**MINING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1901**

**House of Assembly, 19 December 1901, page 1205**

Second reading

**The COMMISSIONER of CROWN LANDS,** in moving the second reading, said the Bill was a very short one. It had been carried by the Legislative Council, and its object was to further the interests of mining on private property. Under existing conditions, a lessee could work the mineral on his land or let it to somebody else. There was nothing in the conditions of the lease to compel the owner to work the ground. The Bill provided that where land was suitable for mining purposes the Government could compel the owner to carry out the work. There was no necessity for further explanation of it, and members could see that it was necessary.

Mr. HOOPER said that unless they made the Bill read that the Minister “shall” cancel a lease, instead of “may”, dummyism would prevail and abuse would continue to be perpetrated. The labour provisions should be should be inserted in the Bill and not in the regulations. He would support the measure, but questioned whether it was worth the paper it was written on. He suggested to the Minister that he should have the regulations inserted in the “Government Gazette” because in nine cases out ten persons were not aware of the conditions under which they took out mining leases.

Second reading carried.