

Legislative Assembly

Friday, 9 December 1994

THE SPEAKER (Mr Clarko) took the Chair at 10.00 am, and read prayers.

APPROPRIATION (CONSOLIDATED FUND) BILL (No 1)

Council's Message

Message from the Council received and read notifying that it had resolved to note message No 88 from the Legislative Assembly regarding the Appropriation (Consolidated Fund) Bill (No 1).

LAND, PARKS AND RESERVES AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

MR LEWIS (Applecross - Minister for Planning) [10.02 am]: I move -

That the Bill be now read a second time.

In May 1993, the Government approved the policy and drafting of a proposed land administration Act. Due to other priority drafting, this proposed Act has not yet been completed. I know the Opposition is supportive of the need for the modernisation of the existing Land Act and I anticipate that the proposed land administration Act will be drafted and ready to be introduced into Parliament next year. In the interim a number of issues have been identified by the Department of Land Administration to support government policy. These issues form the basis of the Bill before the House. Recent government initiatives to give more direct responsibility to Aboriginal communities in relation to land matters by way of grants of perpetual leases will be processed in the Pilbara region in the near future. Section 9 of the Land Act has been amended to clarify this policy and enable this process to take place. Under these amendments Aboriginal communities will be able to directly lease land in perpetuity. In addition, it was seen to be appropriate that the paternalistic views in section 9 relating to selectors and limiting land areas be removed at this time.

The Bill also seeks to simplify the procedures for the removal of unauthorised structures erected on Crown land. The current procedures are lengthy and costly as a court order can be required. The legislation used for the removal of unauthorised structures at Port Kennedy under a ministerial order, as developed by the previous Government, is seen as a good model. Relevant sections of the Port Kennedy Development Agreement Act have been incorporated in the Bill.

Finally, the Bill also addresses certain amendments to the Parks and Reserves Act that will later be included in the proposed land administration Act. The Parks and Reserves Act provides for the appointment of boards to administer and manage certain important community lands and gives power and duties to boards. I am pleased to confirm that the Bill implements a recommendation by the Public Accounts and Expenditure Review Committee that the quorum of boards be increased from one-third to one-half. It has also been noted that the boards have certain powers as a body corporate. However, boards do not expressly have power to lease reserves. The Bill seeks to clarify the boards' power to lease reserves and, to remove any areas of doubt, validates any leases already granted. I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr Leahy.

APPROPRIATION (CONSOLIDATED FUND) BILL (No 2)

Second Reading

Resumed from 7 December.

DR EDWARDS (Maylands) [10.05 am]: I will use this opportunity to talk about some issues of concern to me. I commence by making a confession. Exactly one week ago, at

this time, the Minister for the Environment and I were sipping champagne; and I must say I would rather be doing that now than doing this. I make that confession given that not many members are present. I would not normally drink champagne at 10.00 am, but the Minister for the Environment proposed a toast, and I thought, "Well, with such excellent leadership, I shall have a glass!"

The SPEAKER: Be wary!

Dr EDWARDS: We were at that stage celebrating something that is extremely important to this State, and I will now talk about that in a serious vein. We were celebrating the fact that BankWest was contributing a large sum of money to further the studies of the Swan River, in particular to look at the nutrients being discharged into the Swan River, in order to try to tackle that serious problem. However, we, and the Government in particular, are not doing enough to protect our rivers and ground water, and we need look only at what developed yesterday to find an example. Last night, a report on Channel 9 news made a serious allegation that the Perth Zoo was dumping about 270 000 kilolitres of waste water each year into a sump that was discharging into local ground water. That is an extremely serious situation and I hope the Minister will clarify it.

Mr Minson: They did get it a tad wrong.

Dr EDWARDS: I look forward to the Minister clarifying that in question time, but we constantly hear allegations of that sort. In fact, we can see from the report in this morning's *The West Australian* about what has gone on underneath the BP refinery in Kwinana, and from the report of the Select Committee on Metropolitan Development and Groundwater Supplies, that many serious situations are affecting our water.

I need to be reassured by the Minister in regard to the situation at Perth Zoo. I have asked the Minister a series of questions about reports that have been commissioned by the zoo throughout the past year. The Minister named four of those reports, although I am informed that a number greater than four have been commissioned. The worrying part is that all four of those reports remain secret and are yet to see the light of day. While we have a Government that is not prepared to release information about sensitive water issues, particularly on a day when it will be extremely hot, we have an extremely serious situation for this State.

I move now to the Gngangara water mound, which is also a serious situation.

Mr Minson: You people were going to build a highway right across the top of it.

Dr EDWARDS: Members opposite cannot continue to use the time honoured excuse that what we did a few years ago was wrong and they are simply following on with that.

Mr Minson: We were going to put it around the edge of the mound and you people were going to put it across the mound.

Dr EDWARDS: My parents did things during my upbringing that I do not think are right, so I will ensure that I do not repeat those mistakes with my children, but it is not good enough to keep harking back to what was done in the past and say that because we did wrong, the Government can do wrong. Two wrongs do not make a right; they never have and they never will.

A question was asked in the other Chamber a few days ago about the Department of Conservation and Land Management's plan to trial the use of pesticides and herbicides in the Gngangara pine plantation and over the Gngangara water mound. The answer was pretty horrifying. It stated that it was proposed to use at least six chemicals over the water mound. One of those chemicals was chlorotriazine which is one of the triazine group of chemicals. Another of the chemicals was amatrol. There have already been problems with that chemical getting into other catchments in this State, and particularly, the catchment of the Blackwood River. What is fascinating, though, is that these chemicals are being assessed currently by the Environmental Protection Authority in the United States of America to find out exactly what is their potential for causing harm. Some of these chemicals are residual which means that they hang around. It is also suspected that some of them have epidemiological effects, which means they can affect

humans. There is enough concern in the USA for the authorities there to have the EPA do a major study on these chemicals. However, here we are moving ahead to use them. I do not think that is proper. Certainly, in light of the select committee's report it is definitely not proper. In fact, the select committee pointed out that when a number of chemicals are used together, they interact. It cannot always be predicted what those interactions will be and interactions can affect the bacteria that live in the area. Therefore, further problems are caused. We do not have enough information about what is planned and about the likely effects of allowing this to go ahead over a very sensitive area. I urge the Minister to take up this issue. I do not have it wrong; I can read a response to a question in the upper House. I am very concerned and I urge him to obtain the details from the USA Environmental Protection Authority to find out what its concerns are and make sure that in Western Australia we are doing everything possible to protect our water resources.

I will now move to another very significant water resource in this State, the area around the Jandakot mound, and the environmental protection policy for that area. A draft EPP has been formed over a long time with a lot of input. Unfortunately, in June of this year, the Minister sent that EPP back to the EPA for the reasons set out in the *Government Gazette* of June. The reasons had nothing to do with the environment. They were about urban expansion and development. This is another example of this Minister for the Environment being more concerned about planning and other issues than about the environment. I hope that the EPA reconsiders this, particularly in the context of the select committee report recently presented to this Parliament, and that it sticks to the EPP so that we have a very strong environmental protection policy over the Jandakot mound. We must protect these areas in the short term and the medium term and, given the likelihood of climatic change, it is important that we protect them in long term.

Another of our waterways being threatened by a proposed development is the Moore River. It is located north of Perth near the town of Guilderton. Unfortunately, there is a proposal for a very large development over a couple of hundred hectares of land. This proposal has not been formally assessed by the EPA. The Minister has made conflicting statements in some of the letters he has written to people about the level of assessment done of this proposal. He said the decisions made on levels of assessment should include the likely environmental impact associated with the development, rather than the size of the development. We could have a debate about that. However, for the moment I will accept that statement. He then goes on in the letter to point out how environmentally sensitive that area is. He quotes the Department of Conservation and Land Management, which describes the area as having high conservation value for three reasons: The vegetation on the south side of the Moore River is in good condition; rare and very unusual vegetation types are present; and, there are rare species of flora. He also says that some of the native vegetation is in pristine condition.

Moore River is unusual. It is what one would call almost a wild river. The river flows into the ocean, and around Perth we do not have any rivers left like that; there has been extensive development around them. It would be a pity if this region were developed, particularly if a proper environmental assessment has not been done. One gets more confused as one reads this letter because the Minister then describes in detail exactly what vegetation is there and how rare it is. He even talks about the threat posed by the proposed development. However, he says that he will not do a formal assessment. This is part of a pattern. Environmental conditions in this State are being weakened, which creates the potential for an environmental disaster.

Mr Lewis: That is the very reason we want the assessment in the town planning scheme amendment. A town planning scheme amendment or rezoning does not have to be assessed. In fact, there is very strong legal argument to suggest that, in a statutory sense, it is embargoed from being assessed.

Dr EDWARDS: We have had these arguments before and we will have them again when the Minister introduces his planning changes and also when the Minister for the Environment introduces changes following the Ramsay review of the Environmental Protection Act. Although there is some ground for agreeing with the Minister, there are

many examples of the Minister not applying stringent environmental conditions. That is of grave concern. The Minister is doing nothing about assessing the threat to the areas that I have referred to this morning. If CALM goes ahead with the pesticide trials over the Gnangara water mound, we will be a laughing stock. We are inviting contamination and pollution of the water mound. If we have any concern at all for the future, for the environment and for our water resources, this Government must look in more detail at the select committee report just presented to this House and it must take heed of some of the warnings that have been given to it.

MRS HALLAHAN (Armadale) [10.19 am]: I take this opportunity on the last day of the sitting to indicate just how badly public transport and transport matters generally are being handled by this Government. Some people want us to demonise the Minister for Transport and say that he is responsible for all the problems. However, it is very clear that, in large measure, he is adhering to the Government's questionable policy on public transport. The public bus system in this State has been a model for other States. Today I pay tribute to all those people who, over the years, have worked to raise the standard of that service so that it serves Western Australians as well as any public transport system could, given our geographic spread and our small population compared with other cities. Of necessity, because of distances between centres, our tendency historically is to rely more heavily on private motor vehicles. In the face of all those things, we have developed in Western Australia a very good public transport system. As I said, today I pay tribute to all those people who worked so effectively and with such vision to bring that about. I refer particularly to Labor Ministers over the 10 years between 1983 and 1993 and to the people who worked with them to make it happen. We have been given assurances by the Government that, in the tendering out of the bus routes, there will be, unlike other cities, an integration of the various privately run services and a maintenance of standards. However, from my discussions with people from other States in the last two weeks, it appears highly unlikely that that can be achieved by this Government, and, despite the efforts of experienced people like Stuart Hicks and Tony Middleton, who I am sure have a genuine commitment to Western Australia being well served by its public transport system, I do not think any objective observer believes that once these tenders go out to the private sector, many will not go to the mates of Ministers opposite. Will this Government withstand pressures from those mates to water down safety standards of passenger services and ultimately destroy what is, as I have said, a model looked up to by many other parts of Australia? That will be a very sad day. The Bill which will enable this to happen passed through this House in the last few weeks.

The rail system is a great tribute to the Labor Government of that decade. I have not met anybody who does not agree with that statement. However, the electrified rail system apparently is to be put out to tender within four years. If it is, we will see a reduction in the presently maintained standards.

