CATTLE COMPENSATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1970

**House of Assembly, 13 October 1970, page 1686**

Second reading

**The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Works)** obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Cattle Compensation Act, 1939-1968. Read a first time.

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

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

After consultation with the appropriate organizations, a review has been undertaken of the provisions of the Cattle Compensation Act, 1939-1968, which provide for compensation payments. At present, section 6 of the principal Act provides that, where after slaughter an animal is found to be diseased, the compensation payable will be about 25 per cent less than it would have been if the animal were found not to be diseased. In addition, for the purposes of calculating compensation payments the upper limit of the market value of stock slaughtered is, at present, fixed at $120.

Clause 2 recasts section 6 (1) to relate that subsection more closely to the provisions of the principal Act that set out the circumstances in which compensation is payable. In addition, this clause provides for the abolition of the 25 per cent deduction in the case of animals found to be diseased, since it is felt that this deduction is no longer warranted. Clause 3 amends section 7 of the principal Act and provides for the lifting of the upper limit of market value from $120 to $200, thus recognizing the generally higher cattle prices which have prevailed since 1951 when the upper limit was last fixed. Since these proposed amendments will result in some increase of payments from the Cattle Compensation Fund, the position will be continually reviewed to ensure that the fund remains financially sound.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN secured the adjournment of the debate.