

place on the cost of running the *Troubridge* and the potential return from running it? Has this sum of money been put out without a complete investigation by the Government before spending money on the *Troubridge*?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I assure the honourable member that full discussions were held and detailed inquiries were made into the cost of running the *Troubridge* before it was agreed to purchase the vessel. As I have told the honourable member, the Government will not be taking over the *Troubridge* until July 1 next year, and therefore no decision regarding freight charges has yet been made. Such a decision will be made at the appropriate time.

POISON

The Hon. V. G. SPRINGETT: On October 19, I asked a question of the Minister of Agriculture regarding the use of a poison named Lucijet for controlling blowflies in sheep. Has he a reply?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I took up with the Director of Fisheries and Fauna Conservation the honourable member's report that "Lucijet", a sheep jetting fluid which is an organo-phosphorus compound, is also being used to poison crows. The Director informed me that last year his department circulated distributors of agricultural chemicals in this State regarding claims that certain salesmen were advocating the use of "Lucijet" and similar preparations for the poisoning of meat-eating birds, both protected and unprotected. The distributors were requested to ask their salesmen to cease advocating the use of organo-phosphorus compounds for other than the ethical purposes for which the products are intended. Ready co-operation was given in reply to the request.

NON-RETURNABLE BOTTLES

The Hon. F. J. POTTER: I seek leave to make a brief statement prior to asking a question of the Minister of Lands representing the Minister of Environment and Conservation. Leave granted.

The Hon. F. J. POTTER: I recently received a letter from the Corporation of the City of Mitcham enclosing a copy of a letter written by the South Australian Mixed Business Association. I can only presume that this letter has probably gone to other municipal councils as well. I shall not read the whole letter, but it takes the point that the South Australian Mixed Business Association

was most concerned about immediate action being necessary to control the proliferation of soft drinks marketed in non-returnable bottles. The statement continues:

Recently two companies have extended their ranges to include 26oz. drinks in non-returnable bottles, and other manufacturers are expected to follow suit within the coming weeks.

They point out the extra problems that this will pose for council employees collecting unwanted bottles and also by way of the hazard of broken glass strewn along the beaches. They also suggest that some action should be taken to ban altogether the sale of soft drinks in non-returnable bottles as an aid to supporting the "Keep South Australia Beautiful" campaign. The letter from the corporation of Mitcham states that the council agrees with the views expressed by the South Australian Mixed Business Association. I know this is a fairly old problem. It has been discussed by Ministers of Local Government and councils for some years. Will the Minister ascertain whether or not it is true that this extension to 26oz. bottles is imminent and what steps the Minister of Environment and Conservation intends to take in the matter?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I shall be pleased to take the honourable member's question to my colleague and bring back a reply as soon as it is available.

FARM VEHICLES

The Hon. G. J. GILFILLAN: Has the Minister of Lands an answer to my question of last week about the definition of "field bin" in the Motor Vehicles Act and the Road Traffic Act?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: In my reply of November 2, 1971, I reported to the honourable member that my colleague, the Minister of Roads and Transport, had advised that, in the interests of road safety, the Road Traffic Board had decided to refuse the issue of over-dimensional permits to allow field bins over 8ft. 2½in. in width to travel on public roads while transporting divisible loads such as grain and superphosphate. The honourable member stated in his further question on this matter that several such bins are currently available 10ft. to 12ft. in width. It, accordingly, follows that these bins are capable of holding loads of considerable weight—I am told up to 20 tons in some instances. It is because of this that the board considers it would be unsafe for them to travel whilst loaded as it is doubtful whether the braking systems of prime movers generally used are sufficiently efficient

to ensure adequate control. Whilst it is not intended to allow loaded bins over the width mentioned earlier to travel on roads, the board will still consider applications for permits for the conveyance of such bins while empty. By subjecting these field bins to permit control, positive safety measures can be implemented by means of escorts where necessary, alternative routes prescribed and suitable hours of travel laid down.

MORPHETT VALE SEWERAGE

The Hon. M. B. CAMERON: Has the Minister of Agriculture a reply to my recent question about Morphett Vale sewerage?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: My colleague, the Minister of Works, has informed me that inquiries made at the office of the District Council of Noarlunga reveal that there is no Aldridge Avenue at Morphett Vale. It is assumed that the street referred to by the honourable member is Attridge Road. Sewerage of Attridge Road and adjacent streets at Morphett Vale is included in the approved comprehensive sewerage scheme for the Christies Beach-Noarlunga-Morphett Vale area. This major scheme has had to be constructed over a number of years with progress dependent on Loan funds and resources available. The very wet weather just experienced has considerably delayed progress; however, it is anticipated that sewer work in Attridge Road and other nearby streets should commence in March or April, 1972.

