

Mr. TONKIN: As soon as I started to speak I said that statement was not true. In the first place the agreement was concluded under conditions which left North Fremantle no option, and immediately the agreement expired the Fremantle Tramway Board shot in a writ for the difference between the price it said it was entitled to receive and that which the North Fremantle Council was prepared to pay. I let members judge what chance the council had to succeed because, when the North Fremantle Council asked for a new agreement to be concluded, the Fremantle Tramway Board did not take the necessary steps to have it done. It would not refer the matter to arbitration. So, when the agreement expired the council took this stand, "Well, there is no agreement. There is no price fixed and in the absence of any agreement we will offer to pay what we think is a fair price. If you supply us at that price that concludes the contract, and that is all we will pay." Had the board not liked the price the North Fremantle Council offered it could have stopped the supply.

The council offered 9d. when there was no agreement. The board could have refused to supply at that price but it did not. The council maintains that, having supplied at that price, the board removed any ground it might have had for success in going for recovery of the difference. I say now that there would have been extreme difficulty in having an agreement concluded if it had not suddenly come to the notice of the Fremantle Tramway Board that some doubts existed as to the position it thought it occupied. When it realised the position it could not complete an agreement too quickly. Instead of the North Fremantle Council having to ask the Tramway Board to receive a deputation to discuss the matter it came to North Fremantle to do it. No doubt that is why the Minister said, when he introduced the amending Bill, that the reason for it was to enable certain agreements between the North Fremantle Council and the Fremantle Tramway Board to be concluded. Well, an agreement has been concluded without this validating Bill.

The agreement is perfectly satisfactory now, but the council only got such an agreement because the Tramway Board was doubtful of its position. I point out, however, that immediately the current agreement expires at the end of seven years—

if this validating Bill is passed—the Fremantle Tramway Board will occupy the position it thought it occupied before, and the council will get short shrift from it. It is possible that it will endeavour to make up in the remainder of the 25 years what it has been obliged to lose during these seven years. I do not want to allow this Bill to go through until we have tied up that situation. I will attempt to amend the Bill in Committee so as to provide a safeguard—not to give any privilege to North Fremantle but to secure even-handed justice for it under an agreement to which it was not a party, but under which it was nevertheless securely bound.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

*House adjourned at 10 p.m.*

## Legislative Council.

*Thursday, 16th September, 1943.*

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The PRESIDENT took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

### QUESTION—MEAT.

*As to Supplies and Rationing of Mutton.*

Hon. G. B. WOOD asked the Chief Secretary: 1, Is the Government aware that the 15 per cent. reduction of consumption of mutton is causing grave concern to the producers of mutton? 2, Is the Government aware that there is no shortage of mutton in W.A., and that wether mutton is selling below production costs at Midland Junction? 3, Has any provision been made for the immediate freezing, or the disposal otherwise of the 15 per cent.? 4, If no provision is possible immediately, will the Government endeavour to get W.A. exempted from the provisions of the regulation?

The CHIEF SECRETARY replied: 1, The Deputy Controller of Meat Supplies has already communicated with the Meat Commission regarding the purchase of sheep and the possibility of exporting mutton type sheep at a price profitable to growers. 2, (a) Yes. (b) No. 3, Arrangements have been made for the purchase of mutton type sheep for Service orders and for their cold storage until required. 4, See answer to 3.

### BILLS (3)—THIRD READING.

- 1, Industries Assistance Act Continuance.
- 2, Public Authorities (Postponement of Elections) Act Amendment.
- 3, Public Authorities (Retirement of Members) Act Amendment.

*Passed.*

### BILL—ELECTORAL (WAR TIME).

#### *Second Reading.*

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY** [4.38] in moving the second reading said: I think it will be admitted that the franchise is the very basis of our democratic system of government. Under our existing electoral law it can be exercised only by those people who are in the State at the time an election takes place. In view of the fact that many thousands of our young men and women are engaged in war services not only in Western Australia but elsewhere in the Commonwealth and even outside Australia, it becomes necessary to take steps to furnish them with the right to exercise the franchise for this State. By this Bill it is proposed to make that possible for members of the Forces and employees of the Civil Construction Corps for the duration of the present war and 12 months thereafter.

