No. 2037.

An Act to make Provision for the Marketing of Citrus Fruits, and for other purposes.

[Assented to, December 2nd, 1931.]

Be it Enacted by the Governor of the State of South Australia, with the advice and consent of the Parliament thereof, as follows:

PART I.
PRELIMINARY.

1. This Act may be cited as the “Citrus Marketing Act, 1931”, but shall not come into operation until as provided by section 39.

2. The provisions of this Act are arranged as follows:
   — PART I.—Preliminary.
   — PART II.—Constitution of the Board.
   — PART III.—Powers of the Board.
   — PART IV.—Miscellaneous.

3. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—
   “Board” means the Citrus Marketing Board of South Australia constituted by this Act:
   “Citrus fruit” means citrons, lemons, limes, mandarins, oranges, sevilles, and tangerines grown by any grower within any part of the State, in respect of which a proclamation has been made declaring that this Act shall apply within such part:
   “Grower” means any person who produces citrus fruit and who is the occupier of land upon which is an aggregate of at least fifty trees for the production of citrus fruit:
"Marketing" includes everything involved in the preparation and packing of citrus fruit for sale and in the selling thereof, and in the transmission thereof from the producer to the consumer:

"Sell" includes barter and exchange, and "Sale" has a corresponding meaning.

4. This Act shall be construed subject to the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act, and so as not to exceed the legislative power of the State to the intent that where any provision hereof would but for this section be in excess of that power it shall, nevertheless, be a valid enactment to the extent to which it is not in excess of that power.

PART II.
CONSTITUTION OF BOARD.

5. A Board to be called the Citrus Marketing Board of South Australia is hereby constituted.

6. (1) The Board shall consist of six members. Five members shall be representatives of growers and one member shall be appointed by the Governor.

(2) The member appointed by the Governor shall be the Chairman of the Board, and shall hold office for such time as is fixed by the Governor at the time of his appointment.

7. (1) The representative members of the first Board shall be appointed by the Minister, who shall call for nominations to be made of members of the Board. Two of such members shall be appointed by the Minister from persons nominated in each case by at least twenty growers occupying land within the Murray District hereinafter described. Two of such members shall be appointed from persons nominated by at least twenty growers occupying land within the Southern District hereinafter described. The other of such members shall be appointed from persons nominated by at least ten growers occupying land within the Central District hereinafter described. For the purpose of making the said appointments the Minister may consult with representatives of any association or associations of growers. Every member appointed as aforesaid shall be deemed to be a member for the district in which is situated the land occupied by the growers by whom the member is nominated as aforesaid.

(2) Three of such first members shall hold office for one year, and the other two of such first members shall hold office for two years. One each of the members for the Murray and Southern Districts and the member for the Central District shall retire at the end of the first year aforesaid. The members for the Murray and Southern Districts to so retire shall be decided by lot.

8. (1) Representative
8. (1) Representative members of the Board other than those first appointed to the first Board, shall be elected by the growers as hereinafter provided. An election shall be held with respect to any District whenever a vacancy occurs in the office of representative member for that District by reason of effluxion of time or for any other cause.

(2) For the purposes of election of representative members of the Board, the State shall be divided into three Districts. The said Districts shall be respectively called the Murray, Central, and Southern Districts, and comprise such portions of the State as are described in the Schedule hereto.

(3) The growers of the Murray and Southern Districts shall elect two members for each District, and the growers of the Central shall elect one member for such District.

9. At all elections and polls under this Act every grower shall be entitled to one vote.

10. (1) The Board shall prepare a roll of growers for the purpose of this Act, and shall from time to time revise and maintain the roll in accordance with the regulations, so that as far as possible it shall at all times contain the names of all persons who are for the time being growers.

(2) The roll shall be prepared in accordance with the regulations which may prescribe all matters necessary or convenient for the preparation of the roll, including the procedure for determining disputed claims for enrolment. The regulations may provide for methods of voting and of counting votes, and may provide that growers may vote by post or personally at places fixed by the Board, and may also provide for voting by proxy.

