BRANDING OF PIGS ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1966

House of Assembly, 15 September 1966, page 1633

Second reading

**The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS (Minister of Agriculture)** obtained leave and introduced a Bill to amend the Branding of Pigs Act, 1964. Read a first time.

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I move:

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

It amends the principal Act in two substantive respects. Clause 3 amends the definition of “brand” in the principal Act by providing that a brand means a mark of a kind to be prescribed by regulation. The Act provides that a brand must consist of a letter, numeral, sign or character, or any combination thereof. It is intended that brands for pigs should consist of three letters, but the Government has been advised that, as the Act now stands, there is no power to limit the form of brands in the desired manner. Accordingly, clause 3 provides that the form of pig brands will be as is prescribed. The second amendment will enable the sale of pigs under six weeks old to be sold unbranded. It is not practicable to brand pigs of this age. Clause 5 (b) of the Bill accordingly enables the sale of unbranded suckling pigs with the sow. This is a necessary practical measure.

The amendments made by clauses 4 and 5 (a) are formal, being designed to achieve consistency through the Act where, in all but two places, the word “brand” and not “pig brand” (which is not defined) is used. Clause 6 of the Bill makes the usual amendment to convert references to money to decimal currency equivalents.

Mr. FERGUSON secured the adjournment of the debate