**STOCK DISEASES ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL 1918**

**House of Assembly, 29 August 1918, pages 445-6**

Second reading

**The COMMISSIONER of CROWN LANDS (Hon. E. A. Anstey)—**Comparatively speaking, this is a minor matter, but it is necessary that the existing law in this connection should be amended. The Bill is intended to remove a defect in the Stock Diseases Act, 1888. Under sec­tion 20 of that Act any person desirous of cross­ing any run or Crown lands, other than travel­ling stock reserves, with a flock of sheep or drove of cattle or horses must, before entering upon such run or lands, give to the proprietor of such run or lands notice of his intention to do so. The obvious intention of the section is to enable landholders to take whatever precautions may be necessary to prevent the spread of disease amongst stock in consequence of other stock being driven across their lands. Section .20 only applies to sheep, cattle, and horses. Accordingly any person who intends to cross a run with a train of camels need not give the notice prescribed by section 20. The necessity for the amendment becomes apparent when it is stated that camel mange has been proclaimed to be an infectious disease within the meaning of the Stock Diseases Act, 1888. Many of the northern station owners use camels on their runs, and it is necessary to safeguard these against infection from other camels crossing the run. Recently an Afghan was prosecuted at Oodnadatta for crossing a run with camels, without giving the notice prescribed by section 20, and the information was dismissed because section 20 did not apply to camels. Clause 4 of the Bill makes the necessary extension of the section, and clause 3 contains a consequential amendment of the definition of “drove” in section 3 of the Act of 1888.

Mr. Butterfield—Will it be necessary for a person in charge of a string of camels to give notice before they can cross station property?

The COMMISSIONER of CROWN LANDS— Yes, before they can cross large tracts of country. When crossing other than stock reserves, they will have to give notice similar to that given in connection with travelling horses, cattle, or sheep.

Mr. Butterfield—That will be inflicting a great hardship on many owners.

The COMMISSIONER of CROWN LANDS— Whatever notice is necessary for horses, cattle, and sheep will be necessary in the case of camels. It should not be difficult for a camel owner to say that he intends crossing.

Mr. Harvey—You must remember that in the case of cattle and sheep it is droving, and in the case of camels it is carrying.

Mr. Price—When camels are leaving, say, Oodnadatta for the north, how is a person to communicate with property owners when there are no facilities for communicating within reasonable time?

The COMMISSIONER of CROWN LANDS— I will look into that matter.

Mr. Butterfield—A person in charge of a camel or horse team engaged in carrying never has to give notice.

The COMMISSIONER of CROWN LANDS— The points that have been raised will be carefully considered. The Government do not wish the passage of the Bill to be hurried unnecessarily, and if Mr. Butterfield moves the adjournment of the debate, the matter can be fully considered. I move the second reading.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD secured the adjournment of the debate until September 4.