RAILWAYS INSTITUTE

The Hon. C. M. HILL: I seek leave to make a short statement prior to directing a question to the Minister of Lands, representing the Minister of Roads and Transport.

Leave granted.

The Hon. C. M. HILL: On October 5, I asked a fairly lengthy question concerning matters dealing with the proposed Railways Institute building. In a letter dated October 7 the Minister of Lands replied to me in the following terms:

Protracted discussions have taken place concerning the replacement of the Railways Institute building. The site previously selected adjacent to Elder Park has now been abandoned, and a new location is actively being investigated. I have referred the questions which you asked on this matter in the Legislative Council on Tuesday to the Minister for reply.

I cannot find any reply from the Minister of Roads and Transport. Over a month has elapsed, this matter has received

considerable press publicity, and it is undoubtedly urgent from the point of view of members of the Railways Institute. I therefore introduce the question again and ask: Has any further progress been made in this matter; secondly, is the Government as yet in a position to say where the new Railways Institute building will be located; thirdly, can we be told when it will be available for occupation?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I know some progress has been made and I know, too, that discussions and negotiations have taken place. However, I will take the honourable member's questions to my colleague and bring back a reply when it is available.

REGISTRATION OF DOGS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Received from the House of Assembly and read a first time.

DOOR TO DOOR SALES BILL

Read a third time and passed.

CATTLE COMPENSATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second reading.

The Hon. T. M. CASEY (Minister of Agriculture): I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

It is intended to extend the ambit of the principal Act, the Cattle Compensation Act, 1939, as amended, to cover the kind of cattle commonly known as buffalo. Recently, a commercial consignment of buffalo for breeding has been received in this State and, since at times these animals will be run in conjunction with animals already subject to the Act, it seems appropriate that buffalo should also be subject to the Act. Briefly, the effect of this measure is that sales of buffalo will be subject to a levy for the Cattle Compensation Fund and compensation will, in appropriate circumstances, be payable from the fund in the event of buffalo being found to be diseased. This proposal has the support of the relevant industry authorities.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS secured the adjournment of the debate.

MOTOR VEHICLES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from November 4. Page 2741.)

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS (Leader of the Opposition): I support the second reading of this Bill. I do not intend to say very

I believe that clause 3 has been included in the Bill to deal with one case—that of the Walkerville council. A council may take over an area from another council but, in doing that, it takes over a financial responsibility. The provision will permit the council to borrow a sum of money appropriate to the financial responsibility acquired by it when it acquired the new area.

The Bill provides that members of a council can resign if they want to do so. The principal Act provides that a councillor must apply for a licence to resign, but that provision is to be cancelled. That will make it easier for a person to resign for the purpose of contesting another council office. The Bill provides that councils may make available home units and services for the aged and infirmed. Clause 25 provides:

The following section is enacted and inserted in the principal Act immediately after section 287a thereof:

287b. (1) A council may expend any portion of its revenue in the provision of dwellinghouses, home units, hospitals, infirmaries, nursing homes, chapels, recreational facilities, domiciliary services of any kind whatsoever, and any other facilities or services for the use or enjoyment of aged, handicapped or infirm persons.

Whilst some of these provisions are workable in heavily populated areas, I consider that there could be problems in some country areas, for example, where an infirmary is to be added to a home for the aged for a maximum of five or six patients and where often the number of patients in the infirmary may not be more than two or three or perhaps nil. However, there would be a need for trained staff to be maintained and retained so that they would be present in an emergency to administer nursing needs.

Also, there are added disadvantages in many country areas in which towns are spilling over into district council areas. Who takes the responsibility for these homes? Will a home admit only those living in a corporation area that has supplied the funds to erect and maintain the home, or will it also accept people living in nearby council areas whose rates have not contributed to the cost of the home? I realize there may be some problems with this clause, but I am certain that we all desire to see the aged, particularly the infirm aged, assisted. I should like to say more about this Bill, but I have not yet been able to obtain certain information. I understand that amendments are being considered and, because of this, I seek leave to conclude my remarks later.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

CATTLE COMPENSATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from November 9. Page 2785.)

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS (Midland): I support this short Bill, in which clause 3, as its operative clause, amends section 4 of the principal Act by striking out from subsection (1) the definition of "cattle", which meant any bull, cow, ox, steer, heifer, or calf, and inserting the definition in which "cattle" means any animal of the genus *bos* or any animal of the genus *bubalus*. My copy of the short second reading explanation points out that this small amendment is designed to include the kind of cattle that are commonly known as buffalo. I am glad that the Minister called them "kind of cattle", because they differ significantly in some ways from the cattle of the various dairy and beef breeds as we know them.

