IMPOUNDING ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1975

House of Assembly, 18 March 1975, page 2971

Second reading

**The Hon. G. T. VIRGO (Minister of Local Government)** obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Impounding Act, 1920-1974. Read a first time.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I move:

*That this Bill be now read a second time*.

I seek leave to have the second reading explanation inserted in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

Explanation of Bill

It increases the fees and penalties under the Impounding Act, 1920, as amended, and effects the necessary decimal conversions. The fees under this Act have not been increased since 1962 and are now quite inadequate. The increases are necessary to offset expenses incurred by local councils in impounding straying stock. In some instances at least, the impounding fees are insufficient to cover the actual costs incurred. Penalties for offences under this Act have also been increased to bring them more in line with contemporary penalties. In most cases the increase is that of 400 per cent. However, where present fees are of the order of 10c or less, the increase may be slightly higher to obtain a more realistic figure.

Clause 1 is formal. Clauses 2 to 19 amend the principal Act by increasing the penalties for the several offences. Clause 20 amends section 47 of the principal Act to increase the jurisdictional limit of justices under the Act to $160. Clause 21 repeals and re-enacts the fourth schedule to the principal Act in the same form and increases the fees payable under it. Clauses 22 and 23 similarly repeal and re-enact the fifth and sixth schedules.

Mr. McANANEY secured the adjournment of the debate.