**PORT LINCOLN ABATTOIRS BILL 1937**

**Legislative Council, 24 November 1937, page 1817**

Second Reading

**The Hon. A. P. BLESING (Northern— Minister of Agriculture)—**The object of this Bill, as its title indicates, is to provide for the establishment of abattoirs at Port Lincoln. As members are aware, the Port Lincoln freezing works are now managed by the Government Produce Department and it would be a relatively simple matter for that department to slaughter at the freezing works all stock required for local consumption at Port Lincoln. Some two years ago or more representatives of the Port Lincoln council asked the Government to undertake this work and the request has been repeated from time to time since The Government is willing to allow the Port Lincoln works to be used as the local abattoirs on condition that the works are given the same status in Port Lincoln as the Metropolitan Abattoirs hold in the metropolitan area. The proposal that all slaughtering for local consumption should be done at the freezing works at Port Lincoln has a good deal to commend it on the score of economy. It will assist the Produce Department to keep the staff of the freezing works more regularly employed throughout the year, and it will distribute the overhead costs of the works over a wider field of operations. It is anticipated that an additional £3,000 will have to be spent on plant and equipment before the works are declared open for local slaughtering; but the fees likely to be earned from this work will be more than sufficient to pay interest on the additional capital.

Clause 2 provides that the Bill is to come into operation on a day to be fixed by proclamation. Clause 4 provides for declaring an abattoirs area at Port Lincoln. The area of the municipality of Port Lincoln will be the Port Lincoln abattoir’s area in the first instance, but this area may be altered from time to time by proclamation if any alteration should be found necessary. Clause 5 empowers the Minister of Agriculture to establish abattoirs for the purpose of serving the Port Lincoln abattoirs area. These abattoirs will, of course, be established at the freezing works. Clause 6 gives the Minister the sole right to slaughter stock for sale within the Port Lincoln abattoirs area. This right is similar to that conferred on the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board in relation to the metropolitan abattoirs area. Clause 7 is merely a machinery provision specifying the time when the Port Lincoln abattoirs will be regarded as being available for local slaughtering. Clause 8 provides for closing all private abattoirs at Port Lincoln except so far as these abattoirs are used for the purpose of slaughtering stock for meat to be tinned or canned for export, or for curing ham and bacon, or for the purpose of slaughtering stock for export other than as fresh meat. Clause 9 provides, in effect, that the monopoly conferred on the Government works at Port Lincoln is only to exist in respect of stock slaughtered for human consumption. It will be open to any person to slaughter stock for other purposes wherever he likes. Clause 10 enables the Minister to grant permits allowing meat which has not been slaughtered at the Port Lincoln abattoir to be brought into and sold within the Port Lincoln abattoirs area. It has been found necessary in the legislation dealing with the Metropolitan Abattoirs to allow such permits to be given so that small goods, cooked meats, and other like commodities of the same class may, where necessary, be brought into the Abattoirs area from outside sources, and no doubt a similar provision will be necessary in relation to Port Lincoln. Clause 11 contains the usual power to make regulations. It is a machinery measure. Without this enabling legislation the Government could not accede to the request of the Port Lincoln Corporation, and that is why the Bill has been introduced at this stage.

The Hon. W. Hannaford—Has the request for the Bill come from the corporation?

The Hon. A. P. BLESING—Yes, several years ago, and it was repeated recently, I move the second reading.

The Hon. H. G. HAWKINS secured the adjournment of the debate.