As the House is aware, the members of that corps are also engaged in many instances on war work outside the boundaries of this State. It was for a similar reason that the Commonwealth passed its Electoral (War Time) Act of 1943 which operated in connection with the recent Federal elections. Although the Bill follows the Commonwealth Act to a great extent, the necessity to depart from its provisions has arisen in one or two important phases. For instance, it is proposed to give a vote to all members of the Forces, including those under 21 years of age; to restrict the area to which the franchise shall apply to Australia and the South-West Pacific zone; and to provide

that the counting of votes will be done by the Chief Electoral Officer in Perth and not by the returning officers in the forward areas. As members are aware, the counting in connection with the recent Federal elections was done by returning officers in the forward areas and the totals were sent to the Federal Electoral Officer for inclusion in the final totals. That caused some delay and even at present some of the figures are still outstanding.

On the first point the principle that if a man is old enough to fight he is old enough to vote has been adopted. The young men who are covered by this provision have volunteered for service in the Army or other Service, or have been drafted into them. They have voluntarily undertaken the risk of death or severe injury, and placed themselves on a par with adults in the defence of the country. They should, therefore, be placed on a par with adults with regard to the franchise. Once they join the Services they no longer have the will or the right to say what they shall do or where they shall go, and they cheerfully and willingly take all the risks. They are doing a man's job and they should be entitled to say what Government will look after their dependants and their interests whilst they are away fighting, and what Government should be entrusted with the preparation for their own rehabilitation when they return.

It is true, of course, that the civil law draws distinction between civilians over and under the age of 21 years. This distinction does not only apply to electoral matters. A person under 21 has very restricted rights and liabilities with respect to the law of contracts, and he cannot make a valid will. Such distinction does not wholly apply to a soldier. By civil law for instance, a soldier can make a will of personal property, and this will can be made by word of mouth and irrespective of age. In other words, the civil property law is to a great extent relaxed in favour of a soldier, and he has rights not enjoyed by a civilian and is not bound by the same formalities. In these circumstances it must be realised that the civil law has for a long time drawn a very definite distinction between a soldier and a civilian; and by extending the franchise to an 18-year old soldier we are following this precedent.

Members have no doubt noticed that New Zealand has recently adopted the same prin-

ciple, and that all its servicemen and service-women are entitled to vote, irrespective of age. In the Perth "Sunday Times" of the 3rd September, there appears an article dealing with the forthcoming elections, and the article advises that every New Zealander in the Armed Forces, no matter how young or in what part of the world he is serving, will be able to vote for the New Zealand Parliamentary elections on the 25th September, the Government having felt that if a youth is old enough to fight for his country he is old enough to choose his leaders. The article goes on to say that the franchise for persons of 21 years and over has therefore been extended to all who are serving in their country's Armed Forces, whether at home or abroad. The Western Australian Government has adopted the same principle as has the New Zealand Government.

This measure, if agreed to, will allow qualified members of the Forces to vote at any Assembly election held during the present war and twelve months thereafter, but any person who votes under the provisions of this Bill can do so only with respect to the district he resided in before joining up. Whilst the wording of the particular clause is permissive, it, in fact, becomes compulsory on this point, for the simple reason that no other manner of voting is possible under this measure. Whilst voting is not compulsory of itself, as soon as the soldier elects to vote he must and can record his vote only with respect to the district he came from. All members of the Forces serving in Australia or the South-West Pacific zone, irrespective of their age, and also discharged members who are not enrolled and who are within Australia or the area mentioned, irrespective of their age and irrespective of their place of service or discharge, are entitled to vote.

The departure from the provisions of the Commonwealth Act in restricting the area and in altering the system of vote counting has been occasioned by the necessity for doing so. After a good deal of correspondence with the Commonwealth Government, it has been decided to have the votes counted in Western Australia. With regard to members of the Forces who are outside Australia and outside the South-West Pacific zone, it appears to be impracticable under present conditions to give to those people, mainly men, the same rights as are given to those who are within the South Pacific zone.

We are informed that if we give to them the same rights, it would take far too long and that several months would elapse before the votes thus recorded could be taken notice of in Australia. It would be futile, therefore, to make any statutory provision other than that which appears in the Bill. The necessary clauses have been included specifying the method of distribution of electoral material, the manner of taking the vote and the counting system. The votes are to be taken as secretly as possible at the operational theatre and are to be forwarded under seal to the Chief Electoral Officer for counting in Perth.

