ADVANCES TO SETTLERS ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1972

House of Assembly, 30 August 1972, page 1123

Second reading

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer)** obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Advances to Settlers Act, 1930-1970. Read a first time.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I move:

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

The principal Act authorizes the making of an advance presently limited to an advance of $9,000 for the purpose of erecting, enlarging or altering a dwellinghouse on the holding of a person who is a “settler” within the meaning of the Act. Since it has been decided that the maximum loans which may be made by the State Bank for ordinary housing purposes is to be increased to $10,000, it appears equitable that the maximum loan under the principal Act for settlers should also be set at $10,000. Accordingly, this short Bill provides for this increase. However, since it is possible that the maximum amount that can be lent by the State Bank for ordinary housing purposes may be determined by the Treasurer, it appears desirable that some additional flexibility should be provided in the Advances to Settlers Act so that any increase that may be made for ordinary housing can be reflected in the Advances to Settlers Act without the necessity of legislative amendment. It is proposed that the maximum amount will in future be varied by proclamation. Clause 1 is formal. Clause 2 amends section 12a of the principal Act which relates to the provision of advances for dwellinghouses and the amendments proposed provide (a) that the maximum advance will be increased from $9,000 to $10,000; and (6) by the insertion of proposed subsection (2a), that in future the maximum advance that can be made under this Act may be varied by a proclamation. This latter amendment should ensure appropriate flexibility.

Mr. MATHWIN secured the adjournment of the debate.