11. Every person elected a member of the Board shall hold office for two years: Provided that—

i. a member appointed to fill a vacancy caused otherwise than by the retirement of a member on the expiration of his term of office shall be elected only for the unexpired portion of the term of the member in whose place he is elected:

ii. any retiring member shall hold office until his successor is elected.

12. Any four members of the Board shall form a quorum thereof.

13. (1) The Board may appoint one of the members as deputy chairman.

(2) At all meetings of the Board the Chairman shall preside if present, and in his absence the deputy chairman shall preside. The Chairman or deputy chairman presiding shall have a casting vote as well as a deliberative vote.

(3) Whenever
PART II.

Acts of Board not invalidated by vacancy.

(3) Whenever the members are not unanimous as to any matter such matter shall be decided by a majority of the votes, and the decision so arrived at shall be the decision of the Board.

14. No act or proceeding of the Board shall be invalid or be prejudiced by reason only of the fact that at the time when such act or proceeding is done, taken, or commenced there is a vacancy in the office of any member.

15. (1) Any person who is an undischarged bankrupt, or is under sentence for an indictable offence, or is insane, shall be disqualified from appointment or election to the Board, and the seat of any member of the Board shall, on his bankruptcy, sentence for an indictable offence, insanity, or absence from three consecutive meetings of the Board without leave granted by the Board become vacant.

(2) Any member may resign his office by writing under his hand addressed to the Minister, and such resignation shall be complete from the time when it is received by the Minister.

16. (1) At the election of members to be held in the sixth year after the commencement of this Act or at any election held thereafter after the expiration of a further period of six years, or any period of years being a multiple of six, the Board may hold a poll of the growers on the question as to whether the Board should be wound up or not.

(2) No such poll shall be held unless a memorial is presented to the Board signed by at least one hundred growers requesting the taking of a poll. After the presentation of such a memorial it shall be the duty of the Board to hold a poll at a time mentioned in subsection (1) hereof.

(3) Every such poll shall be conducted in accordance with the regulations.

17. If at least two-thirds of the votes given at the poll are in favour of the winding up of the Board, the Governor shall by proclamation—

(a) declare that the Board shall be wound up; and

(b) appoint a person as liquidator of the Board.

18. (1) The liquidator shall get in and realise all the property of the Board and out of the proceeds shall pay in full those debts which, if the Board were a company, would under section 151 of the Companies Act, 1892, be payable in priority to all other debts. If the said proceeds are insufficient to pay all the said debts, they shall abate in equal proportions between themselves.

(2) Subject to subsection (1) hereof, the said proceeds shall be applied in satisfaction of the liabilities of the Board pari passu, and
and subject thereto shall be distributed among growers who have delivered any citrus fruits to the Board or whose supplies of the citrus fruit have been acquired pursuant to this Act, in such proportions as the liquidator deems just.

19. The Board may also be wound up as an unregistered company under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1892, relating to unregistered companies.

20. The Board shall be a body corporate by the name of the "Citrus Marketing Board of South Australia," with power to sue and be sued in its corporate name.

21. The Board shall not be deemed to be the servant or agent of the Crown nor to represent the Crown for any purpose whatsoever.

PART III.

POWERS OF THE BOARD.

22. Subject to this Act the Board may—

(a) appoint and pay a Secretary to the Board and employ and pay such agents, officers, inspectors, servants, and other persons as are necessary for this Act:

(b) borrow money from any bank or other institution and give security for the repayment of any money borrowed, and may, if the Board thinks fit, enter into any transaction whereby any of its assets (including any of the citrus fruits delivered to the Board) become security for the repayment of any borrowed money:

(c) acquire any land or interest in land required for the exercise of its functions under this Act and purchase or take on hire any personal property so required:

(d) erect, repair, equip, furnish, and maintain markets and packing sheds for citrus fruits, and any buildings which the Board requires for the purposes of its functions under this Act:

(e) dispose of any of its property:

(f) make any contracts and do and suffer all acts or things necessary or convenient for the purposes of this Act or incidental to the business of marketing citrus fruits:

(g) by means of advertising or other appropriate means take any steps it thinks fit to encourage the consumption of citrus fruits and create a greater demand therefor:

(h) make contributions to any association which is authorised by the Board to act as an authorised agent of the Board:

(i) arrange
PART III.

