**ABATTOIRS ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1950**

**House of Assembly, 16 November 1950, pages 1579-80**

Second reading

**The Hon. Sir GEORGE JENKINS (Newcastle—Minister of Agriculture)—**The Abattoirs Act provides that, after a poll of the ratepayers in a local government area has been held affecting a proposal to establish an abattoirs in the area, the council may submit a scheme to the Minister setting out the details of the proposal including the financial arrangements necessary to establish the abattoirs. If the Minister approves the scheme the abattoirs area is then proclaimed and the council is authorized to proceed with the establishment of the abattoirs and the effect of the poll and the Minister’s approval is to constitute authority for the council to borrow the amount referred to in the arrangements. Any amount to be so borrowed is borrowed by the issue of debentures by the council in accordance with the Local Government Act. It follows that the amount which can be borrowed by the council is limited by the amount estimated as needed for the purpose and approved by the Minister as part of the financial arrangements necessary for the establishment of abattoirs.

In these days of rising costs, it is obvious that, unless work is carried out very soon after an estimate is prepared the estimate of cost is likely to be found insufficient within a relatively short time. This has been the experience at Port Pirie. Early in 1949 an abattoirs area was proclaimed at Port Pirie and the financial arrangements approved by the Minister provided for the expenditure of approximately £52,000 for the establishment of the abattoirs. The council has informed the Government that this amount is now insufficient. The purpose of the Bill is, therefore, to provide means whereby the council may derive power to borrow any additional amount which may be necessary. The Bill accordingly provides that if the council is of opinion that the amount authorized to be expended by the arrangements approved by the Minister is insufficient, the council may give public notice that it proposes to borrow additional amounts. If a poll is demanded by the ratepayers, a poll is to be held. If no poll is demanded or if demanded the result of the poll is in favour of the borrowing, then the council will be authorized to borrow the additional amount. I move the second reading.

Mr. DAVIS (Port Pirie)—I support the Bill, and express my appreciation of its intro­duction . Without it councils would find themselves in a most invidious position. Today it is difficult to estimate the final costs of a project, because they increase so rapidly. The original estimate for an abattoirs at Port Pirie was £52,000, but within a few months that figure had risen considerably, and the council found itself unable to go on with the project. Fortunately, the Government came to its assistance. I believe other councils are- contemplating the establishment of abattoirs, and, if this Bill had not been introduced they would have found it difficult to carry out those projects because of rapidly-rising- costs. If a council desires to borrow the ratepayer is protected by the provision for a poll.

1580 Renmark Irrigation Trust Bill. [ASSEMBLY.] Renmarlc Irrigation Trust Bill.

Amendments carried; clause as amfmja

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