**WHEAT HARVEST (1915-16) ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL 1918**

**House of Assembly, 19 November 1918, pages 1306-7**

Second reading

The CHIEF SECRETARY (Hon. A.H. Peake)—This Bill is to carry on the powers the Government have had since the first Act was passed. It keeps all the existing Acts in operation, but there is an additional power. Since the Government have appointed a Board of Management, it is very necessary that the board should have their powers, duties, and functions prescribed by regulation, and clause 6 in this Bill gives the Government power to make regulations.

Mr. PRICE moved the adjournment of the debate. Negatived.

Bill read a seeond time.

In Committee.

Clauses 1 to 4 passed.

Clause 5-—“Powers of Government as to. marketing 1915:16, 1916-17, and 1917-18 wheat together. ’ *’*

The CHIEF SECRETARY—In subsection (a), which reads:—•

The Government, in handling and selling wheat to the best advantage pursuant to the said Acts, may on and after the first day of January, 1919, handle and sell 1918-19 wheat in conjunction with 1915-16 wheat, 1916-17 wheat, and 1917-18 wheat, and

I move to strike out—

On and after the first day of January. 1919.

Mr. ANGAS PARSONS—I think this Bill is going through far too quickly. I had the opportunity just to glance at it yesterday afternoon, and there are many important matters connected with the position of the Wheat Pool which I would rather not discuss in public. I expressed my opinion to the Minister some- time ago. I notice some most important matters have not been included in the Bill and I ask the Minister to report progress.

The CHIEF SECRETARY—If the honorable member assures me that it is a matter of greatest importance I will do so.

Mr. Angas Parsons—It is.

Mr. PRICE—Only a few seconds ago I asked the Minister to grant me an adjournment of the debate. The House then decided that I should not have that opportunity. It is customary for the Opposition to have the opportunity to look into Bills.

The Chief Secretary—This has been on the paper for nearly a fortnight.

Mr. PRICE—The Chief Secretary has just introduced the Bill, and we do not know how far-reaching it is. Mr. Parsons has assured the House that there are matters of importance which vitally affect the Wheat Scheme, and I utter my protest against the Premier gagging the Opposition. I protest that on the one hand he grants Mr. Parsons an adjournment, and when a member of the Opposition asks for it, it is denied.

The CHIEF SECRETARY—I am sorry if my honorable friend should get excited over such a small matter. I did not consider the reason put forward by him sufficient to adjourn the debate, but when the weight of Mr. Parson’s objection came on top of it, then it was another phase of the matter. I do not consider there is any necessity for him to get flustered over the Bill. It has been on the files over a week. When Mr. Price made the request, I did not see any need for adjourning it, because it is a machinery Bill which must be put through. I do not say without proper consideration, but I thought honorable members would be aware of the substance of the Bill. When I am assured by another part of the House that they want more time, and that comes on top of Mr. Price’s request, then I am prepared to grant it.

Progress reported; Committee to sit again November 20.

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