The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Works): I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

I seek leave to have the second reading explanation inserted in Hansard without my reading it.

Leave granted.

EXPLANATION OF BILL

This short Bill makes several machinery amendments to the Brands Act, 1933-1969, the principal Act. Clauses 1 and 2 are formal. Clause 3 amends section 4 of the principal Act by inserting a definition of "the department", and making certain other consequential amendments. Clause 4 repeals sections 17 and 18 of the principal Act and inserts in their place a new section 17, the effect of which is to allow free use of brands consisting of a numeral or any brand on the near or off ribs of cattle.

Clause 5 amends section 53 of the principal Act, and recognises the fact that The Stock and Station Journal is no longer published. Clause 6 amends section 54 of the principal Act by removing a reference to a register that is no longer required to be kept. Clause 7 re-enacts section 62 of the principal Act in much the same form as it previously existed, with the exception that special provision is now made for branding cattle vaccinated against brucellosis. Clause 8 is formal and self-explanatory. Clause 9 is consequential on the amendments made by clause 4, as are the amendments made by clauses 10 and 11.

Mr. EVANS secured the adjournment of the debate.

CATTLE COMPENSATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Works): I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

I seek leave to have the second reading explanation inserted in Hansard without my reading it.

Leave granted.

EXPLANATION OF BILL

This Bill amends the principal Act, the Cattle Compensation Act, 1939-1974, and is to some extent consequential on the amendments effected to the Stock Diseases Act. Clauses 1 and 2 are formal. Clause 3 amends section 4 of the principal Act by changing the definition of "disease" to accord with that inserted in the Stock Diseases Act. Clause 4 is consequential on the amendments made by clause 3. Clause 5 enacts a new section 4b in the principal Act which will recognise a practice that has existed for some time in the computation of stamp duty, that is, the practice of "averaging".

Clause 6 amends section 5 of the principal Act so as to ensure that, in appropriate cases, cattle destroyed under the new powers conferred on inspectors under the Stock Diseases Act will attract compensation under this Act. Clause 7 is consequential on this. Clause 8 amends section 11 of the principal Act by recognising that the fund established under the principal Act may receive subventions from the Commonwealth.

Mr. NANKIVELL secured the adjournment of the debate.

STOCK DISEASES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.