Citrus Marketing Act.—1931.

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(i) arrange for the export of citrus fruits from South Australia:

(j) arrange for transportation, cartage, and handling of citrus fruit, and may transport, cart, and handle citrus fruit:

(k) undertake or arrange for the manufacture, distribution, or sale of any product of citrus fruits.

23. (1) The Board may in any year for the purposes of defraying the expenses of administering this Act and of carrying out its duties or functions under this Act, impose a levy in respect of all citrus fruits produced or to be produced by growers in South Australia in that year. The levy shall not exceed the rate of One Penny per bushel of the citrus fruit in respect of which it is made.

(2) The Board may, in addition to imposing a levy under subsection (1) hereof, in any year impose an additional levy in respect of all citrus fruits produced or to be produced by growers in South Australia in that year. All amounts received by the Board pursuant to this subsection shall be paid by the Board into a special fund to be called the “Export Compensation Fund,” and the moneys in such Fund shall be expended by the Board at its discretion for the purpose of making payment to any grower in any case where any citrus fruit of the grower has, pursuant to section 24 or 25, been exported outside the Commonwealth from South Australia, and the Board is of opinion that, by reason of such export, the grower has suffered loss. The said amount paid to the grower may be the whole or portion of the said loss estimated by the Board to be suffered by the grower. The said levy shall not exceed the rate of One Penny per bushel of the citrus fruit in respect of which it was made.

(3) Every levy shall be made in the manner and paid by the person prescribed by regulation, and shall be paid at the times and in the instalments fixed by the Board.

(4) The amount payable by any person in respect of any levy shall become due forthwith upon the giving of a notice by the Board intimating to that person the amount due by him, and, if that amount remains unpaid for fourteen days after it becomes due, it shall be recoverable by the Board by any of the remedies available to the Commissioner of Taxes for the recovery of income tax in arrear. Any such notice as aforesaid may be given by registered post.

(5) The Board may in any special circumstances where the Board is of opinion that any of the provisions of this section should not apply with respect to any specified citrus fruits, declare that the whole or any portion of any levy in respect of any year aforesaid shall not be payable in respect of such citrus fruits, and thereupon no such levy or portion thereof shall be payable in respect of such citrus fruits.

(6) Nothing in this section shall apply to any citrus fruit produced other than by a grower as defined by this Act.

24. (1) The
24. (1) The Board shall have power in its absolute discretion by general or particular notice to direct where and in what quantities or proportions citrus fruit or any specified supplies of citrus fruit are to be marketed (including power to fix quantities or proportions to be exported from South Australia), and to give any consequential directions necessary or convenient for the purpose of ensuring compliance with any such direction as first mentioned.

(2) The Board shall also have power in its absolute discretion by general or particular notice—

(a) to direct that all or any of the things included in the marketing of citrus fruit shall be done only by the Board, its agents and servants, or by such persons or association as the Board may authorise for the purpose:

(b) to direct that all citrus fruit in the possession or coming into the possession of any person whomsoever in the course or for the purpose of marketing citrus fruit and during such time as shall be fixed by the Board shall be handled and dealt with only under the instructions and with the authority of the Board and shall be consigned or delivered only to such persons or associations as the Board may authorise for the purpose.

(3) Any such direction may be varied or revoked by general or particular notice.

(4) Any direction, if given by general notice, may according to the tenor thereof be binding on all persons generally (whether growers or not) or on any persons or classes of persons specified therein.

(5) Any person who neglects or refuses to obey any such direction shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

25. (1) The Board may by declaration published in the Gazette declare that the whole or any part of the supplies of citrus fruit existing at the time of the making of the declaration or on any date therein mentioned or the whole or any part of any supplies of the citrus fruit coming into existence during any specified period, shall be divested from the growers thereof, and become absolutely vested in and be the property of the Board, and any such declaration may require all or any of the growers of any of the citrus fruit to which the declaration relates to deliver the same to the Board, or otherwise provide for the Board to obtain possession of the said citrus fruit.

