

**CLOSER SETTLEMENT BILL
(SECOND READING)
8 December 1921**

Edith Cowan was very supportive of legislative measures to ensure the success of the group settlement scheme in the State's South West region.

Mrs COWAN: (West Perth) [10.2]: Unlike the previous speaker, I wish to warmly congratulate the Premier on having introduced this Bill.

Mr Lutey: I expected that of you.

Mrs COWAN: It is certainly a step in the right direction, and one which I think will give great satisfaction to the community at large. During the course of the election campaign, we heard a lot regarding the necessity for doing something in the way of taxing unimproved values. When we realise that this Bill will make it possible, without inflicting too great a hardship in different directions, to bring into use the land available in the South-West —

Mr Munsie: But it will not do that.

Mrs COWAN: And more particularly the land which is available in the districts between York and Beverley on the west, extending in an easterly direction to Dowerin, and then to Cunderdin and Quairading where according to the latest report of the Surveyor General, there are two and a half million acres within seven miles of a railway, the Premier has shown great courage in introducing the measure. For this he deserves the heartiest support of the House, and any support I can give him I certainly intend to give.