To turn to the question of safety for one moment, parliamentarians from New South Wales have been visiting Western Australia this week. They are on a transport policy committee associated with their parliamentary duties. They were telling us horrific stories of deaths of children as a result of faulty maintenance on the door closing mechanisms of buses. In one instance, which I am sure members will have read about, a child was dragged along having been caught by closing doors, and her mother tried to rescue her by running along. Mr Speaker, can you imagine the grief and distress of that parent with that child dying as a result of a faulty door closing mechanism on a bus? I am afraid this Government does not have the commitment to ensure that that will not happen here, because in all the debate that went on in this House on the public transport system, it failed to recognise the great dangers that can result if high standards are not maintained. Expressions of concern were not responded to in a serious way or in a manner which indicated understanding by the Minister handling the Bill. The position is worrying.

We also have this worrying question of security on the electrified rail system. I am not saying this serious situation has arisen entirely over the past two years, but it has increased markedly and is a real safety factor for travelling passengers. On the Armadale

line the incidence of violence, intimidation and harassment is higher than on the Midland or Fremantle lines. I am very familiar with this subject because my electorate office is frequently contacted by people giving accounts of very disturbing incidents and most unpleasant experiences. In response the Government has said, "We will do away with passenger service attendants. We will wipe them out. We will replace them with security officers." There has been an extraordinary lack of detail about what is proposed. I would like to know whether the security officers will move in pairs, as they currently do. If they do we will see an effective reduction in their presence on trains and railway stations, which will be counterproductive to what needs to be achieved. There must be a greater presence of railway personnel on trains at all times of the day and night, and on railway stations as well. From early evening to the last train, passenger service attendants are on each service. They should be on every train, probably from about 10.00 am or 11.00 am, and certainly during those hours where youngsters - seemingly the cause of much of the antisocial behaviour - are travelling on the railways.

From what the Minister has said it seems that he is responding to and may be under pressure from the Premier or other colleagues to do something about this question of security on trains. It is not being done as a result of consultation. There was certainly a meeting with a group called the Community Rights Action Group, which is based primarily in Armadale. That is a group of parents very understandably distressed at the experience their children had at Cannington railway station, and they have gathered around them other citizens who have had bad experiences on the line. They have been extraordinarily effective in making government Ministers take note of their concerns. They have met with the Attorney General and the Minister for Transport. That is a measure of great achievement for that very small, newly formed community group. I am regaled weekly by people from community and business organisations of varying sizes, levels and status who cannot for love nor money see a Minister. Many seem to want to approach the Government and put their points of view at first-hand to feel that they have had at least an initial response. The people who have come together to form CRAG have been enormously effective. As a result of their lobbying and from the genuine nature of the case they are putting, their personal experiences and the experiences they related of their daughters, the Government and its Minister for Transport said, "We will increase security on the rail system. However, at the same time, we will slash the passenger service attendants." We have all seen the remarkable letter on that issue written by the Leader of the House, the member for Cottesloe, to the Minister for Transport.

The Minister for Transport did not take into account or give any thought to the fact that many elderly people do not have confidence in the newer trains, railway stations, ticketing machines and all those things which form formidable barriers to people who are feeling more vulnerable, less confident and less robust. I take my hat off to the officers of Westrail, some of whom have been going to senior and autumn centres and explaining the new rail system and how ticketing machines work. One does not have an interface with a human being when one buys a ticket. It depends very much on the station at which one purchases a ticket. They explain that the doors are safe and that most railway stations are accessible, although there are notable exceptions. They generally break down the barriers that arise for our elderly citizens with the new railway. They have also been active in liaising with groups interested in providing services to people with disabilities. Despite all of that and the fact that Westrail officers were meeting people, because of the problem of their perception of being able to access this wonderful rail system, the Minister announced that he would slash the whole passenger service assistance staffing and that it would be replaced by additional security. We totally support the notion of more security staff.

Mr Bradshaw: You were going to get rid of the guards on the trains.

Mrs HALLAHAN: Guards are not needed. I am talking about a modern rail system. Guards were never a security issue. They were travelling at the rear of the train and gave the driver the all clear to proceed. They had nothing to do with security. One expects a hayseed from Harvey to make such a stupid interjection. It shows how out of touch he is.

Mr Bradshaw: How out of touch were you when you got rid of the guards?

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mrs HALLAHAN: The Opposition says to the Government that there is a great need for additional security and that, in providing it, the Government will have our support. If it does not do it, we will harangue the Government to do something about it. After that predictably unhelpful interjection from the government benches, I will continue with this question of passenger service attendants and the role they play.

It seems that according to the Minister, the role of the security officers will be to provide these passenger services. I do not necessarily rule that out, but in practice no-one believes that can work. Will the security officers move in pairs? Will they help a person in a wheelchair to board a train and focus on that level of assistance, or will they discourage and deal with antisocial behaviour? If a group of young, energetic people got into a nasty brawl at one end of the platform at the same time as a train pulled in and an elderly woman needed assistance to get on the train, which situation would take priority? It is difficult to ask security officers to focus on two very different circumstances, where they will need to make a choice. The problem is the notion held by the Minister that the officers will do both; he suggests that will eliminate any scrutiny or questioning. However, he has provided no information to indicate how this will work or what the operating instructions will be for those officers. Perhaps the instructions have not yet been developed. If that is the case, why does the Minister not say so? Why does he not say that the instruction manual is being developed, and that he will consult with the groups who provide services for the disabled and elderly citizens? That is not the way of this Government. It does not consult at all.

Later today we will debate a Bill about student guilds and life on university campuses in Western Australia. That is a classic example of the Government's no consultation policy: We will debate that Bill despite people having received assurances from the Minister for Education that he would consult before the introduction of the legislation. That is a different Minister, but it creates a picture that supports my premise that the Government does not support people in any real way, except the material supporters of the Liberal Party and the Government's mates who will gain from that relationship. We debated the Government's lack of consultation yesterday in relation to the tender processes and the questionable practices of the Minister for Labour Relations. Each and every Minister is found wanting in matters of accountability and responsiveness to the community.

Mr Kierath: You are making this up.

Mrs HALLAHAN: Ministers do not have any reasonable management practices. I apply that to the House also. I understand the Government very nearly did not have a quorum of its members to conduct the business of the House today.

Mr Kierath: The Opposition had only two members.

Mrs HALLAHAN: It is not the responsibility of the Opposition to provide a quorum. That is the Government's responsibility. The Minister does not like this. The Government was almost caught out because government members are not serious about the business of Western Australia and its citizens. The Government takes people for granted and it does not take its role seriously. The Government is arrogant and does not carry out its duties in the manner in which it should.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order! The members on my right should come to order.

Mrs HALLAHAN: I return to transport issues for a moment.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order! The Minister. Order! The members on my right should come to order.

Mrs HALLAHAN: I have had responsibility for this portfolio area for only a few weeks -

Mr Lewis: That is no excuse.

Mrs HALLAHAN: It is not an excuse. The member for Applecross is a dill-berry.

The SPEAKER: Order! I suspect that when a person with the nature of the member for Armadale makes an odd comment such as that, it is probably due to the extremely late sittings. However, it would be better if those expressions were not used.

Mrs HALLAHAN: That advice is very good, Mr Speaker. I make it clear that it is not an excuse, it is a fact that I have been responsible for this portfolio area for about only four weeks. I find it extremely interesting.

Mr Kierath: That is the problem with a leadership change.

The SPEAKER: Order! The Minister.

Mrs HALLAHAN: Not at all. The Minister does not like the change in our leadership because the Opposition is attacking the Government in a way never seen before.

Mr Kierath: We are very happy about the change in leadership because we are showing him up for what he really is.

The SPEAKER: Order! It will be necessary for me to formally call to order the Minister for Labour Relations if he continues to interject.

Mrs HALLAHAN: The Minister has no manners - that is his problem. During the past month, I have been confronted with issue after issue which indicate that this Government is acting in a way that will destroy safety on public transport and on our roads.

I turn now to road trains. Other States do not allow road trains or any other heavy traffic to enter metropolitan areas, although some allow B-doubles. I am a member of the Select Committee on Heavy Transport, which will have an opportunity to examine these issues closely. The initial response from other States is that they do not allow that type of heavy vehicle on their roads. What is wrong with the Government of Western Australia? How can it be so wrong-headed in its thinking? Why does it want to place at risk the safety of its citizens by allowing such heavy vehicles on our roads? These roads were not constructed to take such heavy vehicles, from the point of view of the width and the terrain through which the roads pass. Many issues are involved in the use of road trains - putting aside the question of whether liquid sodium cyanide should be transported by road. I have received briefings on that subject from the company which made the application. It makes an interesting case. However, that does not deal with the general lack of confidence in this Government's policy making on safety issues on the roads. We will see more of that, unless the Premier can exercise some leadership; unless we see a change of Minister to one who is not so tied to the traditional industry groups who are closely associated with road transport. We might even see a general appreciation by the Government that when communities indicate they are worried about something, they want to be listened to. The communities might not always have the full picture, but they have part of the picture and, to that extent, they should be listened to and responded to in a genuine way. They should not be met with arrogance and subterfuge. Those people really believe the Government set up the select committee in a genuine attempt to deal with their concerns. The people believed that the Government would not proceed with the road train trials until the select committee had reported, and that was a reasonable assumption. Those people are appalled. I am talking about many dyed in the wool Liberal Party supporters who are absolutely staggered that the Government could mislead them in this way about the road train trials in the south east corridor. The member for Swan Hills wrongly assessed that many people at a public meeting were constituents of mine. She set out to reflect poorly on me, but she succeeded only in reflecting poorly on the member for Roleystone. It is very bad to use public concerns about safety in a political way. That backfired because not only did the member for Swan Hills look stupid, but the member for Roleystone looked even more stupid. The public can see through such actions. It was an amazing saga to watch, and it was all because the Government did not respond in a genuine way to genuine concerns. The member for Roleystone - poor love - will agree with me.

The SPEAKER: Order! I do not know about those offensive remarks!

Mrs HALLAHAN: The member for Roleystone stuck it out. He is trying to respond to those constituents, while the crazy Government is dictating what he can and cannot do on their behalf. The member has given up trying to represent all those concerns because no-one in the Cabinet listens to backbench concerns - even when the constituents say that they are active supporters of and are very committed to the Liberal Party. People have a genuine case and they want to be heard.

Mr Wiese: We bend over backwards, and we do listen.

Mrs HALLAHAN: That is an extraordinary thing for a National Party Minister to say. National Party members usually say that those people live in the metropolitan area and they do not care about them. They give priority to their mates who bring in loads from the country. The Minister should ask the member for Helena what she thinks. Let us see how effective she will be in getting a response from the Government to requests to cut down on the hazards on our roads. We have heard nothing that suggests -

Mrs van de Klashorst interjected.

Mrs HALLAHAN: The member for Helena will be as ineffective as anyone else who tries to get the Ministers to respond to genuine concerns.

Mr Tubby: Do you know that there is a curfew on movements in and out of schools for two hours every morning and every afternoon?

That was an interesting saga. We had a public meeting with a couple of hundred people -

Mr Tubby: One hundred and seventy three.

