TATIARA DRAINAGE TRUST ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1968

House of Assembly, 13 November 1968, page 2453

Second reading

**The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE (Minister of Works)** obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Tatiara Drainage Trust Act, 1949. Read a first time.

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: I move:

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

The purpose of this short Bill is to expand the powers of the Tatiara Drainage Trust. The trust at present has certain powers over drainage works relating to the Tatiara Creek. It does not have power over drainage works within the Tatiara drainage district constituted under the Act that do not relate to that creek. It is thought that if the trust is to act effectively within the district it should have power over all drainage works constructed or erected in the district, whether relating to the Tatiara Creek or not. This Bill therefore makes the necessary alterations to the Tatiara Drainage Trust Act, 1949, to enable it to exercise these powers.

The provisions of the Bill are as follows: Clause 1 is merely formal. Clauses 2 and 3 make formal amendments to the principal Act. Clause 4 amends section 44 of the principal Act. In its amended form the section will provide that a person shall not construct or remove drainage works affecting the flow of water in the Tatiara Creek or the drainage of other waters within the district. Clause 5 amends section 50 of the principal Act. The amendment corresponds with that made to section 44 and provides that, where the trust is of opinion that drainage work constructed before the commencement of the amending Act will cause injury to any land, the trust may require the occupier of the land to remove the drainage works.

I commend the Bill to the House. It will be necessary for it to be referred to a Select Committee subsequent to the passing of the second reading. I understand that the Opposition will co-operate to enable the Bill to proceed to that stage forthwith so that I can move that a Select Committee be set up to consider the whole matter.

Mr. CORCORAN (Millicent): I support the Bill. As the Minister has pointed out, it is a hybrid Bill and it is necessary that it be referred to a Select Committee. Its purpose, as I see it at this stage, is simply to expand the powers of the Tatiara Drainage Trust, and as the matter will be considered in detail by the Select Committee, I see no point in delaying the debate. I support the second reading in order that the matter can proceed to the stage where the committee can be appointed.

Bill read a second time and referred to a Select Committee consisting of Messrs. Burdon, Corcoran, Nankivell and Rodda, and the Hon. J. W. H. Coumbe; the committee to have power to send for persons, papers and records, and to adjourn from place to place; the committee to report on November 28.