

S.A.M.P.

3 December, 1977

Adding weight to abattoir machines

THE statement in your front-page report that "More than \$136,000 worth of weighing equipment installed at two abattoirs for the Urban Council is not being used" (S.C.M. Post, December 1) is not correct.

The two machines in question - in addition to their standby use in cases of disputes between abattoir staff and the trade - have each been, and are being, used several hundred times a day for sampling and projection purposes.

Further, they would be needed for non-stop operation throughout the day if, as is possible in the future, the abattoirs were to resume responsibility for pig carcass deliveries as well as for slaughter.

It is also worth pointing out that the expenditure on the

two machines was a commitment of the Government, and not the Urban Council, dating from before the Council's attainment of financial autonomy in 1973.

The machines were ordered, and installed, by the Urban Services Department at a time when the ending of the abattoirs' responsibility for deliveries could not be foreseen.

D. K. LEWIS
for Director of
Urban Services

[It is a pity the Urban Services Department did not see fit to make the above information available to the Director of Audit. The article referred to by Mr Lewis was based on the report of the Director of Audit on the Urban Council's accounts. - Ed.]