

Agencies curbed

A recent court case revealed a loophole in the Employment Ordinance which originally aimed to stop employment agencies from charging job seekers expenses over and above fees and commission allowed by the regulations, the Commissioner for Labour, Mr Ian Price, said.

Mr Price was moving the second reading of the Employment (Amendment) (No 2) Bill 1975.

He said the new amendment merely clarified the law and in no way affected the right of an employment agency recouping expenses from potential employers.

The regulations state that a job-seeker need only pay an employment agency a maximum of \$3 as a fee with another \$3 payable on re-registration. In addition, a job-seeker may be asked to pay up to a maximum commission of 10 per cent of the first month's wages to an agency after securing employment.