Mrs HALLAHAN: I thank the Parliamentary Secretary. One of the members of the Liberal Party said, thinking I suspect that she was reflecting on me, "I negotiated with the Minister to have curfews so road trains cannot rumble past the schools in my electorate. Why didn't your local member do that for you?" Who was the local member to whom she was referring? It was the member for Roleystone, not the member for Armadale. That cheap shot at trying to embarrass me fell flat on its face, but apparently it has galvanised the member for Roleystone into doing something for his constituent schools. I have written to the Minister, but I have had no response. That demonstrates my point again; I have had no response to say that the Minister has taken some action on this matter. People have come to me and I have made representations on their behalf, but there has been no response.

I could give the House incident after incident of very arrogant behaviour by Ministers and no commitment to the community that they represent. That is manifest in a serious way with the public transport system. I believe there will be a diminution of safety standards and maintenance. I never like to be melodramatic because I do not believe it is a responsible way to behave in politics, but I refer to the death of that child in New South Wales. Because of lack of maintenance, the door closing mechanism on a bus did not operate properly and part of the child's body was caught in the door. That child was dragged along the road with the mother running alongside the bus screaming for it to stop. The driver could not hear what was happening. The mother tried to rescue her youngster, but the child died. I do not want to see in five years time that we have to review incidents like that, which occur as a result of this Government's policies.

MR RIPPER (Belmont) [10.50 am]: I want to deal with the way in which the Premier responds to the accountability demands of this House. We all know we have a Premier who likes general and broad statements but has trouble mastering the detail of subjects on which he is required to speak. The Premier often responds on the basis that he will get back to a member and provide information or that he will table the information at a later date. It is time this House pulled up the Premier on those sorts of statements because all too often the Premier does not honour the vague and glib promises he makes to the House from time to time.

I have found very often the Premier's assurances on these matters are not worth the paper they are not written on! I will give an example. Last week we debated the Financial Agreement Bill, which contained a clause which I thought was of reasonable interest to

this Chamber. It permanently appropriated moneys necessary to fund the State Government's participation in the financial agreement between the State and the Commonwealth.

In Committee I asked what I thought was a reasonable question - how much was the appropriation per annum. Remarkably the Premier and Treasurer of this State, handling a Bill with a clause providing for a permanent appropriation from the consolidated fund, could not say how much the appropriation was. The Chamber was forced to make a decision on that clause and on the Bill without that fundamental piece of information. Even more astonishingly, the adviser working with the Premier also could not provide that information. I thought that with a permanent appropriation the Premier and Treasurer should be able to advise the Chamber precisely how much it was. It may not have been a large sum; it may have been a small amount; but the House is entitled to the information.

The Premier said to me he would get a letter to me with that information. I have checked all the material that has come through to me in this place, and with my electorate office. More than a week has gone by and there is no letter. That is typical of the way in which the Premier responds to justified demands for information by members of this Chamber.

I will refer to some other examples. Recently the Opposition has been discussing in public the problem of the immense amount of taxpayer funded polling which this Government has been conducting. We believe it has been conducted for political rather than public purposes. It is of much more advantage to the Liberal Party politically than to the citizens of this State in terms of government responsiveness to their demands and attitudes.

The Opposition put questions to the Premier about this poll information. It asked whether the poll information paid for by the citizens of this State would be made publicly available to those citizens and their members of Parliament. It took a lot of questions before that information was made available. It is instructive to examine the history of this issue because it throws light on the way in which the Premier handles justified requests for information.

The issue was first raised by the Opposition in the Estimates Committee hearings on 23 August 1994 when the Premier was asked to table the information in Parliament. His answer was yes, he would. But the information was not tabled; it was not provided. Again, on 14 September, the Opposition asked the Premier for the information and he said, "I said we would provide all the information." The information was not provided. The Opposition raised the issue again, and again the Premier gave that glib assurance in a letter dated 22 September. He said the Government had nothing to hide and the results of the surveys would be made available at the appropriate time. The appropriate time apparently, from the Premier's point of view, was not immediately, although we later discovered the polling had already been conducted and the information was in the hands of the Government.

Once again the Opposition raised the issue in the House, on 15 November. The Premier's response was, "I will find out whether it has been received and, if so, it will be tabled by the end of the week." It was not tabled by the end of the week, despite a later comment from a spokesperson for the Premier which was reported in *The West Australian*. The report said a spokesman for Mr Court said the information would be tabled in parliament that week.

The information was not provided to the Parliament as the Premier had repeatedly assured it would be. It was provided much later than he had indicated, firstly to the media on a Sunday. The information was held until the Government thought there was a political advantage for it in releasing the information. Despite all the assurances by the Premier that the information would be provided promptly, it was not. Despite the assurances that the information would be tabled in the Parliament first, it was not. It was released to the media on a Sunday when there was obviously less opportunity for opposition scrutiny and for the matter to be debated in the Parliament before comments had to be made to the media.

That is fairly typical of the Premier's regrettable tendency to give glib assurances to this House when requested to provide detailed information. He fails to honour those assurances. As a result of that sort of behaviour, the Opposition and other members of Parliament will naturally be less inclined to accept his assurances. It certainly is not behaviour which is evidence of a commitment to accountability, nor is it behaviour which is in his long term interests because we will take him to task more vigorously and will be less inclined to accept those assurances in view of the history.

There are other examples of the Premier's lack of integrity, in my view, in the provision of information to the House. I was previously the shadow Minister for Water Resources, and the history of the sewerage levy -

Mr Kierath: Was that before the last reshuffle?

Mr RIPPER: That is right.

Mr Kierath: When are you going to have your next reshuffle?

Mr RIPPER: Certainly after the Government's reshuffle. We might wait to see whether the member is still Minister for Labour Relations -

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr RIPPER: There are divided opinions on whether the member should be the Minister for Labour Relations. On balance the view of the Leader of the Opposition is the correct one; it is a plus for us that he remains in his portfolio.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr RIPPER: We had a remarkable saga from the Government on the question of a sewerage levy. I want to go through some of the comments by the Government and contrast them with the actuality behind the scenes. It shows the Government was not prepared to be open and honest with the Parliament and the community of Western Australia.

Mr Strickland: It shows the backbench has got a say.

Mr RIPPER: Given the performance of the frontbench of this Government, perhaps it is a saving grace that the member for Scarborough thinks he had some influence on events, because I am certain that the contributions of the member for Scarborough, and also of the member for South Perth, far exceed the contributions of various members of the frontbench. It is a great pity the member for Scarborough and the member for South Perth did not make it to the frontbench when this Government was formed because they certainly performed in opposition as shadow spokesmen and they have been poorly treated by the Premier.

I return to the question of the sewerage tax and will quote from various statements made by the Minister for Water Resources and the Premier about that matter. *The West Australian* of 24 January 1994 reports the Minister for Water Resources in the following terms -

The State Government will decide in the next two weeks whether to impose an environmental levy to combat river pollution. . . .

Water Resources Minister Paul Omodei said yesterday he would meet Premier Richard Court and Finance Minister Max Evans this week to work out how to pay for the replacement of old septic tanks and sewerage systems.

Therefore, we had an indication on 24 January that the Government had made no decision about a sewerage levy. That situation was confirmed on 8 March when *The West Australian* reported in the following terms -

The WA Government says it has not decided whether to impose a \$50 levy on WA households to help clean up WA's sewerage backlog problem.

On 15 March, the Minister said on Radio 6WF, "at this stage it is unlikely there will be a sewerage levy". He confirmed that the next day when he said in a media statement, "We are doing everything possible to avoid the need for an environmental levy." I am talking about the Premier's lack of integrity in the provision of information to the House and the Parliament. Here is another example, because the next week, the Premier is reported in *The West Australian* of 21 March as follows -

Earlier, Mr Court said an environmental levy would be considered as a last resort if Federal money was not forthcoming. . . .

Mr Court said Labor had run a scare campaign on the sewerage issue in the Glendalough by-election but no final decision on paying for it had been taken.

Despite all those statements from the Minister and the Premier seeking to persuade the public that the matter was under consideration but no decision had been made, it was later revealed that Cabinet had made an explicit decision on 7 June 1993 to impose a sewerage levy. That decision was revealed in a memo from the Managing Director of the Water Authority to his board, which explicitly refers to that decision made on 7 June. Therefore, those statements from the Minister and the Premier are shown by that memo to be clearly misleading and dishonest. That is not a proper way for a Minister and a Premier to behave. It is not in accordance with their responsibilities as Ministers of the Crown, and it is certainly not in accordance with the recommendations of the royal commission.

What happened subsequently was even more interesting because although the decision on the levy changed, the campaign of deceit and dishonesty and the style with which the decision making was communicated to the public continued.

Mr Kierath: Are you so mean minded that you cannot congratulate us for making a decision that you were incapable of making during your 10 years in government in this State? Even Gough could not do it in the early 1970s.

Several members interjected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Members, we cannot have a situation where we have three people addressing the House. I call on the member for Belmont to address his remarks to the Chair.

Mr RIPPER: I am interested that the Minister for Labour Relations, who will not take an interjection when he is speaking, is almost as difficult to respond to when he is interjecting as he is when he is speaking, because when he makes an interjection, he then does not allow time for the speaker to respond to that interjection. He says it is mean minded to raise this issue. All we should think about is the grand plan. Do not worry that the Government has been dishonest and that the Premier fails to provide proper information to the House and avoids his obligations and his own assurances; that is nothing. What is important is what is done. The Premier has no respect for accountability.

Mr Kierath interjected.

Mr RIPPER: I have taken one interjection from the Minister that was about five minutes long, and that is enough.

Mr Kierath interjected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I formally call to order the Minister for Labour Relations for the first time.

Mr RIPPER: The Government then changed its decision after pressure and scrutiny from the Opposition about the sewerage levy. The Government backed down and decided it would be too difficult to justify a sewerage levy given the massive revenue windfalls which it was then receiving and which it knew would later become public. The decision to abandon the sewerage levy was made, I believe, at the time the Premier filmed his taxpayer funded advertisement promoting the infill sewerage program. The Premier has told the House, by way of answer to a question on notice, that the advertisement was

filmed on 4 and 5 April 1994 at Lake Monger and Perth domestic airport. We all recall the Premier standing by a helicopter in that taxpayer funded expensive commercial, saying there would be no levy. At last the Premier had responded to Opposition pressure. That commercial was filmed on 4 and 5 April, yet the Premier told the House on 7 April that a decision had not been finalised. Therefore, once again the Premier was unable to be straight with this House and the public about a sewerage levy. Firstly, the Government decided to impose a levy; then it told the public, time and again, that no decision had been made. The Government then decided not to have a levy; and again it told this House and the public that no decision had been made. It is not good enough. The Premier has misled this House and the public. It is clear that there was a calculated campaign not to be straight with the public about whether a decision had been made on the sewerage levy. That calculated campaign continued regardless of the two decisions that had been made, and the Premier and the Minister misled the public about both of those decisions. Some of my colleagues will deal with the Premier's integrity and the way in which he deals with issues. What I have said is a good prelude to what we will hear in a moment from the Leader of the Opposition because the Premier has a record on many issues of failing to be accountable to this House and the public, of failing to be straight, and of failing to honour his assurances to provide detailed information.