The necessary provision is made in the Bill to deal with voting by discharged soldiers in Australia who are not enrolled. It is provided that a discharged soldier outside Western Australia may make application for a certificate and ballot paper to be supplied by the Chief Electoral Officer upon the necessary proof being established. A discharged member within Western Australia can attend at any polling booth and may vote after complying with the required formalities. The necessary machinery has been provided to enable voting by members of the Civil Construction Corps north of the 26th parallel. The Bill sets out that members of this corps have to be British subjects, over 21 years and not subject to any statutory disqualification. Provided they fulfil those specifications they may vote in exactly the same manner as a member of the Forces, and they are expressly prohibited from voting for any district except that in which they were ordinarily resident at the time of commencement of employment with the Civil Construction Corps. Objection may be taken to claims for enrolment, and provision is made for enrolment, or reinstatement, on the roll. Scrutineers may be appointed. Voting is not compulsory, and the concluding clauses of the Bill contain the general provisions usually found in a measure of this type.

Four schedules are included in the Bill, and most of the forms which will be required to implement the vital voting provisions of the Bill are set out in them. Finally, it is emphasised that the Bill applies to all men and women, enlisted or appointed, in the Navy, Army or Air Force. Members of the Army Education Service, and the legal, the catering, the entertainment and other similar sections of the Service will come within the scope of the Bill.

Ours is a democratic Army fighting for the preservation of democratic ideals and systems. Either all should vote or none at all. The Government considers that all should vote. The modern war machine is so complex that there is a much wider range of individuals and technical units within the Defence Forces. It is impossible to say that one branch is any more useful than another, or that any one individual makes a greater contribution than another. It must also be remembered that once a person becomes a member of the Defence Forces he cannot pick and choose his vocation. As I have said, in most cases the individual is directed as to where he shall go and what work he shall do, and his own wishes are not consulted.

Units such as the Army Education Service are making a major contribution to the efficiency of the Fighting Forces, although the members of that unit are not bearing a rifle or throwing a grenade. Colonel Madgwick, the head of the Army Education Service in Australia, made a statement in Perth not so long ago that he had been assured by front line commanders that that service did more to keep up the morale of the troops than did any other service or unit. In the same way, those persons whose particular bent lies towards catering or entertainment are doing their share. Many of them are carrying out their duties not far behind the front line. It would be wrong to say that a cook is not essential to the well-being of a military unit. If the cook happened to be a female of 18 or 19 years of age, she would be playing a vital part in the Army organisation. It is true, also, that a number of the people I have specifically referred to are not near the front line. It is pointed out, however, that the movement of all our troops is northwards and further northwards all the time; those who are in Perth today may be in Darwin tomorrow, and those who are in Darwin now may be in New Guinea next week.

Modern war methods make the Army bases just as liable to attack as the forward areas. No Army or civil construction job can be reckoned safe in these days of long-range bomber and fighter aircraft. What I have said covers, in the main, the proposals in the Bill and the case for its support. The primary objective of the measure is to give soldiers and members of the Civil Construction Corps the opportunity

to vote, an opportunity which I submit should not be denied them. The provisions of the Bill are limited in their duration to the period of the war and 12 months thereafter. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

On motion by Hon. C. F. Baxter, debate adjourned.

### **BILL—COAL MINE WORKERS (PENSIONS).**

Received from the Assembly and read a first time.

### **BILL—EDUCATION ACT AMENDMENT.**

#### *Second Reading.*

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY** [4.57] in moving the second reading said: Considerable prominence has been given to the subject of education in recent times. By this Bill it is proposed to amend the Education Act, 1928, to enable the Government to raise the school leaving age by proclamation at an appropriate time, to exercise some control over the formation of kindergartens, and to better administer the existing sections of the Act dealing with compulsory attendance. The most important proposal in the Bill is that providing for the raising of the school leaving age. The Government proposes that the compulsory school period, which now ends at 14 years of age shall, on proclamation, be raised to 15 years.

In view of the wide publicity given to the need of a longer school preparation, it is hardly necessary to stress the reasons for this proposal. Though war experience has made this matter more urgent and has called forth considerable agitation for better education the Government has long been convinced that the increasing complexity of the social and industrial systems calls for a more adequate preparation for life. A democracy stands or falls on the quality of its citizens. It is meaningless if it is not an informed democracy. Education is society's expression of its progressive ideals, and the consensus of opinion in all progressive countries supports the contention that compulsory education must be extended beyond the present age of 14. There is considerable agreement among educationists overseas and elsewhere that the school leaving age should be raised to 16 for full-time

day schooling after the war. Numerous resolutions from associations of teachers and from parliamentary bodies concerned with post-war reconstruction have affirmed this principle. The possibility of part-time day continuation education up to the age of 18 is also envisaged by many authorities.

