**STOCK FOODS BILL 1941**

**Legislative Assembly, 25 September 1941, page 727**

Second reading.

**The Hon. A. P. BLESING (Northern— Minister of Agriculture)—**This Bill is for the purpose of regulating the sale of stock foods and is introduced as the result of a suggestion of the Stockowners Association of South Australia. This association has pointed out that it is a known fact among graziers that, owing to the scarcity of many ingredients which are used for the purpose of artificial fodders, the makers of some manufactured foods have been forced to substitute ingredients, in place of those of which there is a shortage. Unless these facts are disclosed to the purchaser, it is considered by the association that owners of stock are lacking in a necessary legal protection. Acts regulating the sales of stock foods are in force in Victoria and New South Wales. In South Australia it is recognized in the Stock Licks Act and the Stock Medicines Act that owners of stock are entitled to be protected against the sale of these articles under misleading descriptions or where they are of a standard less than that prescribed by the law. The purpose of this Bill is, therefore, to secure that, on a sale of stock food, the essential ingredients of the stock food will be disclosed to the purchaser.

"Stock food” is by clause 3 defined to mean any by-product or manufactured stock food as defined by the clause. “By-product” is defined to include such as husks, bran, pollard, brewer’s grain, etc., and “manufactured stock food” is defined to include all kinds of meals and foods for stock prepared from one or more kinds of grain, nuts, oils, juices, meats or other substances of a like nature and any condimental, patented or proprietary food for stock claimed to possess nutritive properties. Clause 5 provides that on every sale of any stock food either the package is to bear a label or an invoice certificate is to be given to the purchaser. The label or invoice certificate is to set out the following particulars:—

1. The name and place of business of the manufacturer or importer of the stock food:
2. The distinguishing name (if any) of the stock food:
3. A chemical analysis of the stock food stating the minimum percentages of crude protein and fat and the maximum percentage of crude fibre.
4. Any other particulars prescribed by regulation.

Under clause 6 the label or invoice certificate is to have effect as a warranty by the seller that the particulars given are correct. In addition, it is provided that any statements as to the amount of the nutritive or other ingredient of a stock food made in any advertisement are to have effect as a warranty by the seller that the facts stated are correct. Clause 7 empowers the Governor to make regulations prescribing the proportion of foreign ingredients which may be contained in any stock food, and fixing standards for stock foods. Clause 8 makes it an offence for a person to sell any stock food without the necessary label or invoice certificate or with a false label or invoice certificate, or to sell as a stock food any article which contains any deleterious ingredient. Clauses 9 to 13 deal with the powers of inspectors and the taking of samples for analysis. Under clause 10, the result of an analysis may be published by the Minister. All these provisions and the remaining clauses of the Bill, which are the usual provisions inserted in Bills of this nature, do not require special comment and are similar to the corresponding provisions of the Stock Licks Act, 1931. I move the second reading.

The Hon. C. R. CUDMORE secured the adjournment of the debate.