[Continued on p 9424.]

MOTION - STANDING ORDERS SUSPENSION

Censure Motion, Premier for Misleading the House

MR MCGINTY (Fremantle - Leader of the Opposition) [11.09 am]: I move, without notice -

That so much of the standing orders be suspended as is necessary to enable consideration forthwith of the following motion -

That this House censures the Premier for -

- (1) Misleading the House in giving an untruthful answer to a question on 9 August, where he failed to disclose that Controlled Marketing, a company controlled by former Liberal Party State Director Chilla Porter, was awarded a WA Water Authority contract in connection with the infill sewerage project.
- (2) His most recent lack of accountability in misleading the House and failing, despite repeated requests, to table in this House the lease agreement between the State Government and Barrack Square Pty Ltd for the Old Perth Ports development.
- (3) Failing to meet the principles of propriety and accountability which he promised to the people of WA prior to the state general election in 1993 but has failed to deliver in government.

Mr C.J. Barnett: That is a nice Christian way to go into Christmas!

Mr MCGINTY: By catching out the Premier for misleading the House! It certainly is. The Premier and the Minister for Labour Relations come in here and throw mud, yet they do not like it when someone stands them up and points out their serious failings. They do not like it when they are caught out. They cannot cop it.

This is the last sitting day of the House for 1994. The reason I believe it is appropriate to suspend standing orders to enable this serious motion of censure against the Premier of Western Australia to be debated is that, in the last week, five very significant things have happened. First, full details of the extent of the Premier's deceit of this House have become available. I will give those details to the House now. On 9 August 1994, the Premier was asked a very straightforward question. He was asked what payments had been made to each private sector individual or company involved in the advertising campaign for the infill sewerage program. In the *Hansard* of 9 August 1994 at page 3027 and continuing over to page 3028, the Premier answered that question by identifying approximately 10 companies and the amounts of money against each of them. He started

with Quik Print and then named Data Management Services, Page Plus, and a number of other private sector companies who were awarded contracts by the Water Authority in connection with the infill program. Alarming, what is missing from this answer that the Premier gave to the Parliament - he cannot say that it was not deliberate on his part because it was a question on notice - was a company controlled by Chilla Porter, the former State Director of the Liberal Party.

It was a serious omission by the Premier and I suggest it was a deliberate omission in order to protect the Liberal Party and its mates and their connection with this company. It did not come to light until some time later that Controlled Marketing was awarded a contract by the Water Authority in connection with the infill sewerage program and that the Premier had misled the House with his answer to that question.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Is this new information which you have got in the last 24 hours?

Mr McGINTY: Just wait a minute.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The Speaker said yesterday that there is great difficulty with motions to suspend standing orders and, while a little bit of latitude can be allowed for people to build their case to have that motion passed, it is absolutely necessary that the substantive motion be not debated. Therefore, it is not an easy job to rule on these things and a certain amount of latitude is allowed. However, I remind the Leader of the Opposition and other members who may speak to this motion that they need to stick fairly closely to the motion to suspend standing orders.

Mr McGINTY: I thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker, for that guidance. As I indicated at the outset, because this is the last sitting day, this is the last occasion on which these matters can be addressed in the Parliament. That coupled with information that has been fully revealed this week gives the substantive motion a sense of urgency. Therefore, it is my intention to go through briefly that information to establish why this House should suspend standing orders. I will accept your guidance and remain relevant to that motion.

There then came to light some time later an internal memorandum from the Water Authority dated 17 October 1994. That memorandum was addressed to a number of managers and directors in the Water Authority and related to the response program for the Water Authority to handle the restrictions or, as it was called, the drought response customer information line. In the memorandum the Water Authority clearly said that Controlled Marketing was one of the private sector companies involved in the infill sewerage launch.

This memorandum dated the end of October 1994 indicates that without going to tender, Controlled Marketing was awarded the contract again relating to the water restrictions because it had been involved in the infill sewerage launch. At the bottom of the first page of the memorandum, the manager of communications says that he has arranged to contract a telemarketing firm, Controlled Marketing, because it had successfully handled the infill sewerage launch. There are ongoing references to the involvement of Controlled Marketing, a company controlled by Chilla Porter, the former State Director of the Liberal Party, the very company that the Premier told this House did not get awarded a contract for the infill sewerage launch. He has misled the House. He has not apologised to the House and told it that he got it wrong or that information provided to him was wrong. He has done the opposite. He has skated over it and tried to mislead the House further. That is the second reason for the House to suspend standing orders.

Only yesterday in this House, the Premier was asked very expressly a question on this issue. His response to that question was amazing and absolutely arrogant. It is contemptuous of the Premier when it is alleged that he has deliberately misled the House for him to stand in this House to swat away the charge and hope that it will stay away. When the Premier is asked a question about his misleading the House he has a duty to this House and to the people of Western Australia to tell the truth and to set the record straight. He failed that fundamental duty of accountability yesterday when he was asked a question. Yesterday he was asked a question about the tender processes in the letting of Water Authority contracts to Controlled Marketing and why he had identified 10

companies that were awarded private sector contracts for the infill sewerage program but had deliberately concealed the involvement of Controlled Marketing. What did the Premier reply? It was an absolutely callous and uncaring answer. He said -

I am advised that there was no breach of the tendering process.

He was not asked whether there had been a breach of the tendering process. He has been caught out not telling the truth to the House. When he was confronted with it he tried to answer another question about whether the tender processes were proper. He was expressly asked why he had misled the House in not telling the House in answer to a question in August that Controlled Marketing was awarded a tender. He has been caught out deceiving the House and he has not told the truth to the House. I could understand it if he had apologised to the House and said that it was an oversight and then asked to correct his answer. But no! He arrogantly advised the House that there was no breach of the tendering contract.

Mr Omodei: Are you saying there was a breach of the tender process?

Mr McGINTY: I am saying that the Premier lied to the House. It is in the motion.

Withdrawal of Remark

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The Leader of the Opposition realises that we are debating a motion to suspend standing orders to allow another motion to be debated. The Leader of the Opposition used the word "lied", which impugns the integrity of the Premier and I ask him to withdraw.

Mr McGINTY: I withdraw, Mr Deputy Speaker.

Debate Resumed

Mr McGINTY: In answer to the Minister's question, the Premier gave an untruthful answer to this House. He was asked to name the companies that were awarded contracts. The Premier failed to mention Controlled Marketing. I believe he failed to answer the question because of the firm's connection with the Liberal Party and its former state director. I am not debating whether the Premier has misled the House. The question is whether the Premier has misled this House. The answer that was given to the House yesterday was an attempt by the Premier to cover up and make sure that he was not exposed to further questioning on this issue. He knew that he would not be here today. He knew that that was the last question time for the year at which we could quiz him. He knew that if he swatted it away, he would not be brought to account on this issue. We advised the Government that this motion was coming up today. It did not come up dead cold when I rose to my feet. We advised the Government so that the Premier could answer this very important question on whether he has misled the House, which I believe he has.

On any objective assessment, so far the Premier has been able to get away with this act which is undermining the credibility of this Parliament. He did mislead the House and he did not tell the truth. He has been able to get away relatively unscathed so far. He has been unreprimated and undisciplined. On every occasion a government member, whether it be the Premier, the Deputy Premier or a Minister, does not tell the truth to this House or misleads the House, we should come down on the person and tell him that he must tell the truth and be accountable. In this case, the Premier has been caught out in a most serious misleading of this House. It is more serious because it is not just any company involved; it is a company run by the former State Director of the Liberal Party. That adds to the seriousness of the offence that the Premier has committed. By any objective standard, he has not been brought to account. We must demand the truth and that the Premier answer these questions and set the record straight in regard to his misleading of the House.

The Premier must be brought to account in this House, in the community and in the media for this most serious omission. Parliament will not function properly if Ministers, and particularly the Premier, who is supposed to be setting an example for the rest of his Government - I must say his is a very bad example - can come in here and be loose with

the truth and light with the facts and not behave in an honest and accountable way. The whole system of democracy and representative government which we purport to have here will be undermined if the Premier is allowed to continue with not telling the truth in this Parliament. Those are the first three reasons I put forward for this motion to suspend standing orders today.

The fourth reason is what we have witnessed in this House starting last week and continuing during the course of this week. We have seen the Government up to its arm pits in the mire, throwing mud wherever it can. If the Government is to distract itself from running the business of the State; if it is to divert the resources of the Public Service into a muck raking effort; and if it is to have highly paid people from the Premier's office and various departments to go through with a fine tooth comb every file in former Ministers' offices so that Ministers can come in here with little semantic exercises, I believe it is appropriate that the Premier, who has told the biggest whopper when he told the House that Controlled Marketing was not involved in the infill sewerage contract of the Water Authority, be brought to task for telling a very blatant untruth to this House. We have seen a scurrilous smear campaign highlighted by semantic nitpicking. I am pleased that the electronic media have given it the credit that it deserves and ignored it. They have not bothered to give it any credence whatsoever, because it is nitpicking, muck raking and purely a semantic exercise.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I am standing to indicate that I am listening with great interest to the Leader of the Opposition. With a degree of skill he is occasionally getting back to talking about the motion, which is to suspend standing orders. However, he is really starting to get into the details of the debate. I remind him that we are dealing with a motion and he is supposed to be addressing why we should be suspending standing orders.

Mr McGINTY: I am doing my best. It is relevant to the motion to suspend standing orders to put the matter of the Premier's misbehaviour in the context of the Government's behaviour during last week. For example, the Minister for Labour Relations came into this House with a great exposé which alleged, as part of the Government's smear campaign, that I had misled the House and improperly interfered in the awarding of a contract in the Building Management Authority when I was the Minister.

Mr C.J. Barnett: You said you were not involved when I asked you a question a couple of years ago. Now it emerges you were.

Mr McGINTY: This is not the brewery but the Firestone contract at the Rangeview Remand Centre. He came in here full of excitement and said, "I have a great exposé. The Leader of the Opposition is a terrible person." He then fell flat on his face. He said that I had interfered in the contractual process in the Building Management Authority.

Mr Kierath: Too right you had.

Mr McGINTY: I stood up in the Building Management Authority -

Mr Kierath: I have more to come on you.

Mr McGINTY: As has now been put on the record, I said, "You cannot in all conscience award this to someone who only a few months ago was convicted of a most serious criminal offence on a building site of assaulting a public officer." That was the hypocrisy of the Minister talking about ethical standards. He wants to see contracts awarded to criminals a week after we debated in this place a Bill brought in by the Attorney General designed to double the penalty on people convicted of assaulting public officers in the performance of their duties. The Minister wants to criticise me for saying to the Building Management Authority that I was amazed it would award a contract to a convicted criminal who had assaulted a government officer in the performance of his duty.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Once again I have to rise. I am looking at the motion the Leader of the Opposition is hoping to be able to debate after we have dealt with the motion before the House, which is to suspend standing orders. The motion the Leader of the Opposition wishes to debate is all about censuring the Premier and has little to do with other Ministers and other matters. We have wandered way off the suspension of

standing orders about which we should be talking. I ask the Leader of the Opposition to address the motion.

