LOWER RIVER BROUGHTON IRRIGATION TRUST ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1972

House of Assembly, 10 October 1972, page 1880

Second reading

**The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Works)** obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Lower River Broughton Irrigation Trust Act, 1938-1940. Read a first time.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I move:

*That this Bill be now read a second time.*

It makes metric conversions to the Lower River Broughton Irrigation Trust Act, 1938-1940. It also makes several decimal conversions, and reduces the age at which a ratepayer may vote in elections or polls held by the trust. It may be sufficient if I deal with its provisions in detail.

Clause 1 is formal. Clauses 2 to 5 effect simple decimal currency conversions. Clause 6 substitutes “hectare” for “acre” where it appears: no change in principle is involved in this amendment. Clauses 7 to 9 effect simple decimal conversions. Clause 10 amends section 115 of the principal Act, which deals with voting at elections and polls. The age at which a ratepayer may vote is lowered from 21 years to 18 years. A similar amendment was made to the Renmark Irrigation Trust Act by the Age of Majority (Reduction) Act, 1970-1971. This amendment, therefore, gives effect to clear Government policy in the matter. Section 115 also provides, in subsection (3), that a person who is ill, or who is more than 20 miles from a polling booth at election time, may vote by proxy. This is altered to 30 km, which is equal to 18.641 miles, so that the privilege of voting by proxy is thus slightly extended.

Clauses 11 to 14 make simple metric conversion amendments to various provisions of the principal Act that impose fines. Clauses 15 and 16 amend the second and fourth schedules to the principal Act by substituting decimal currency symbols for old currency symbols in the forms prescribed therein.

Mr. VENNING secured the adjournment of the debate.