**STATUTES AMENDMENT (IRRIGATION ACTS) BILL 1978**

**Legislative Assembly, 2 March 1978, pages 1904-5**

Second reading

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON (Minister of Mines and Energy) obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Irrigation Act, 1930-1975; the Agricultural Graduates Land Settlement Act, 1922-1971; the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, 1934-1940; the Irrigation on Private Property Act, 1939-1958; the Pyap Irrigation Trust Act, 1923-1974; the Ramco Heights Irrigation Area Act, 1963; and the Renmark Irrigation Trust Act, 1936- 1977.

Read a first time. The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: 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

This Bill amends a number of Acts dealing with irrigation: namely, the Irrigation Act, 1930-1975; the Agricultural Graduates Land Settlement Act, 1922-1971; the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, 1934-1940; the Irrigation on Private Property Act, 1939-1958; the Pyap Irrigation Trust Act, 1923-1974; the Ramco Heights Irrigation Area Act, 1963; and the Renmark Irrigation Trust Act, 1936-1977.

The amendments to each of these Acts remove references by title to the Minister of Irrigation or the Minister of Lands in order to enable the administration of irrigation functions to be performed by the Minister of Works and land tenure functions to be performed by the Minister of Lands. Allocation of these administrative functions will instead be effected under the Administration of Acts Act, 1910-1973. Clause 1 is formal. Clause 2 provides that the measure is to come into operation on a day to be fixed by proclamation. Clause 3 sets out the arrangement of the measure. Part II of the Bill, comprising clauses 4 to 29 (inclusive), amends the Irrigation Act, 1930-1975, by removing references to the Minister of Irrigation, the Director of Lands and the Drainage Committee. All the remaining provisions of the Bill provide for amendments to each of the other principal Acts removing references by title to the Minister of Irrigation or the Minister of Lands. Mr. ARNOLD secured the adjournment of the debate.