Educationally, the principle behind this proposal is based upon the experience of teachers and others with the training of adolescents in habits of good citizenship and vocational efficiency. With the growing complexity of modern life increased difficulty is experienced in providing adequate training for citizenship and for vocational life by the age of 14 years. Modern life demands that individuals shall exercise considerable responsibility in civic pursuits, leisure-time activities, and occupational activities. Before adequate training can be given in such responsibilities, young people must have reached a certain stage of maturity in outlook and stability in character. It is common experience that this stage has not been reached before the age of 14. Nor is this only in theory. Other countries already have a longer school period. In America, though there is no uniform practice, the average leaving age is over 16 years, while some authorities provide for compulsory education to 18 years.

In England legislation has been enacted to raise the age to 15 years. It was during the 1914-18 war period that the first legislation was passed in England raising the school age to 15 years, but it has not been implemented except in certain isolated places. The Imperial Parliament quite recently has been dealing with a proposal emanating from the President of the Board of Education that the school leaving age should be definitely increased, and that that should apply after the war. On, I think, the 2nd and 6th of this month in "The West Australian" appeared fairly extensive references to this fact. It will be seen, therefore, that whilst Great Britain has not so far been able to implement the raising of the school age to 15 in its entirety, it does propose when the war is finished definitely to raise the school leaving age to 15. In South Africa the age varies in the different States from 15 to 16, while in Australia itself New South Wales has already raised it to 15. Tasmania and South Australia have passed the necessary amendments to their Acts and other States have

expressed their intention to follow suit. Western Australia cannot afford to lag behind.

In view of the increased moral, social and industrial benefits to be gained by more and better education, we cannot afford to deny our rising generation the benefits of a longer school period. Under the present system the 14-year old lad is just at the age when he is gaining the greatest benefits from his education. It is a critical age and research has shown that the years 14 and 15 are most productive of delinquency. The lad, when he needs most the stabilising influence of the school, is unfortunately released, in the majority of cases, at 14 and thereby risks becoming the victim of the demoralising effects of idleness or dead-end employment. Parents, who can well afford it, keep their children at school well beyond the limit this Bill seeks to secure. Others, with difficulty, maintain their children up to 15 and even to 17 years, well knowing that they are securing for them an education which will stand them in good stead; but though this voluntary extension of the school life is commendable, and has been on the increase in recent years, a large proportion of our young folk is still denied a full education.

By this legislation the Government wishes to increase the minimum school leaving age, and while increasing the educational facilities it hopes to encourage an ever-increasing number of parents to take further advantage of them by allowing their children to remain at school even longer than the age set. From a social and civil point of view the young generation must be well trained. Theirs will be the responsibility of solving our unsolved problems, and it is our responsibility to see that they are prepared for the task. This State has started on a policy of industrial development. Both primary and secondary industries depend upon the efficiency of those engaged in them, and the chief instrument whereby this efficiency can be obtained is education.

The Government aims to improve the general standard of education. It is in the period of adolescence that choice of vocation and training therein becomes increasingly important. The extra year will not only prove to be a benefit as preparatory to such vocational training as will follow, but also by modifications of curricula will provide an opportunity for a youth to reveal and develop his abilities so that the choice

of his vocation will be less haphazard and more in accordance with his own preference and individual ability. To this end ways and means are now being developed by the Schools Careers Officer, in conjunction with the Department of Labour and National Service, so that boys leaving school at the end of each year will be tested both for scholastic attainment and for aptitude so that they can be better placed in industry and advised in matters of further self-improvement.

The Government proposes, on the passing of this Bill, to raise the school leaving age by proclamation. The Education Department has to prepare for an increase of between 5,000 and 6,000 post primary students and this will require, besides an increased number of teachers, an extensive building programme. It also entails a revision and adjustment of curriculum. The extra year must provide an enlarged curriculum with some necessary link with industry. It must not imply mere repetition. In these days of manpower the labour market also must be considered, but despite the circumstances of these unusual times the Government hopes that this long needed reform will be implemented at the earliest possible moment. The raising of the school leaving age will give the opportunity for a better preparation in general knowledge and training and the foundation, vocational or cultural, of further education which must be reflected in the many-sided life of the community.