(2) No person shall neglect or refuse to obey any direction contained in any such declaration. Any person so neglecting or refusing shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

(3) Upon the date of the publication of the declaration or on any later date mentioned therein or upon the fulfilment of the conditions therein specified, as the case may be, the citrus fruit shall become the absolute property of the Board, freed and discharged from all mortgages,
mortgages, charges, liens, pledges, interests, trusts, contracts, and encumbrances affecting the same, and the rights and interests of every person in the citrus fruit shall thereupon be taken to be converted into a claim for payment therefor in pursuance of the provisions of this Act.

(4) The Board shall not refuse to accept from any grower any of the citrus fruit delivered to it pursuant to this section if the citrus fruit is of merchantable quality and complies with the requirements (if any) prescribed by regulation.

26. (1) The Board may by general or particular notice, exempt from the operation of either of the last two preceding sections—

(a) any growers of small quantities of citrus fruit;
(b) sales of citrus fruit direct to local consumers or to retail vendors;
(c) any other sales, purchases, or receipts of citrus fruit which may be prescribed by regulation.

(2) The Board may at any time by general or particular notice revoke any such exemption.

(3) Nothing in the last preceding two sections shall apply to citrus fruit produced other than by a grower as defined by this Act.

27. The tendering of any citrus fruit by any person, whether by himself or by any person authorised by him, to any authorised agent of a Board for acceptance shall be prima facie evidence of an intention to deliver the tendered citrus fruit to the Board to be disposed of by the Board in accordance with this Act.

28. (1) Where, pursuant to this Act, any citrus fruit has become vested in the Board—

(a) any of the citrus fruit so vested which the Board refuses to accept after tender and delivery of it in accordance with this Act shall on such refusal; and
(b) any of the citrus fruit so vested which is subject to any exemption under this Act shall, on its becoming exempted, re-vest in the person who would have held the same had the citrus fruit not been so vested in the Board, but subject to any mortgages, charges, liens, pledges, interests, and trusts that would have affected the citrus fruit had it not been so vested.

(2) Nothing in this Act shall impose any liability on any person in respect of the sale or purchase of any citrus fruit which has been tendered or delivered to the Board in conformity with this Act, and the acceptance of which has been refused by the Board on the ground that the citrus fruit is not of merchantable quality, or does not
not comply with any prescribed requirements, and in respect of which a certificate of refusal has been issued by the Board to the grower.

29. As soon as practicable after the receipt of any citrus fruit pursuant to a declaration made under section 25 the Board shall issue to the grower thereof a certificate in the prescribed form:

Provided that the Board, if it has received notice of any mortgage, charge, lien, pledge, interest, trust, contract, or encumbrance affecting such citrus fruit may, in its discretion, refuse or withhold issue of the certificate.

30. It shall be the duty of the Board to market to the best advantage all supplies of citrus fruit of which it becomes the owner under this Act pursuant to section 25, and to do all acts, matters, and things necessary for that purpose and to pay to the person holding the certificate issued in respect of such citrus fruit or if no certificate is so issued, to such person to whom, in the opinion of the Board, the same is lawfully payable, all amounts received by the Board upon the sale of that citrus fruit less the prescribed charges for the marketing thereof.

31. (1) Every contract (other than a contract made by or with the Board) which is made in or outside the State, so far as it relates to the sale of any citrus fruit shall be and is hereby declared to be and to have been null and void, from the date upon which it was made unless the contract has been completed by delivery prior to the commencement of this Act.

(2) The Board may on application exempt any contract from the operation of this section and thereupon the contract so exempted shall become of full force and effect.

(3) Any transaction or contract with respect to any citrus fruit which is the subject matter of any contract or part of a contract declared by this section to be void shall also be void and of no effect.

(4) Any money paid in respect of any contract or part of a contract hereby made void or of any such transaction shall to the extent to which the said contract or transaction is made void, be repaid.

32. (1) If any citrus fruit is subject to any bill of sale, mortgage, charge, lien, pledge, interest, trust, encumbrance or any contract in derogation of the owner's title to sell the citrus fruit as absolute owner (whether such bill of sale, mortgage, charge, lien, pledge, interest, trust, encumbrance or contract was made or given or came into existence before or after the commencement of this Act) the grower of the citrus fruit shall, when delivering the citrus fruit to the Board pursuant to a declaration made under section 25, give to the person receiving the citrus fruit on behalf of the Board a notice in writing in the prescribed form of every such bill of sale, mortgage, charge, lien, pledge, interest, trust, encumbrance, or contract.

