**FRUIT FLY ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1955**

**Legislative Assembly, 22 September 1955, page 863**

Second reading

**The Hon. A. W. CHRISTIAN (Minister of Agriculture**)—I move—

That this Bill be now read a second time.

The object is to provide compensation for the loss arising from the campaign for the eradication of fruit fly which was commenced in the Edwardstown area at the end of last year. On the discovery of fruit fly in the area, stripping and spraying were begun, and a proclamation was issued on December 31, 1954, prohibiting the removal of fruit from the area. Following the practice of other years, the Government, poses that compensation shall be given for Ioss arising from these measures and is accordingly introducing this Bill.

It provides for compensation for loss arising from these measures in the same manner as previous years. In June last a proclamation was issued prohibiting the growing or planting of certain plants in the area until August 31 of this year. These plants were tomatoes, peppers, egg plants, ornamental solanum, rock melon, sweet melon and cucumbers. In the past provision has ‘been made for payment for loss arising from the imposition of such a prohibition. The Government does not, however, propose to include provisions for payment of compensation on this ground in this year’s Bill. Such compensation is only justified in special circumstances, for example, where commercial growers are unable to plant adequate alternative crops, or where, as happened in 1953, the outbreak occurs in the spring. The Government is not aware of any special circumstances present outbreak which would justify Payment of compensation on this ground.

Clause 5 provides first that a person who suffers loss by reason of stripping or spraying on any land while the removal of fruit therefrom is prohibited by the proclamation made on December 31, 1954, shall be entitled to compensation. Compensation will be available both for the taking of the fruit and for incidental damage. Second, clause 5 provides for compensation for loss arising by reason of the prohibition of the removal of fruit from any land by reason of that proclamation. Clause 6 lays down the time within which claims under the Bill must be lodged with the Fruit Fly Compensation Committee. Claims arising from stripping and spraying must be lodged before February 1, 1956, and claims arising from the prohibition of removing fruit, by July 1, 1956. Clauses 3 and 4 make minor amendments to the principal Act. Clause 3 strikes out an obsolete provision relating to the payment of compensation. Clause 4 re-enacts the schedule to the principal Act.

The schedule contains references to regulations made under the Vine, Fruit, and Vege­table Protection Act which are ‘'fruit fly regulations” for the purposes of the Fruit Fly Act. Clause 4 brings the schedule up-to- date by striking out obsolete matter and inserting a reference to new regulations made in November, 1953.

Mr. FRANK WALSH secured the adjournment of the debate.