**MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE INCORPORATION BILL 1952**

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, 21 AUGUST 1952**

**Second reading.**

The Hon. R. J. RUDALL (Attorney-General) —I move—

That this Bill be now read a second time.

The object of the Bill is to confer upon the Minister of Agriculture the legal status of a body corporate. The Bill is in the same language as the Act by which the Minister of Lands was incorporated in 1947. The immediate need for the Bill arises from the fact that the Minister of Agriculture wishes to obtain land at Loxton for use as a horticultural and viticultural research station. The more general purpose of the Bill, like that of other Bills incorporating Ministers, is to provide a more convenient method by which the Minister may hold and deal with any lands. If the Minister is not an incorporated bodyhe can only hold land in his individual name; and whenever he ceases to hold the Ministerial office by virtue of which he owns any land, or interest in land, the title must be transferred into the name of his successor. If a Minister holds any appreciable amount of land in his public capacity, as some do, this involves a great deal of work. If, however, a Minister is incorporated he can hold the land in his corporate name; and, as a corporation is deemed to continue to exist notwithstanding any change in the person constituting it, the necessity of transferring the land on each change of office will cease. The only effect of this Bill, therefore, will be to simplify the holding or transfer of land by the Minister of Agriculture. It will not otherwise affect his powers. I think members will appreciate that it is most advantageous for the procedure to be followed and I commend the Bill to them.

The Hon. F. J. CONDON secured the adjournment of the debate.