Mr McGINTY: I will, and I will come back to the Premier, who is the subject matter of this motion. My final word to the Minister for Labour Relations is, let us have a look at 6PR, State Print and those other contracts which are bodgie. He has a hide to make allegations about anybody else.

To move back to the allegations of the Premier, his muck raking allegations about the old Swan Brewery are laughable. With great flourish he accused me of not reading a pencilled or penned note on the bottom of a letter. It was not relevant to the debate at the time. There was no misleading of the House. I did not say that no notation was on the bottom of the letter. It was purely a semantic criticism. The next semantic exercise involved the difference between discussing something with someone and in-depth discussions. The Premier made a great fanfare in trying to throw mud on that. It is laughable. Yesterday we had the allegation that money had been spent on the old Swan Brewery after the contract was entered into, as reported in *The West Australian* this morning. Mr Deputy Speaker, what do you expect the State to do when it is sued? Do you expect it to say that it will not spend any more money on defending its interest against litigants or on legal expenses associated with making sure the State's interests are properly protected? I said that the agreement with Multiplex meant that Multiplex would take over all financial commitments and responsibilities on that site, and without any doubt it has done so. The nature of the criticisms are pathetic and laughable. There is nothing as black and white as the allegation that rests on the head of the Premier today, that he deliberately misled the House. There is no fuzziness around the edges and no semantics about that. Why was Controlled Marketing not mentioned? The Premier wanted to cover it up.

My fifth reason for wanting to suspend standing orders today is that if we compare the level of accountability that this Premier has shown in respect of the old Perth Port development with the level of accountability shown with the old Swan Brewery development, this Premier will be found to be very seriously wanting. He has again misled the House over who entered into the original contract for the old Perth Port proposal. He stood up in this House and said it was the Lawrence Government. That is demonstrably untrue. He has misled the House further on that question in order to try to cover up. We all know the interests the Premier has in this issue. He has refused to release a government lease document. What was the first thing I did in respect of the old Swan Brewery? I brought the lease in and said, "Here it is. You go through it with a fine tooth comb. You tell us what is wrong with it."

Several members interjected.

Mr McGINTY: It was an excellent document, negotiated by commercial negotiators, overseen by the legal firm responsible for it and tabled in this House so that everyone could see it and have the opportunity to know what the lease payments were. They could go through the roughly 100 page lease document. What does this Premier do? He runs for cover. Despite being asked every day to do so, he has blatantly refused to table the lease document and give details of the lease payment to this House.

Commercial confidentiality is a no-no. That cannot be used in the 1990s to hide from this Parliament and the people of Western Australia the details of leases that have been entered into with the Government that they need in order to make sure that the interests of the people of Western Australia are protected. We will pursue the Government even after Parliament rises today.

Mr Tubby: The Premier is not here.

Several members interjected.

Mr McGINTY: He has been given notice. If the Premier had not been at home organising beer, wine and drink for other people -

Several members interjected.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Order! The member for Roleystone has had a difficult week and has a difficult day ahead of him, but I remind him that when I am on my feet he must cease interjecting.

Mr McGINTY: If the Premier responded to his duty to this House he would be here. We are all inconvenienced by being here today to debate important matters affecting the State. Where is he? He is off sipping champagne in Dalkeith. He should be here to answer this very serious motion. He has refused to table the lease document. We have continuously asked him to table it in the interests of accountability. The Premier is not interested in accountability; he is interested in secrecy. He is not interested in telling us about the lease payments that will come to the State for a prime waterfront site in the City of Perth. We and the public have a right to know the answer to these questions. It is easy for the media to write articles about the old Swan Brewery, because I have given them all the information. There was extensive debate and full exposure in this House and the lease document was tabled. It is easy for the media to say, "Here is a little semantic slip-up. Here is a criticism." It is not easy for those in the media to do their jobs when this Government has hidden from them the basic information they need.

MR KOBELKE (Nollamara) [11.33 am]: I second the motion -

Point of Order

Mr DAY: I hate to canvass your ruling, Mr Deputy Speaker, but some of us back here were looking closely and saw that the Leader of the House was up.

Several members interjected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I do not need any other points of order. I have given the call to the member for Nollamara.

Debate Resumed

Mr KOBELKE: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I will try to sketch out in limited detail -

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Order! I remind the member that I have allowed a fair degree of latitude in the debate of this matter. I will want people to address the reasons why standing orders should be suspended.

Mr KOBELKE: I am glad you let me get half way through my first sentence, Mr Deputy Speaker. I was saying that I will sketch out in limited detail why it is absolutely crucial we suspend standing orders so that we can have this Premier and this Government accountable to this Parliament.

This Premier avoids at every turn being accountable and has failed to provide this House with the full details of the lease agreement entered into on Barrack Square for the old Perth Port development. Time and time again he has refused to provide the details to enable us to make a judgment of the benefits to this State of that lease agreement.

At the same time, the Premier attacked the Leader of the Opposition because he tabled the lease agreement for the Swan Brewery redevelopment. The Premier used the public servants and taxpayers' money to go through all the details of the old Swan Brewery agreement to find fault with the Leader of the Opposition. However, at the same time, the Premier refused to table the lease agreement. The Premier does not want to be accountable. If we applied the same standard to the Premier as he applies to the Leader of the Opposition, the Premier would be found wanting because he has not attempted to live up to that standard. The Leader of the Opposition has met that standard. The Government is attempting to find a splinter in the eye of the Leader of the Opposition, while it walks around with a plank in its eye. That is the reason we need to suspend standing orders to take up the matter in detail.

The old Perth Port development was started by a company controlled by another company, in which the Premier's brother was major shareholder. By way of question on notice I asked the Premier to table the full details relating to the riverbed lease. His answer was that the standard lease conditions were consistent with development approval. He gave no further details. When I asked about the rent, he said that it was

subject to commercial confidentiality. When we requested the information again, the Premier said that he would get someone to look into it. The Premier was asked the question weeks ago; it was not put on him suddenly, but he continually refused to provide the information. What is the Premier trying to hide? Why will he not be accountable? He set a standard for the Leader of the Opposition but when he was asked questions, he provided untruths. The Premier runs away from the facts. He does not wish to be accountable. Time and again he has refused to provide the information so that we can judge the truth of the lease.

Several members interjected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! This is a very serious motion. We are debating the suspension of standing orders. I do not intend to sit in this Chair and allow people to make wide ranging attacks, while debating the motion. It is a serious motion and every opportunity should be given to members to point out the reason we should suspend standing orders to allow the subsequent motion to be debated. However, if members talk about the Leader of the Opposition - who is not mentioned in the motion - and get into the details of the subsequent motion, we will stray too far from the point. Although the Chair can allow a certain degree of flexibility, it is in the hands of the Chair. If necessary, I can sit down the member if he keeps straying from the matter under debate. I do not want to do that. I want everyone to have an opportunity to make the necessary points.

Mr KOBELKE: Thank you for your guidance, Mr Deputy Speaker. I will refer to two reasons to suspend standing orders to address the detail of the motion. The reasons relate to the way in which the Premier has refused to be accountable and has misled the House. The first point relates to the untruth told by the Premier many times in debate this week. He said that the lease arrangement for Barrack Square was entered into by the Lawrence Government in 1989. When he said that, he did not realise that I had a copy of his answer to a question on notice returned on 30 November. I asked when such a lease was granted. The answer was 1 July 1994 for the jetty lease and 1 July 1995 for the riverbed lease, on the basis that all conditions requested by the developer had been complied with.

The Premier was trying to take off the heat by saying the lease had been granted at an earlier time. He said that many times. When I presented his earlier answer, he continued in his attempts to mislead the House, and to tell untruths. We need to suspend standing orders so that the Premier can be accountable. If the Premier made a slip - as we all do at times - he should apologise. Was his answer to the question on notice wrong or were his statements in the House wrong? He cannot have it both ways. The Premier is trying to take off the heat by saying something which clearly is not true. That is the first reason to suspend standing orders. The Premier should apologise to the House and put the record straight.

The second reason to suspend standing orders is that the Premier tried to indicate that the companies involved were no longer connected to his brother, therefore, my allegations were baseless. However, we discovered that the Premier, as usual, selectively used the facts. When under pressure, the Premier says either he does not know anything about the matter, or he is not responsible. He leaves it to the Ministers or someone else. This is a different approach from his attacks on the Leader of the Opposition when the Premier provides the finest details. He spends thousands of taxpayers' dollars getting public servants to dig up the details. He can provide that fine detail, and expect the Leader of the Opposition to respond; but when we ask simple questions - which he has the opportunity to answer - he does not know the answer. He tries to duck the issue.

In response to a debate earlier this week, the Premier said that the company involved was Paramount, and that it was not his brother's company. Earlier in debate he said that his brother's company was a joint project manager. Clearly the company is involved. He did not know who were the owners of Paramount. When it was obvious he was not telling the truth, he was passed a piece of paper and made a statement that Resource and Industry - his brother's company - had no interest in Paramount. There were no common directors. Then, he could not answer whether there was a common ownership. If we

suspend standing orders we will have the opportunity to test the details. However, given your directive, Mr Deputy Speaker, I will not continue with that point.

There is a direct interest between the Premier's brother and this development. Whether the company has full ownership is not the key point. The key point is that the company has benefited from the Government's decision about the lease. It is benefiting from the Premier's announcement to sink Riverside Drive. When I raised the matter with the Premier he said that I was talking nonsense, and that there was no relationship. However, in *The West Australian* the following morning a statement by Mr Mickle, the Chairman of Paramount, was that the benefits to the company would be "long term rental income without the capital outlay expected on a comparable site in the CBD". So, the company is trying to flog its interest, and to show the work undertaken by the company has incredible worth because of the lease. Therefore, an asset has been passed on via the lease. He also said that the company would make another attempt to gain a liquor licence. He said that they could reactivate that on the basis "that there were plans to sink Riverside Drive". The matters I raise certainly mean something to the company, even if the Premier wishes to avoid the issue and to suggest that there is no value in the announcement made by him that he would sink Riverside Drive. That action will provide a direct benefit to that company.

To bring the whole matter together, the key point is whether the Barrack Square development, the old Perth Port development - run by Barrack Square Limited - represents a development which will benefit the people of this State. The Premier will not give the details to allow us to make an honest and proper judgment about whether we will get a good deal. Why is the Premier hiding the details? There will be a tremendous benefit to that company - the Premier's brother's company - because it will have a management role in the project. It may have other interests. The benefit will flow to a private company. Where is the public benefit? Who is looking after the people of this State? If the Premier were looking after the people of this State why would he have difficulty tabling the full details? Clearly the Premier is nervous. He does not want the people of this State to know the truth. Why is the Premier hiding these details? We should suspend standing orders so we can debate these issues and draw from the Premier the reasons for his lack of accountability. This issue will not go away. The Premier has been very skilful in skipping through the flowers and being Mr Nice Guy, but not answering anything and saying he is not accountable. He says he does not know anything. He can tell good stories when press releases are prepared for him, but when we ask him to deliver the facts on something of benefit to this State, he does not know the answer. Whether it is as Treasurer not knowing the bottom line on the Budget at the end of the year, through to details of how he is making decisions to help a company controlled by his brother, this Premier does not want to give this place the answers. We will not continue to put up with that. This Government is totally unaccountable in so many areas that the people of this State will soon realise the depth of corruption in this State. If this Government will not be accountable, the lines will be drawn back to where they belong. The Opposition will not let these matters be pushed under the carpet.

