**METROPOLITAN MILK SUPPLY ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1985**

**Legislative Council, 9 October 1985**

Second reading

**The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS (Minister of Agriculture)** obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Metropolitan Milk Supply Act 1946. Read a first time.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS (Minister of Agriculture): I move: That this Bill be now read a second time.

This Bill accompanies the Bill for amending the Dairy Industry Act and is designed to restrict the issue of new milk producers licences under the Metropolitan Milk Supply Act. The amendments are therefore similar to those proposed for the Dairy Industry Act, thus ensuring uniformity of action under both Acts. This measure will allow the Metropolitan Milk Board to help reduce milk production and improve the viability of existing milk producers. I seek leave to have the detailed explanation of the clauses incorporated in Hansard without my reading it. Leave granted.

Explanation of Clauses

Clauses 1 and 2 are formal.

Clause 3 amends section 29 of the Act to enable the board, on the application of the holder of a milk producers licence, to amend the licence by deleting the reference to the premises in the licence and substituting different premises as requested by the holder of the milk producers licence in the application.

Clause 4 amends section 32 of the Act. Under proposed new subsection (3a), when the Minister forms the opinion that the issue of further milk producers licences would lower returns to milk producers, thus rendering dairy farming uneconomic, the Minister may direct that no further licences be issued.

Proposed new subsection (3b) provides that a declaration under proposed new subsection (3a) does not affect an application for a fresh licence where the milk producer holds a current licence at the time of the making of the application. Proposed new subsection (3c) permits the Minister to revoke a declaration. Proposed new subsection (3d) requires the board to comply with ministerial directions under proposed new subsection (3a).

The Hon. M.B. CAMERON secured the adjournment of the debate.