**IRRIGATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1946**

**Legislative Assembly, 28 November 1946, pages 1245-6**

Second reading

**The Hon. C. S. HINCKS (Yorke Peninsula— Minister of Irrigation)—**In 1944 the Advances to Settlers Act was amended to provide that advances of up to £1,000 could be made to primary producers for the purpose of enabling them to erect dwelling-houses on their holdings. The Advances to Settlers Act does not apply within irrigation areas, and the purpose of this Bill is to make an amendment of the Irrigation Act similar to that made to the Advances to Settlers Act. Clause 2 accordingly provides that the Minister may make an advance of any amount not exceeding £1,000 to the lessee of a block in an irrigation area for the purpose of erecting, enlarging, or altering a dwelling- house on the block of the lessee. Any such advance is to be made on the condition that the dwelling-house is to be used as a residence by the lessee, a member of his family, or an employee, or by a person engaged in share- farming on the block. The advance is to be secured by mortgage and, if the block is already charged with a mortgage to a mortgagee other than the Crown, the advance is not to be made unless the Land Board is satisfied that the primary production derived from the block is sufficient to justify the erection, enlargement, or alteration of the dwelling and the Land Board recommends the making of the advance. An advance is not to exceed nine-tenths of the fair estimated value of the block, together with the improvements, includ­ing the fair estimated value of the dwelling- house to be erected, enlarged, or altered.

It is provided that the powers given by the Bill are to be in addition to other powers to make advances under the Irrigation Act. The effect of the Bill will thus be to provide that the law relating to the making of advances for dwelling-houses in irrigation areas will be similar to the provisions of the Advances to Settlers Act applicable to the parts of the State outside irrigation areas. I move the second reading.

The Hon. R. S. RICHARDS secured the adjournment of the debate.