(2) A
(2) A notice given in respect of any citrus fruit delivered to any person receiving the citrus fruit on behalf of the Board at one railway station or place of delivery shall not be deemed to be a compliance with this section in respect of any citrus fruit delivered to any other person receiving the product on behalf of the Board at the same or any other railway station or place of delivery.

(3) Any person wilfully guilty of a failure to comply with any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

33. (1) Except as allowed by this section no legal proceedings shall be brought against the Board or any person acting under the authority of the Board by any person claiming under any bill of sale, mortgage, charge, lien, pledge, interest, trust, contract, or other encumbrance whatsoever upon all or upon any citrus fruit which is vested in the Board by virtue of this Act or anything done under this Act or claiming to be the true owner of such citrus fruit.

(2) Any person who, but for this section, may have brought any such legal proceedings may adopt the delivery of the citrus fruit to the Board as a delivery thereof by him to the Board and may claim accordingly for an account of the payments due in respect thereof.

(3) Notwithstanding any enactment or rule of law to the contrary, no person shall be entitled to claim an account under this section unless he has given prior notice in writing to the Board in the form prescribed and containing the prescribed particulars of the bill of sale, mortgage, charge, lien, pledge, interest, trust, contract, or other encumbrance or claim of ownership, and the liability of the Board in any proceedings allowed by this section shall be limited to an amount not exceeding that part of the moneys due in respect of the citrus fruit which has not been paid to other persons at the time when the Board receives the said notice.

34. Where the Board in good faith and without negligence has made any payment—

(a) to a grower delivering or causing to be delivered any of the citrus fruit to the Board or any person acting under its authority to whom a certificate has been issued as provided by this Act; or

(b) to any person entitled or claiming to be entitled through such grower; or

(c) to any person on the order of such grower or any person entitled or claiming to be entitled through such grower, the Board shall not be answerable to any other person in respect of such payment for the citrus fruit or any part thereof, or in any action, suit, claim, or demand whatsoever for damages or otherwise.
PART IV.

MISCELLANEOUS.

35. (1) The Board shall keep or cause to be kept true and regular accounts of all moneys received and paid by or on account of the Board, and the accounts shall show the purposes for which all such money has been received or paid.

(2) The accounts shall be audited annually by the Auditor-General, who shall have with respect to those accounts all the powers which he has with respect to the audit of Government accounts.

(3) The Board shall pay to the Auditor-General for each audit such reasonable fees as are fixed by the Auditor-General and approved by the Minister.

36. (1) The Governor may, on the recommendation of the Board, make regulations prescribing all matters necessary or convenient for the effective administration of this Act, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing provisions such regulations may provide for all or any of the following matters:

1. The fees, allowances, and travelling expenses which may be paid to members of the Board:

II. Election of members and polls of growers:

III. Registration of citrus growers for the purpose of this Act and the forms to be used in connection therewith:

IV. The inspection, supervision, and regulation of packing sheds and stores, and the machinery, appliances, implements, and utensils used in reference thereto, and the conditions under which the same shall be conducted:

V. The registration and the renewal and transfer of registration of packing sheds:

VI. Regulating the removal of citrus fruits from packing sheds:

VII. The grading, sorting, classification, and packing citrus fruits in packing sheds:

VIII. The making of advances in respect of citrus fruit vested in the Board pursuant to section 25:

IX. The purchase, acquisition, sale, or marketing, or the arranging for the purchase, acquisition, sale, or marketing of citrus fruits:

X. The inspection of, and the granting of certificates as to the quality of, citrus fruits intended for sale:

XI. The conditions which must be fulfilled in respect of citrus fruit intended for export from the State, and the prohibition of such export unless such conditions are fulfilled:

XII. Fixing
PART IV.

Proceedings for offences, and penalties.

xii. Fixing standards of grading and packing of citrus fruits and fixing standards of quality for different grades of citrus fruits, and the grade, description, or trade mark to be respectively used for packages containing citrus fruits of different grades:

xiii. Establishing a system of inspection of citrus fruits:

xiv. Arranging for the supervision of markets:

xv. Forms which may be used under this Act, and the particulars which may be required of growers:

xvi. The amount of any rate of commission to be charged by the Board or persons or associations authorised by the Board in order to provide for the expenses of marketing:

xvii. Expenses and disbursements and allowances to be deducted from the price realised in the marketing of citrus fruit to which section 25 applies:

xviii. The creating of offences and prescribing of evidentiary provisions.