The Premier has been given an opportunity today to lay on the Table of the House the lease agreement with regard to Barrack Square. If he does not, he will be seen by the people of this State to be unaccountable and trying to hide something. I assure the House that this Opposition has the tenacity to drag out of the Premier and the Government the things they are trying to hide, and uncover corruption wherever it is.

MR C.J. BARNETT (Cottesloe - Leader of the House) [11.49 pm]: My comments will be brief. It is a grave and serious matter to move a motion to suspend standing orders for the purposes of a censure motion. What we have seen today has been simply a stunt of the worst form. It is an abuse of the practices of this House and of the standing orders. There is nothing new in what has been said by the Opposition. Indeed, what it has said is old. Members opposite referred to a question and answer on 9 August. This matter of urgency is four months old. There was no new information; it was a sleazy little attempt by the Leader of the Opposition because he is under the hammer over the Swan Brewery. That was a sleazy little deal! It was an absolute sham. He has been

caught out all this week, so what did he do? We arranged that today we would deal with legislation in which members opposite said they were interested. They wanted to debate the student guilds Bill, so we did not deal with it last night. We have come back today and given the Opposition the whole day to debate voluntary student unionism.

Several members interjected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I know there is a lot of feeling in the House, but we cannot have a situation where several people interject across the Chamber at one time.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: The whole day was given to the Opposition because the debate on voluntary unionism was a priority. Members opposite have deliberately made a decision not to debate that because they wanted to throw a bucket over the Premier on a day when they know he is paired and will not be here. Talk about a gutless effort, if ever I have seen one! It is absolutely gutless. Let us look at the substance of this grotty little gutless motion.

Several members interjected.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: This hero of the parliamentary system got up and lectured us on parliamentary procedure and the importance of censure motions. Let us see what he dished up on the last day of the sitting. The first point of this motion says that this House censures the Premier for -

Misleading the House in giving -

Dr Gallop interjected.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Let me answer it. The motion continues -

- an untruthful answer to a question on 9 August 1994, where he failed to disclose that Controlled Marketing, a company controlled by former Liberal Party State Director Chilla Porter, was awarded a WA Water Authority contract in connection with the infill sewerage project.

Point of research No 1: The member should have gone back and looked at the question. If he had done that and had looked at the question asked by the member for Belmont on 9 August, he would have seen that the first part says -

What is the total cost of the advertising campaign to promote the State Government's infill sewerage strategy?

Part (5) of the question asks -

What payments have been made to each private sector individual or company involved in the campaign?

The Premier gave a detailed answer which I will table again, but it is on page 3027 of *Hansard*. It lists all the companies involved in the advertising campaign. They were Quik Print, Data Management Services, Page Plus, Barrett Industries, Dix Print, Lamb Printers, The Rowland Co, Shepherd Media, Ad Link DDB Needham and Media Decisions. All the amounts were listed too. That was the advertising campaign. What was Controlled Marketing involved in? It was involved in polling and telemarketing. It was not involved in the advertising campaign.

Several members interjected.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: The member for Belmont got a full and complete answer. The little grots opposite do not like it.

Several members interjected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Members, once again we cannot have the House in that sort of state where about 10 people are interjecting at one time.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: So not only is this great matter of urgency on the last day of sitting four months old, but also they did not understand their own question! They asked for details of the advertising campaign and that was answered in great and full detail by the Premier.

Mr Kobelke interjected.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Rubbish! The member of Nollamara does not like it, the little dill. He is not up to it.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The member for Nollamara.

Mr Ripper interjected.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: No, I am going to have my say.

Several members interjected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Members, although we allow interjections, the member on his feet has the utmost right to be heard. It is to a member's credit and to the benefit of the debate at times that the person speaking accepts an interjection and answers it. He also has the right to continue his speech without accepting an interjection. If a member has tried to interject and it is not responded to, that is bad luck. The member on his feet must have the right to make his speech.

Point of Order

Mr KOBELKE: I do not expect you, Mr Deputy Speaker, to have this in front of you, but on 6 April, on page 11539 of *Hansard*, the Speaker made a decision. I am not sure of the precedent, but I will quote part of it. He said -

... I suggest you refrain from making that comment, because it is inaccurate.

That was a ruling given by the Speaker. The Leader of the House is saying things which are inaccurate, because he is misquoting from the *Hansard* and trying to mislead this House. I ask you to take into account that ruling by the Speaker and ask the Leader of the House not to make inaccurate statements.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I thank the member for bringing that to my attention, but it is not a point of order. I am listening to the Leader of the House.

Debate Resumed

Mr C.J. BARNETT: The first question is old. The question was about advertising and Controlled Marketing was not part of the advertising campaign. Ask the right question -

Mr Ripper: Can I ask you something?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: No. Point I has been dealt with.

Mr Ripper: It hasn't been dealt with.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: It has to my satisfaction.

Mr Ripper interjected.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: The member has had his say.

The Premier was asked about the lease agreement for the Perth Port development. That development dates back to the period of the Labor Government, when all the negotiations took place. The lease agreements were finalised in July 1994. Yesterday in response to a question the Premier made it quite clear he would be prepared to table the lease documents if he had the agreement of the responsible Minister, the Minister for Transport.

Mr Kobelke: When did he say that?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: He said it to the member yesterday in this House; maybe what I said was not word perfect, but he made it clear in question time in this House yesterday that he was prepared to table the documents so long as the Minister for Transport agreed. He has subsequently spoken to the Minister for Transport. I seek leave to table the documents.

[See papers Nos 698 and 699.]

Dr Gallop: At last!

Mr C.J. BARNETT: There is no secrecy.

Mr Brown interjected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The member for Morley will come to order.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: The Premier made it clear yesterday that as long as the Minister for Transport was happy, he would table them. He had them available in my office prior to this debate so they could be tabled, and there they are. The difference is that this is a legitimate deal and a legitimate lease, unlike the absolute sham that the Leader of the Opposition put in place for the Swan Brewery.

What are we on about here today? It is an absolute joke. There is no timeliness; there is no urgency.

Several members interjected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Firstly, I will say that the papers have been tabled. I also give the member for Armadale a warning before I start calling her to order.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: The lease documents, which members will find are entirely proper, have been tabled. There is no secrecy. There has never been any desire for secrecy. They are there. The member for Nollamara has been bleating about tabling the documents. He went on and on like a little rabbit. They are there. They have been sitting there all the time. There is a huge difference; this is a legitimate business transaction. The leases were negotiated properly within government; they are not leases negotiated in a sham 10 day tender process, as was the case with the Leader of the Opposition and the old Swan Brewery.

This has been an exercise relating to a few things: Firstly, it was to take the heat off the Leader of the Opposition because he is under the hammer over the Swan Brewery. Members opposite are all smiling, but the Leader of the Opposition is not here. He complained about the Premier not being here, but he himself is not here now, so there is no sense of urgency. Members opposite knew the Premier would not be here today, so they made a gutless little Labor Party attempt to take him on. They are all gutless, absolutely gutless. They took him on; they produced old evidence. There is nothing new and there is absolutely no substance. The Opposition has chosen to waste its time when it could have been debating voluntary student unionism, which members opposite told us was important to them.

We will tell the students who support compulsory unionism that when it came to the crunch the Labor Party did not stand up for what it purportedly agrees with. Last night when my colleague the Minister for Labour Relations put through the Occupational Safety and Health Legislation Amendment Bill - this is a heartland issue for the Labor Party - it did not even call for a division. The Opposition does not care about occupational health. Members opposite would rather come in here and try to dump a Christmas bucket over the Premier when they know he is not here. They are a hopeless, pathetic rabble.

Question to be Put

Mr BLOFFWITCH: I move -

That the question be now put.

Bells rung and the House divided.

Remarks during Division

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Day): I formally call the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and the member for Morley to order.

Result of Division

The division resulted as follows -

Ayes (25)

Mr Ainsworth
Mr C.J. Barnett
Mr Board
Mr Bradshaw
Mr Cowan
Dr Hames
Mr House
Mr Johnson
Mr Kierath

Mr Lewis
Mr McNee
Mr Minson
Mr Nicholls
Mr Omodei
Mr Osborne
Mrs Parker
Mr Pandal
Mr Prince

Mr Strickland
Mr Trenorden
Mr Tubby
Dr Turnbull
Mrs van de Klashorst
Mr Wiese
Mr Bloffwisch (*Teller*)

Noes (15)

Mr M. Barnett
Mr Brown
Mr Catania
Mr Cunningham
Dr Edwards

Dr Gallop
Mrs Hallahan
Mr Kobelke
Mr Marlborough
Mr McGinty

Mr Ripper
Mrs Roberts
Ms Warnock
Dr Watson
Mr Leahy (*Teller*)

Pairs

Mr Blaikie
Mr Shave
Mr Court
Mrs Edwardes
Mr W. Smith
Mr Marshall

Mr Graham
Mr Bridge
Mr Taylor
Mr Riebeling
Mr Grill
Mr D.L. Smith

Question thus passed.

Motion Resumed

Question put and a division taken with the following result -

Ayes (15)

Mr M. Barnett
Mr Brown
Mr Catania
Mr Cunningham
Dr Edwards

Dr Gallop
Mrs Hallahan
Mr Kobelke
Mr Marlborough
Mr McGinty

Mr Ripper
Mrs Roberts
Ms Warnock
Dr Watson
Mr Leahy (*Teller*)

Noes (25)

Mr Ainsworth
Mr C.J. Barnett
Mr Board
Mr Bradshaw
Mr Cowan
Dr Hames
Mr House
Mr Johnson
Mr Kierath

Mr Lewis
Mr McNee
Mr Minson
Mr Nicholls
Mr Omodei
Mr Osborne
Mrs Parker
Mr Pandal
Mr Prince

Mr Strickland
Mr Trenorden
Mr Tubby
Dr Turnbull
Mrs van de Klashorst
Mr Wiese
Mr Bloffwisch (*Teller*)

Pairs

Mr Grill
Mr Taylor
Mr Riebeling
Mr Bridge
Mr Graham
Mr D.L. Smith

Mr Court
Mr Shave
Mrs Edwardes
Mr Marshall
Mr Blaikie
Mr W. Smith

Question thus negated.

APPROPRIATION (CONSOLIDATED FUND) BILL (No 2)

Second Reading

Resumed from an earlier stage of the sitting.

DR GALLOP (Victoria Park - Deputy Leader of the Opposition) [12.08 pm]: Given I was denied an opportunity to comment on the debate in the last motion that was moved by the Leader of the Opposition, I would like to utilise the small amount of time available under this debate to correct a statement that was just made in this House by the Leader of the House and the deputy leader of the Liberal Party. The Leader of the House either deliberately misled this Parliament or did not take the time and effort to look carefully at the question that was asked on 9 August. Let us be charitable and say that he did not really do his homework before he got up with his fit of pique and petulance in attacking the Leader of the Opposition and the other opposition speakers.