The clauses in the Bill dealing with kindergartens arise out of the desire of the Government to exercise control over the formation of kindergarten schools. Although kindergartens cater for children below six years of age, the minimum age of compulsory education, the Government seeks power by this Bill to control by a permit system the opening of such schools so as to ensure that only proper persons, both from the point of view of character and of qualifications, are permitted to conduct such schools and that the buildings and ground facilities are appropriate and adequate.

"Kindergarten" is defined in the Bill as a school for young children, conducted on the theory that education should be begun by gratifying and cultivating the normal aptitude for exercise, play, observation, imitation and construction, and includes every institution conducted for the caring, training, teaching or acting as guardians of more

than twelve children under the age of six years. There is in the Bill no attempt to interfere with the fine work of the Free Kindergarten Union which already receives the support of the Government. It may with confidence be said that the proposals have the support of free kindergarteners, who are so vitally concerned with the welfare of the pre-school child and the standard of kindergarten education. It is in the establishment of small fee-paying kindergartens that the departmental supervision is needed. It is essential that the pre-school child should have the best conditions in which to develop socially, mentally and physically, and that their welfare should not be subordinate to the profit motive.

To be worthy of the name of kindergarten, and to approximate to the high standard set by the free kindergartens, the physical condition of adequate lighting and ventilation, of playground space and equipment, of sanitary conveniences, etc., must be up to standard, and, of even greater importance, the person seeking permission to establish such schools should possess personal qualifications consistent with the importance, which is being more and more stressed in these days, of the proper development of the pre-school child. The only other proposals in the Bill are designed for the purpose of giving the Education Department greater powers to police the sections dealing with compulsory attendance. While the department is proud of its high percentage of attendance over enrolment, it is necessary to prevent parents who, through ignorance and/or indifference, neglect the welfare of their children. Naturally such parents are a very small percentage, but in the interests of child welfare such powers as those indicated in the Bill are desirable. Children who, through parental indifference or through lack of control, attend irregularly, frequently become accustomed to anti-social behaviour and are potential delinquents.

It frequently happens that children do not attend school when they reach the age of six years, and the plea is made by the parent, when detected, that the children are receiving home tuition. The purpose of a clause in the Bill is to make it mandatory on the parent to inform the department when a child is not being sent to school because of home tuition. By this, home tuition is not denied, but the department wishes to be in-

formed so that a check can be made on such tuition. There is a proposal which seeks to give officers of the compulsory branch of the department power to enter all places of amusement and question children employed on the stage, in the buildings or about the grounds of places of entertainment. There are numerous cases of children under 14 years being employed in such places during school hours, and without this power detection is difficult.

By the regulations gazetted under the Act, arrangements can be made for the temporary suspension of children because of some defect injurious to the health, welfare and morality of the other children. There is no provision to force the parent to take action to remove the condition or defect which may be harmful to the child, so bringing about the termination of the temporary suspension. Let me mention a case. In one family three children have missed practically the whole year through the parent's neglect to submit the children to proper treatment. One child has missed 228, another 143 and a third 151 out of 290 half-days. The father is in the Army, the mother works in Perth, and as a result the children suffer neglect and loss of schooling. In other cases parents fail to follow the advice of school medical officers to consult their doctor regarding defects noted. The defective condition thus becomes worse, sometimes rendering cure impossible and seriously interfering with the child's education. There is no provision to require the parent to take action to remedy such conditions, but the Bill will rectify that.

Hon. H. Tuckey: It seems a pity that a mother should be taken away from three young children.

The CHIEF SECRETARY: That is a matter for the Child Welfare Department. In recent times considerable attention has been given by all sections of the community to the matter of education. This session I told the House that our system of education would compare favourably with the systems of other States. I do not propose at this juncture to enter into details along those lines, but I suggest that, in view of the very complicated lives we now live, there is a real necessity to ensure that the children of this generation and those who follow shall be better equipped for the problems they will have to meet than the children of the past have been.

While this Bill provides for increasing the school leaving age to 15 years, I consider the time is not far distant when, in common with other States and countries, we shall have to increase it still further. However, this change cannot be made haphazardly; it cannot be brought about until such time as adequate preparation has been made, firstly, for the accommodation of the children and, secondly, for the provision of a larger number of teachers capable of giving the requisite tuition at the later age. There are several problems associated with this proposal. The department has already made certain arrangements which we hope will enable the proposal to be put into effect in the near future. In saying this, I do not mean in the present year; I mean as early as possible. I feel sure members will agree when I suggest that this is one of the things to which the Government should give priority. Many calls are being made upon the Government, and it is most difficult to obtain the required manpower and materials to erect public buildings, but it is our intention to ensure as far as we can that the needed manpower and materials shall be made available for our building programme in order that this proposal may be carried into effect.