(2) Any such regulation may prescribe penalties not exceeding Fifty Pounds for any contravention thereof or failure to comply therewith.

37. (1) Proceedings for offences against this Act shall be disposed of summarily. Such proceedings may, notwithstanding any other Act to the contrary, be commenced at any time within twelve months from the time of the commission of the offence.

(2) Where any offence is created by this Act, but no penalty is fixed therefor by the section creating the offence, the penalty for that offence shall be a fine not exceeding Two Hundred Pounds.

Power of Treasurer.

38. (1) The Treasurer may advance any moneys necessary for the purpose of establishing the Board and such moneys and the costs reasonably incurred by the Minister pursuant to section 39 shall be repaid by the Board to the Treasurer at such time together with such interest as the Treasurer may appoint.

(2) The moneys necessary for the purposes of this section and of section 39 shall be provided out of moneys provided by Parliament for the purpose.

39. (1) This Act shall come into force on a day to be fixed by proclamation, but no such proclamation shall be made until after the holding of a poll of growers as is hereinafter provided.

(2) As soon as conveniently may be after this Act is assented to by the Governor, the Minister shall hold a poll of the growers for the purpose aforesaid.

(3) For
(3) For such purpose the Minister shall prepare a roll of growers. The roll shall be prepared as prescribed by regulations, which may prescribe all matters necessary or convenient for the preparation of the roll and the procedure for determining disputed claims for enrolment.

(4) No person shall be entitled to vote at the poll unless his name appears on the roll.

(5) The Minister shall fix a day for the holding of the poll, which shall be conducted in accordance with the regulations. The voting shall be by secret ballot, and the regulations may provide that growers may vote by post or personally at places fixed by the Minister.

(6) If at the poll two-thirds (excluding informal votes) of the growers who are described on the roll as occupying land within any District described in the Schedule and who vote at the poll, vote in favour of the making of a proclamation, the Governor may by proclamation declare that the provisions of this Act shall apply within the part of the State comprised within such District and the provisions of this Act shall apply accordingly.

(7) If at such poll as aforesaid two-thirds of the growers as aforesaid within a District do not vote in favour of the making of a proclamation as aforesaid, the Board may subsequently hold another poll or polls, and if at any such poll two-thirds of such growers (excluding informal votes) voting at the poll vote in favour of the making of a proclamation the Governor may by proclamation declare that the provisions of this Act shall apply within the Part of the State comprised within such District. For the purposes of holding any such poll within such District the Board may prepare a roll of growers for such District as provided by this section.

(8) If by virtue of this section a proclamation is made applying this Act to one or more of the said Districts, but not applying this Act to other of such Districts, the number of the members of the Board and the number for the quorum thereof shall be deemed to be reduced by the same number of members of the Board as would represent the District excluded from the operation of this Act if the Act applied to such District.

In the name and on behalf of His Majesty, I hereby assent to this Bill.

A. HORE-RUTHERFORD, Governor.
THE SCHEDULE.

1. Murray District shall comprise those portions of the State comprised in—
   (a) the Assembly Electoral Districts of Albert and Victoria:
   (b) the portion of the Hundred of Markaranka not comprised in the Assembly Electoral District of Albert:
   (c) the Hundreds of Cadell, Stuart, Eba, and Hay:
   (d) the Hundreds of Skurray and Fisher.

2. Southern District shall comprise those portions of the State comprised in the Assembly Electoral Districts of Sturt, East Torrens, Murray, and Alexandra.

3. Central District shall comprise the whole of the State not comprised in the Murray and Southern Districts hereinbefore described.

--- Adelaide: By authority, HARRISON WEIR, Government Printer, North Terrace.