The reason for including buffalo is that commercial consignments of buffalo have recently been received in this State (I believe that at least two places have received them), and that the animals will, from time to time, be grazed in conjunction with cattle that are already covered by the provisions of the Act. I agree with the Minister that it is appropriate that buffalo grazed on commercial properties should also be subject to the provisions of this Act. The sales of buffalo will be subject to the levy for the Cattle Compensation Fund, and, if it is necessary to destroy diseased buffalo, compensation will be payable in the appropriate circumstances. I believe that this action is necessary, because we must control disease in this type of animal. If buffalo are not protected and cannot be destroyed without considerable loss, we may find ourselves in some trouble with certain diseases, particularly tuberculosis.

The kind of cattle that are being included are significantly different. They live longer in some cases, and they have a different gestation period. The cattle with which we are familiar have a gestation period of nine months, but buffalo have a gestation period similar to that of the horse. There seems to be doubt in some people's minds whether cattle can be crossed with buffalo, but I understand from the best authority that this cannot happen.

I believe that, as these animals are being grazed together today, both species should be included in the provisions of the Cattle Compensation Act with regard to the fund. I have ascertained that the fund is buoyant: there have been some calls on it because of the present programme of correction of tuberculosis in the Northern areas but, as at June 30, 1971, the

fund totalled more than \$237,000, and I am assured that that is a relatively buoyant position, having regard to the calls made on it. As I believe this Bill is necessary, I have pleasure in supporting it.

Bill read a second time and taken through its remaining stages.

BARLEY MARKETING ACT AMENDMENT BILL

The House of Assembly intimated that it had agreed to the Legislative Council's amendments.

SAVINGS BANK OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Received from the House of Assembly and read a first time.

COMPANIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Received from the House of Assembly and read a first time.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD (Chief Secretary): I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time. When the Companies Act, 1962, was enacted, it was expected that within four or five years a comprehensive revision Bill would be introduced in all States to incorporate the improvements and modifications that experience of the operation of the legislation would show to be necessary. Subsequently, it became necessary to bring in a major amendment to the Act in advance of the proposed general revision, because of the collapse of a number of companies that had borrowed extensively from the public and, in addition, it was found necessary to amend the Act in respect of several other smaller matters. The Companies Act has been kept under constant review since 1962, and during the intervening period many suggestions for amendments to the Act have been received and considered by the Standing Committee of State and Commonwealth Attorneys-General. Many of those suggestions had been reduced to draft legislation form by June, 1967, and at that stage the standing committee thought it desirable to have the advice of outside experts on the proposed amendments.

Accordingly, in August of that year, it appointed the Company Law Advisory Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Justice Eggleston, with Mr. J. M. Rodd (a Melbourne solicitor) and Mr. P. C. E. Cox (a Sydney chartered accountant) as members. The advisory committee was requested to inquire into and report upon the extent of the protection afforded the investing public by the

existing provisions of the Uniform Companies Acts and to recommend what additional provisions, if any, were necessary to increase that protection. The advisory committee has made six interim reports to the standing committee and, except in the case of the fifth and sixth reports, which were received only recently, the recommendations contained in the reports are, with only a few exceptions, reflected in the Bill. In addition, the drafting of the Bill has proceeded in consultation with the advisory committee to ensure that the intentions of that committee were accurately implemented.

The first interim report dealt with the accounts and audit requirements of the Act and, arising out of the recommendations made by the advisory committee in that report, the existing provisions relating to accounts and audit are proposed to be repealed and re-enacted in a modified form in clause 25 of the Bill. The second interim report was concerned with the disclosure of substantial shareholdings and the regulation of take-over offers. The proposed provisions relating to the disclosure of substantial shareholders are new and are set out in clause 12 of the Bill. The existing take-over provisions are to be repealed and re-enacted in a vastly different form. The new provisions are set out in the new Part VIb in clause 27 of the Bill.

The third interim report reviewed the provisions of the Act relating to investigations. Those provisions of the Act have been redrafted and are contained in the new Part VIa in clause 27 of the Bill. The fourth interim report dealt with the subject of the misuse of confidential information by officers of companies, and the advisory committee's recommendations are reflected in amendments contained in clause 19 of the Bill. The fifth interim report dealt with the control of fund raising, and the sixth interim report is concerned with share hawking; but the reports were received too late to enable the committee's recommendations to be implemented at this point of time.

In addition to the amendments arising out of the recommendations made by the advisory committee, the Bill contains a further lengthy amendment in clause 30 by which Part IX of the Act, which relates to official management of companies, is to be repealed and re-enacted in a modified form. That amendment was enacted in other States several years ago and has been included in