I will quote from *Hansard* of 9 August a question from the member for Belmont to the Premier. This was the second of an 11 part question. He asked -

What were the costs of each element of the campaign including television advertising, letters and brochures?

The answer to part (2) outlines the costs of all of the parts of the campaign including the Premier's advertisement and letter, and the Water Authority's television public information campaign. What is next on the list? It is the Water Authority of Western Australia's customer infill sewerage hotline. The Premier's answer to the question included the campaign for the customer infill sewerage hotline. Strangely, when it came to listing the companies that had been engaged by the Government to assist in this campaign, Controlled Marketing was not listed. The Leader of the House just got up and deliberately misled this Parliament on this matter. I want it on the record that the Leader of the House did not do his homework. I acknowledge that he is a bit ratty and irritable and is full of petulance and pique when things do not go his way in this Parliament; however, there was no excuse for his performance today in deliberately misleading this House on this matter. Let us be charitable: He might have misled the House because he did not do his homework; in the same way that he did not do his homework on the direction he gave the State Energy Commission of Western Australia on electricity tariffs in the goldfields. What the Leader of the House said is unacceptable and I want it on the record that the Opposition's motion still stands the test of the evidence that is available in *Hansard*.

MR CATANIA (Balcatta) [12.11 pm]: I draw the attention of members to -

Several members interjected.

Mr CATANIA: Members who represent country electorates should listen to me because my comments may be of interest to them. They will certainly apply to the member for Avon and to his colleague, the Minister for Emergency Services. I refer to the condition of the Bush Fires Board and the scandalous promises this Minister and the Government made to the Western Australia community earlier this year.

Mr Wiese: And kept.

Mr CATANIA: We will see about that. The Minister should listen because I will demonstrate that the Government did not keep its promise and it will affect the electorates that he and the member for Avon represent. Earlier this year after the devastating fires in New South Wales - members are aware of the trauma caused to the victims - the Minister and the Government realised a similar thing could happen in country Western Australia and in the hills area of Perth. The Minister and the Government promised \$20m for fire fighting equipment, training and personnel. That was in January this year, but with the oncoming winter the Minister's enthusiasm was dampened.

Mr McNee interjected.

Mr CATANIA: I suggest that the member for Moore should talk to his sheep, because they may understand him.

In the winter months the Budget was brought down and that was the first occasion on which the Minister could address the problem. In January he said that this State did not want to see the tragedies in New South Wales repeated in the Darling escarpment. The only action he took was to promise \$20m. He put out a press release on the Budget in which he said the Fire Brigade Board's budget had been increased by \$2.4m this year. He said it included a special allocation to meet the increase in fire fighters' pay.

Mr Wiese: A 100 per cent increase.

Mr CATANIA: The Minister promised \$20m and he gave \$2.4m. This winter proved to be one of the driest on record and the Minister, still concerned, put out another press release in September in which he said that the Government had allocated \$2.4m in this year's Budget for the replacement of fire equipment in high risk areas and for the improvement in communication networks. In January he was talking about \$20m and in July that figure was amended to \$2.4m. Where is the \$20m?

Mr Wiese: It was promised over a period of time and it will be achieved.

Mr CATANIA: This promise was scandalous. Many centres in Western Australia need equipment and the opportunity to train their volunteers.

The result of all this is to be found in the Bush Fires Board's annual report which was tabled in this place yesterday, the day the Minister thought Parliament would rise. The chief executive officer says in that report that in excess of 230 rural communities in Western Australia have fire fighting equipment well below acceptable standards and that the levels of training, as attained by volunteers, is of concern. He says we need to replace some 400 fire fighting vehicles across rural Western Australia - the area which the Minister, the Deputy Premier and the member for Avon represent. The Chief Executive Officer of the Bush Fires Board also says that a large number of fire fighting vehicles have been found to be unroadworthy and require urgent attention. The crowning statement made by the chief executive officer is that the management of vacant land is a major concern to the board and it has not been adequately financially resourced by the Government.

Where is the \$20m which was promised in January this year? It was a false promise and it is another example of the broken promises which have come to light this week. The chief executive officer says that the \$20m which was promised has not been forthcoming. The only money that was forthcoming was the allocation of \$2.4m in this year's Budget. The chief executive officer also says that the situation is now urgent - it has the potential for major complications and loss of life and property - and needs consideration by the relevant Ministers.

A major disaster is waiting to happen in the south west of this State and the hills area of Perth. The forecast of soaring temperatures this year could mean a major disaster, but what has this Government done? It has done nothing except to make false promises. The Minister raised the hope of people living in country electorates that something would be done but nothing has been done. An allocation of \$2.4m was made in the Budget; that is the sum total of what the Government has done. The Minister was taken in by what occurred in New South Wales. A large number of firefighters from this State went en masse to give assistance to the New South Wales' firefighters. On their return, the Minister's conscience was pricked and he promised \$20m to boost funding for volunteer fire brigades. Since then the Minister has done nothing. It is scandalous and shows the lack of commitment this Government has to not only law and order, but also the security of Western Australians. The Government should be condemned for its lack of action.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

Third Reading

Leave granted to proceed forthwith to the third reading.

Bill read a third time, on motion by Mr C.J. Barnett (Leader of the House), and transmitted to the Council.

**VOLUNTARY MEMBERSHIP OF STUDENT GUILDS AND ASSOCIATIONS
BILL***Second Reading*

Resumed from 1 November.

MRS HALLAHAN (Armadale) [12.20 pm]: The Opposition is absolutely opposed to this Bill. We have been opposed to it every time it has been introduced by the Minister for Education. When he was shadow Minister for Education he put up this Bill time and again and did not get support for it, even from within his own ranks. Unfortunately these days he is part of a very powerful clique within the Liberal Party and seems to be able to override the Premier and significant conservative figures in Western Australia to push through what everybody sees as a fundamentally flawed Bill.

Mr Trenorden: Not everyone; I don't.

Mrs HALLAHAN: Nobody needs to be unclear about this: We are absolutely opposed to this Bill. We are amazed that this Government, members opposite, could impose this legislation on student guilds and universities in Western Australia in a way that makes their administrative task in 1995 impossible.

Mr Tubby: It is called freedom; people are fighting for freedom all over the world.

Mrs HALLAHAN: This Bill is based on fundamentally incorrect assumptions. It is based on the belief that the current requirement for students to pay a fee on enrolment is a violation of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights. That is fundamentally incorrect. The conservatives say that when the Bill becomes law it will not affect the functioning of student guilds. That is a ridiculous claim to make and it cannot be taken seriously. It will destroy the student union movement and some services, and it will reduce others. The academic communities in this State will never be the same.

Another assumption on which this Bill is based - I suspect this is the key - is that universities and student guilds are hotbeds of political activism, and there is no way this Minister for Education wants to give young people the opportunity to develop their leadership skills, a tradition within universities. If only on those three grounds, this Bill should be thrown out of any democratically constituted forum in this State. Other cogent arguments could be made against this legislation. With all of the false rhetoric coming out of the Liberal and National Parties, the fact is that cases that have been taken to international courts concerning freedom of association and student guilds have always been lost and, on every occasion, the universities' right to support student guilds has been upheld. There is no case to be made on that point. Let us be absolutely clear about that.

Mr Tubby: I cannot help it if they are wrong.

Mrs HALLAHAN: The member for Roleystone, who is handling this Bill, makes a ridiculous interjection. He says that the courts could all be wrong. That indicates the trivial attitude of government members to this legislation.

Student guilds play a very important role. Perhaps the Minister for Education is so far out of touch - that is my presumption - that he does not understand that university campuses are communities and that a wide range of services are provided through student guilds. I will not go into details, but those services include facilities for recreation and sport, child care, catering, counselling, legal advice, accommodation and assistance, and all those things which make up student experience and which create a dynamic campus life. Those things are well and truly integrated into the administration and running of universities. Students are part of any university's senate considerations. Students are taken into account and consulted by the administrative bodies of universities. The students are integrated as part of the mainstream and complexity of the university community. Although at times the student guilds may consist of marginalised, campaigning political activists, it is more the case that they are part of the life of universities, providing many services and advice to the administration. Members need to understand the attitude of the university senates, without exception, and the administrative bodies of the universities within this State.

Mr Tubby: We don't disagree with that; we support it.

Mrs HALLAHAN: The Parliamentary Secretary says that he does not disagree with that; yet he wants to destroy it. We all know that when a voluntary levy is raised, people will not pay it. That is why we do not have voluntary taxation or voluntary council rates. In universities we are talking about communities. The university student guilds provide services that are similar to those provided by most local government authorities, with the exception of a few large councils, across the State. Local government does not have voluntary levying of rates. Exactly the same argument should apply to student guild fees. Nothing that is said can detract from that central argument.

Allusion has been made to the fact that student guilds foster left wing activists. The fact of the matter is that the Leader of the Opposition was the president of the UWA student guild 22 years ago and John Stone held the same office 40 years ago. From that, it is obvious that the right and left of the political spectrum of Western Australia and the entire nation have benefited from students coming through the union guild movement, learning skills and building their knowledge base to be leaders of the future.

Mr Tubby: We support that.

Mrs HALLAHAN: That is being destroyed.

Mr Tubby: No it will not.

Mrs HALLAHAN: It is no good having silly interjections from the Parliamentary Secretary. If this legislation is passed, the student guilds will lose their financial base and the recognition of their role within the university community, and the people we need for the future will not be able to make a commitment through the student guilds.

I refer to the timing of this Bill. I have known the Minister for Education for some time through my membership of the other place. I know that he has a very strong commitment to this legislation. I accept that if he has the capacity to persuade his colleagues - I think it is very disappointing that he has been able to do so - his policy will prevail. That is the position we are seeing pursued here. The timing of the Bill is incomprehensible. The universities have already started their enrolment process for 1995. The Government has brought forward two amendments on the Notice Paper for consideration in Committee. We must deal with those amendments in Committee because this Bill cannot be implemented on 1 December 1992 as was proposed, that date having already passed. Despite that, the Government has not moved to make this Bill applicable to the 1996 academic year. I do not agree with the legislation, and neither do any members of the Opposition; however, if the Government is to pursue it, at least it should be made applicable to the 1996 academic year when the normal processes for that year should be clearly prepared and understood. In addition, the guilds should be given that transitional period in which to make the necessary financial arrangements. Many of the guilds have significant financial commitments. I refer briefly to some of the facilities they provide and the additional commitments they have made. I understand the Curtin guild has provided a child care centre, on which it still has outstanding commitments. The University of Western Australia expanded its general facilities; Edith Cowan University is currently expanding its recreational facilities; and Murdoch is paying for a highly popular gymnasium recently constructed. They are examples of big capital items that guilds have arranged, and for which they entered into financial agreements on the basis of an assured income. At the time the arrangements were negotiated they had that income and in each case those loan arrangements have been underwritten by the university senates. Members opposite should note that university senates are not at all impressed by the legislation being rushed through in this way on the last day of the sitting.