As soon as it is in a position to deal with the matter in a practical way, the Government will proclaim the measure. I think the sooner that is done, the better it will be. I have long taken a great interest in the question of raising the school leaving age and the sort of education we should be prepared to give the boys and girls who are compulsorily kept at school for another year. I told the House recently that we have been devoting a lot more attention to the technical side of education respecting which we have agreed to a further extension. All these things are intended to key in with this proposal, and while extensions are being made in the field of technical education, they cannot be completed until we raise the school leaving age to 15, and this in turn cannot be done until we have the requisite accommodation and teachers. I feel sure that the Bill will meet with the approval of members, though they may not agree with every provision in it. I hope that the main amendment dealing with the school leaving age will be approved and that we shall be able to introduce this reform in the not distant future. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

On motion by Hon. Sir Hal Colebatch, debate adjourned.

## BILL—LOTTERIES (CONTROL) ACT AMENDMENT.

### *Second Reading.*

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY** [5.23] in moving the second reading said: This is another continuance Bill. Because of the early introduction of this Bill, which proposes merely to prolong the life of the principal Act for another year, it is possible to furnish details of the Commission's activities covering a period of approximately 10 months only, instead of a full year as has been the practice. Public support of the Commission's policy, introduced early last year, of conducting smaller consultations during the war period was maintained throughout the year, during which 45 consultations—Nos. 126a-169a, inclusive—were finalised. Let me give some details of the results that have been achieved. Subscriptions totalled £281,191 2s. 6d., prize money £144,900, representing 51.6 per cent., and expenses, which include 10 per cent. commission to agents, £41,446 18s. 8d., representing 14.7 per cent.

A satisfactory feature of the year's operations is that the average proportion of subscriptions absorbed in expenses, excluding agents' commission, was only 4.7 per cent. The profit for the year amounted to £94,844 3s. 10d., which, together with a balance from 1942 of £31,593 17s. 10d., bank interest, unclaimed prizes and unexpended grants totalling £2,442 18s. 11d., brought the amount available for distribution to £128,881 0s. 7d. Of this sum donations absorbed £97,152 4s. 3d., and commitments at the close of the year amounted to £10,653 12s., leaving an undistributed balance of £21,075 4s. 4d.

During the year hospitals were assisted to the extent of £76,468 9s. 10d., which includes the sum of £72,000 set aside to meet interest and sinking fund on the loan moneys used to finance the erection of the new Perth Hospital. This amount, together with previous appropriations, brings the total amount placed to the credit of the Perth Hospital Trust Account at the Treasury to £158,000. As this sum was considerably in excess of the amount required to meet interest and sinking fund commitments on the capital liability, it was decided during the year to

apply £100,000 in reduction of the sum already advanced by the Government in order that the fullest possible use might be made of the money set aside for this purpose.

In order that the requirements of the country shall not be neglected, it was recently resolved to establish a fund which the Commission proposes to apply to the purpose of financing its post-war obligations in connection with country hospital development, which has been deferred owing to war conditions. The hospital social service which was established by the help of the Commission, received £1,712 this year.

The following orphanages received allocations amounting to £5,774 4s. 5d.:—Anglican Girls', Swan Boys', Castledare, Clontarf, Parkerville Home, St. Joseph's, St. Vincent's Foundling Home, R.C. Orphanage, Broome, Nazareth House, Geraldton. Payments to orphanages are calculated upon the basis of 3s. per child per week. Other substantial grants during the year included the following:—

	£
W.A. Institute and Industrial School for the Blind of W.A. . . . .	2,450
Returned Soldiers' League . . . .	2,000
St. John Ambulance Association . .	1,800
Silver Chain Nursing Association . .	1,710
Infant Health Association . . . .	550
Christmas Cheer for Hospitals, etc.	1,026
Kindergarten Union . . . . .	705

Those are the main items. I have a list of the donations granted to the various hospitals during the year and a list showing the amounts granted to each of the orphanages on the basis referred to, and also a full list of the donations which have been granted to institutions and organisations, other than hospitals and orphanages, from the 12th October, 1942, to the 16th August, 1943. Should any member desire to peruse these lists, he is at liberty to do so. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

On motion by Hon. J. G. Hislop, debate adjourned.

*House adjourned at 5.32 p.m.*