its distributors. However, I will note the honourable member's question and see if there is anything which contravenes any statute.

**SALVAGE OF MILL HILL.**

The Hon. E. A. OATES (on notice)—

1. Is it a fact that the Government or the Harbors Board purchased the tug *Tancred*?

2. Is it a fact that a private company received considerably more compensation than the Harbors Board for the use of their respective tugs in connection with the salvage of the *Mill Hill*?

3. If so, what was the reason for this difference in salvage money?

The Hon. A. L. McEWIN—The replies are:—

1. The tug *Tancred* has not been purchased by the Government or the Harbors Board, but is under charter to the Harbors Board.

2. The Harbors Board, with the approval of the Government, claimed and was paid all the costs it incurred, including a charge for the hire of the *Tancred*.

3. The amount paid to the private company was awarded by a court, and it can only be assumed that whatever amount was paid in excess of the actual cost of rendering the service was by reason of the fact that the private tug had a towing line on the *Mill Hill* before the *Tancred* arrived on the scene.

**ADDRESS IN REPLY.**

The PRESIDENT—His Excellency the Governor having fixed 2.15 p.m. as the time for receiving the Address in Reply, I ask the mover and seconder and other members to accompany me to Government House to present it.

At 2.8 p.m. the President and honourable members left the Chamber and proceeded to Government House. They returned at 2.25 p.m.

The PRESIDENT—I have to report that, accompanied by honourable members, I attended at Government House and there presented to His Excellency the Address in Reply that was adopted by the Legislative Council on August 1. His Excellency was pleased to make the following reply:—

Thank you for your Address in Reply to the Speech with which I opened Parliament on June 27 of this year.

I note your re-affirmation of faithful allegiance to the Throne and Person of His Majesty the King. It is certain that there is no State in the British Empire which will welcome their Majesties and Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret more loyally or more enthusiastically than the people of South Australia. I join with all in expressing profound gratification at the continued progress in the health of His Majesty the King. I am confident that you will give full and most careful attention to all matters placed before you, and I pray that God's blessing may crown your labours.

**PUBLIC WORKS STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

The PRESIDENT laid on the table the following interim reports of the Public Works Standing Committee:—Brighton infant school, hundred of Goode water supply, Light Square produce works extension, hundred of Shannon water supply, new chemistry laboratory at Roseworthy Agricultural College, St. Leonards infant school, Salisbury North primary school, Whyalla West primary school; and the following reports, with minutes of evidence:—Ethelton sewage pumping station, Glanville dockyard improvements.

**SWINE COMPENSATION ACT  
AMENDMENT BILL.**

The Hon. R. J. RUDALL, having obtained leave, introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Swine Compensation Act, 1936-1946. Read a first time.

Second reading.

The Hon. R. J. RUDALL (Midland—Attorney-General)—The purpose of this Bill is to extend the definition of “disease” in the Swine Compensation Act. That Act provides for the establishment of a fund from the proceeds of stamp duty payable upon the sale of swine. From this fund compensation is payable where swine are destroyed or carcasses of swine are condemned because the swine are suffering or are suspected to be suffering from disease. At June 30, 1951, the balance outstanding in the Swine Compensation Fund was £51,944. During the last financial year £8,550 was paid as compensation under the Act. Section 4 of the Act defines “disease” to mean tuberculosis, swine fever, swine plague, swine oryxisipelas, and swine paratyphoid. The Bill proposes to alter this definition by including swine dysentery as a disease and by inserting in the definition in place of the term “swine plague” the term “infectious pneumonia of swine (including swine plague).” The diseases to be brought within the definition are, of course, infectious diseases and occur frequently in the State. These diseases are akin to the diseases now included in the definition and it is obvious that they should be included within the purview of the legislation. I move the second reading.

The Hon. E. A. OATES secured the adjournment of the debate.

**BUSINESS AGENTS ACT AMENDMENT  
BILL.**

The Hon. R. J. RUDALL, having obtained leave, introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Business Agents Act, 1938-1949. Read a first time.

Second reading.

The Hon. R. J. RUDALL (Midland—Attorney-General)—The Business Agents Act, 1938, provides that every business agent is to be licensed by a local court and must obtain an annual licence. Until 1949, the licensing period was the period of 12 months ending June 30. In 1949, the licensing period was altered to the 12 months ending March

31. This was done in order to make the licensing period coincide with the licensing period under the Land Agents Act as licences under the two Acts are sometimes held by the one person and one fidelity bond is then accepted for the purposes of the two Acts.

Section 18 of the Business Agents Act sets out the fees which are payable for a licence under that Act. The section provides that if a licence is taken out between December 31 and June 30, that is, during the second half of the previous licensing period, then one-half of the fee otherwise payable is to be paid. When the Act was amended in 1949 and the licensing period altered, the corresponding alteration was not made in section 18. The purpose of this Bill is to repair this omission and it provides that the period during which half fees are to be payable is to be from September 30 to March 31, that is, the second half of the present licensing period. I move the second reading.

The Hon. N. L. JUDE secured the adjournment of the debate.

**CATTLE COMPENSATION ACT  
AMENDMENT BILL.**

The Hon. R. J. RUDALL, having obtained leave, introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Cattle Compensation Act, 1939-1948. Read a first time.

Second reading.

The Hon. R. J. RUDALL (Midland—Attorney-General)—The Cattle Compensation Act enacts a scheme under which compensation is payable if cattle are required to be destroyed because they are suffering or are suspected to be suffering from disease as defined by section 4 of the Act. Compensation is also payable if carcasses of cattle are condemned because of disease. The fund from which compensation is payable is raised from the proceeds of a stamp duty imposed upon the sale of cattle. Disease is defined to mean pleuro-pneumonia contagiosa, tuberculosis, actinomycesis and Johne’s disease. It is proposed by the Bill to extend this definition to include trichomoniasis and to extend the term actinomycesis to include actinobacillosis and other affections with club formations. Trichomoniasis is a very serious and infectious disease which is not at present in the State but which, if an outbreak occurred, would require severe remedial measures. The disease particularly affects bulls and there is no known cure for the disease occurring in these animals and thus, if the disease were found,

it would be necessary to destroy bulls found to be affected with the disease.

Actinomycosis is associated with a fungus growth with a club formation and the purpose of extending the scope of this disease is to bring within the definition affections of that nature which have club formations. This group of diseases is infectious and frequently occurs in the State. It is considered most desirable that the new diseases included in the definition should be brought within the scope of the Act. At June 30 last the amount outstanding in the Cattle Compensation Fund was £48,098. During the financial year ending on June 30 compensation was paid from the fund to the amount of £5,658. I move the second reading.

The Hon. N. L. JUDE secured the adjournment of the debate.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON CONSOLIDATION  
BILLS.

A message was received from the House of Assembly requesting the concurrence of the Legislative Council in the appointment of a Joint Committee on Consolidation Bills.

The Hon. A. L. McEWIN moved—

That the Assembly's request be agreed to and that the members of the Legislative Council to be members of the Joint Committee be the Chief Secretary, the Hon. C. R. Cudmore, and the Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph, of whom two shall form the quorum of Council members necessary to be present at all sittings of the committee.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 2.40 p.m. the Council adjourned until Wednesday, August 22, at 2 p.m.