**DAIRY CATTLE IMPROVEMENT ACT AMMENDMENT BILL 1960**

**House of Assembly, 9 November 1960, pages 1733-4**

Second reading

Bill for an Act to amend the Dairy Cattle Improvement Act, 1921-1955. Read a first time.

**The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN**—I move—

*That this Bill be now read a second time.* Its object is to remove the obligation under the Dairy Cattle Improvement Act to license any bull that is not maintained or kept at or for any purpose connected with a dairy farm and, incidentally, to relieve beef cattle breeders of the necessity to maintain herd books for the purpose of seeking exemption for the payment of licence fees in respect of such bulls. Under section 6 (1) of the Dairy Cattle Improvement Act, 1921-1955, every bull over the age of six months is required to be licensed, but under section 7a of that Act a bull may be licensed without payment of the licence fee if it is registered in a herd book for beef cattle approved by the Minister or if it is the direct issue of any bull and cow registered in such herd book. This means that every breeder of beef cattle is obliged to maintain a herd book (which generally involves considerable time, labour and expense) in order to seek exemption from the payment of licence fees in respect of the bulls so registered.

Representations have been received from beef cattle breeders complaining that this requirement involves them in undue hardship in that considerable time, labour and expense is involved in maintaining herd books and applying for exemption from payment of license fees, and the Advisory Committee for Improvement of Dairying has recommended that the Act could well be amended to meet these representations by providing that a licence be required only for such bulls as are maintained or kept at or for any purpose connected with a dairy farm licensed or required to be licensed under the Dairy Industry Act, or one specified in a milk producer’s licence granted under the Metropolitan Milk Supply Act. The Government agrees with this recommendation and this Bill seeks to give effect to it.

Clause 3 of the Bill amends section 6 (1) of the principal Act by limiting the requirement for a licence to bulls over the age of six months maintained or kept at or for any purpose connected with such a dairy farm. Clause 4 repeals section 7a of the principal Act under which a herd book had to be maintained for beef cattle in order to seek exemption from payment of licence fees in respect off bull registered therein, or of bulls which are the direct issue of any bull so registered. If this Bill becomes law it would effect a considerable saving of time, labour and not only to beef cattle breeders but also regard to the administration of the Act. I commend this Bill for favourable consideration by members.

Mr. BYWATERS secured the adjournment of the debate.