I make it clear to the House that the Opposition has asked a number of its members to forgo their right to speak on this Bill in the interests of discussing the amendments on the Notice Paper, proposed by the Government, the member for Floreat and me. These amendments are very important and should be considered. To enable that to occur a number of opposition members have agreed to forgo their right to speak, and others have

said they will significantly condense the matters they wish to cover and deal with them in a much shorter time. I compliment my colleagues on their responsible attitude in this matter because they recognise it is a very significant Bill. They have prepared for it over a long period and they are disappointed and distressed at being asked to deal with such an important Bill in two or three hours. That should be clearly understood. I thank my colleagues for their cooperation in this matter.

I draw the attention of the House to a letter written by Professor Peter Boyce, who is the Chair of the Council of the Western Australian Vice-Chancellors, on 1 November 1994, addressed to Hon C.J. Barnett, MLA, Leader of the House in the Legislative Assembly. This letter sums up the real problems we face today with the Voluntary Membership of Student Guilds and Associations Bill and reads -

I understand that the coalition parties are discussing the Voluntary Student Union legislation and am writing to you on behalf of the Western Australian Vice-Chancellors to draw members' attention to our deep concern about aspects of the proposed legislation. Even at this late stage we would request urgent consideration of three possible amendments.

The first is that clause 2(1) be amended to change the date of effect of the legislation from December 1994 to December 1995. Although university administrations and the several Guilds have been aware for more than a year of the Education Minister's basic intentions, the bill recently re-introduced into the parliament is significantly different from the original version. With the re-enrolment process starting within the next few days, the universities have not been afforded adequate time to make the necessary adjustments. In addition, the extra year would enable the Guilds to place themselves on a sounder financial footing to cope with these changes. This is particularly important, given that at two of the universities, the administration has been the guarantor of sizeable loans. The Minister has indicated in conversation that he would not wish any university to inherit a financial burden as a result of this legislation, yet there is no provision in the bill for compensation. We would therefore seek an additional clause to the bill guaranteeing such compensation.

Our third request is that Section 2C(b) of Clause 13(b) of the bill be deleted. The Vice-Chancellors warn that a prohibition on the right to collect amenities fees will place unreasonable burdens on the Western Australian universities if the current level of services to students is to be maintained. Neither the Victorian nor Tasmanian legislation includes this prohibition. It should also be emphasized that the Western Australian universities will lose some of their competitive edge in the international full-fee student market when overseas students' associations give wide publicity to the legislation, as has been threatened.

The Government has responded to Professor Boyce about the date on which the Bill will operate. However, no response has been received to the remainder of the letter. I note that the member for Floreat has picked up the concerns of the vice-chancellors and has placed on the Notice Paper amendments that she hopes, rather forlornly, the Government might consider, given the seriousness of the matter.

I turn now to the effect this will have on the ability of the State to sell its education services internationally. I read some figures in the early hours of this morning which indicate that the income to Western Australia from overseas students studying in this State is approximately \$90m. Those people who come from affluent backgrounds may not think that the services provided on campus are essential to students, or that the lack of them will reduce the opportunities for overseas students to progress in our academic institutions. That is probably true for students with a more affluent background because their parents can afford to provide the representation they need for accommodation, legal advice, counselling, child care and the like. Students who have plenty of money will not be concerned about the provisions of this Bill. However, many Western Australians would not have had the opportunity to contribute to the community in the way they have, had it not been for their tertiary education and the many support services provided by

student guilds. In addition, members opposite should understand that one of the judgments made by overseas parents and potential students when selecting the university to which application will be made, relates to the level of student services.

Mr Tubby: What a joke! What a load of garbage.

Mrs HALLAHAN: As a former Minister for Education I have discussed this matter with overseas people. Of course, they look for academic excellence, but they also look at the level of student services that will provide support for their children living away from home. They also consider the extent to which those services can help the students to be integrated into the life of the university, so that they can maximise their learning opportunities. The interjections from the government benches, and particularly the strong reaction from the Parliamentary Secretary, clearly indicate that members opposite do not know what it means to be a student without financial support. They do not know what it means to be a student living away from home in a foreign country. The council that represents students from abroad decries this legislation because of the influence it will have on the services provided. It has threatened a very big campaign in at least one newspaper - *The Straits Times*. That will markedly affect our ability to compete with other Australian States. Professor Boyce made the point that even the Victorian and Tasmanian legislation does not preclude the university administration from charging a fee, and thereby maintaining services. However, when that argument was put to this Government it said it was okay for the University of Notre Dame to charge fees, but not for the poor public universities.

Mr Tubby: Do you know why? Because of 1977. We are not going to repeat history.

Mrs HALLAHAN: The Parliamentary Secretary can tell me about that when he speaks. Nobody can understand the reason for this legislation. The Government will destroy an economic benefit from the income from overseas students and their families because Western Australia will not be able to compete with the other States which run very aggressive marketing campaigns. It will tie behind their backs the hands of the people who go from this State in order to attract those students and their funds into the economy of Western Australia.

Many points could be made on this Bill; however, given that it is now a compressed debate on the last day of this session, and that other members have important things to say, I will curtail my remarks. The Opposition will consider carefully the amendments put forward by the member for Floreat. We ask also that the amendments put forward by the Opposition are considered seriously by the Government, even at this eleventh hour.

MR KIERATH (Riverton - Minister for Labour Relations) [12.41 pm]: I am proud and privileged to be associated with this Bill and its passage through this House. It is a historic day. This legislation reflects the freedom of association provisions contained in the Industrial Relations Act. It is interesting that the proponents of compulsion are always scared of choice; they are scared of giving people the freedom to choose who and what they want. In this situation they are worried that through this legislation we might find out what the students of the universities really want, and that the students will get the services they would like and for which they are prepared to pay - not services that have been rammed down their throats, without any say. If certain groups of people have the power, those decisions are forced on the rest of the students. The students will be given a choice for the first time.

When workers are empowered with choice for the first time through workplace agreements they find it is the best thing that ever happened to them because they get to have a say. I repeat that I am proud to have been associated with this legislation. It is a historic day in this House that this Bill will be passed and there will be true voluntary student unionism for the first time in our tertiary institutions.

MS WARNOCK (Perth) [12.43 pm]: I support the views of my opposition colleagues on this Bill. It is a matter about which we feel very strongly. I am aware of the constraints on time. Like everybody else on this side of the House I am sorry about those constraints; however, I will make some points about the legislation on behalf of the many

students and the vice-chancellors and university officials who have made their views clear to the Opposition on this Bill. They have had the opportunity over a number of years to make their views clear about this matter. As my colleague the member for Armadale mentioned, the Minister who introduced this Bill in the other place has a long history of opposing universal membership of student guilds, and has on a number of occasions been defeated on this matter. We, however, feel very strongly for the other point of view.

I take this opportunity to represent the views of students, vice-chancellors and senates in Western Australia about this matter. University life will suffer badly if student guilds are not able to provide student services. That is the matter it basically gets down to. That is why universities, senior executives and vice-chancellors generally support most vigorously the retention of the universal student guild fee. It is why any thoughtful person who has been to a tertiary institution in this State or in any other place considers the fee not only fair and reasonable, but essential to the smooth running of campus life.

Some people seem to have the view that somehow the guild is a luxury and a university club. That is far from being the case. The universal guild fee is in effect to provide necessary student services. Among those student services are catering and sporting facilities, clubs and societies, free advocacy, counselling and guidance services, accommodation and child care services, access time on campus radio, grants for field trips and placements, funding for disabled students, and mature age student groups. As far as the student population is concerned, this legislation will mean no coordinated representation for students, no campus cultural and social life, no appeal against assessment, no subsidised guild services, no student newspaper, and no guild subsidies - and of course, no student control over student affairs. I table a show bag of various pieces of information about the kinds of things which are produced on campus as a result of this universal guild fee.

[The papers were tabled for the information of members.]

Ms WARNOCK: The show bag includes items such as the Curtin University guild sport and participation handbook for students, and numerous other matters that provide a wad of information for students.

Mr Tubby: Do you want to put this copy of "Harambee" in it?

Ms WARNOCK: Yes, I have a copy of "Harambee" here. That publication contains many other issues which the member opposite may not find so offensive. The bag contains numerous pieces of very necessary information for students. Show bags have always had a great appeal to not only children, but also adults. This is all about student survival. The student guilds provide this material to give students useful information about how to operate in campus life. The show bag also contains a sheet of paper about the Curtin University guild, but its content applies to the other guilds as well. It states that the Curtin guild acknowledges that its biggest department is its education office. This office is engaged in education, research, grievance conciliation, advocacy, Austudy advice, financial counselling, and housing, tenancy and legal advice. The University of Western Australia guild provides a similar number of services.

The student guild is far from a university club. Basically, it is about a series of services for students on those campuses. My colleague the member for Armadale has put strongly the point of view that there may be affluent students on campus who do not need access to these services. However, the idea of the guilds is that all students should pay something towards those services which are then available to all students who need them. I am puzzled when reading speeches going back over several years to see that the Minister who introduced this legislation has defended this point of view unsuccessfully for many years. I am puzzled about why conservatives have always been so savagely opposed to this universal fee for all students to help support innumerable services to all students.

I have very firm views about this. A student guild is not a union in the sense that my old Australian Journalists Association was, or the new Media, Entertainment and Arts

Alliance is a union. It is an association of students which requires each of them to contribute a fee so that common facilities can be provided for all students. Tax is also universal and provides goods and services for the common good such as roads, water, power and other services. This guild fee is not a tax, but I believe that analogy is a very interesting one.

I have read the previous debates about this matter. Even a previous Liberal Minister said about this legislation that it should be the responsibility of students to contribute to the common benefit and welfare of all students. This is the core and the sum of what we are arguing. It certainly seemed fair to me as a university student that I should pay this universal fee. I am at a loss to understand why the conservatives have become so worked up about it for such a long time. Something our opponents have apparently ignored is that all students benefit from it, otherwise it would not be so strongly supported by students all around Australia and the vice-chancellors, the senate, and the senior executives of all universities. The students have been demonstrating, as students are wont to do, because they know what will happen if this universal fee is not allowed to be levied in the future.

The Minister in another place who has been bowling this up to Parliament for years and failing to have it accepted, even under a previous Liberal Government, has tried again. What are his motives? This is the question that puzzles me. Why does he think it is not a good idea for all students to make a contribution of some kind for facilities for all students? One can only assume that the Minister's objection is ideological, and we have heard something of the ideology very briefly from the other side this afternoon. My colleagues in the other place have commented that perhaps because Liberal students have not been successful in guild elections over the years, they need the protection of big brother legislation of this kind.

I have been a student at two universities and a tutor at two other universities. University guilds are only peripherally involved in political activity and, in any event, that activity is a reasonable training ground for anyone interested in later political activity irrespective of what side of the House they are on. To paint these activities as somehow sinister is totally absurd. They have been asking us what we are worried about, but I am wondering what on earth they are worried about. As my colleague, the member for Armadale so ably pointed out, student guild leaders have represented parties on both sides of the House. Surely that made the point very well. The major function of all university guilds is to provide services for all students. We must emphasise that again and again. Under the universal principle therefore, it seems fair and reasonable that everybody should pay.

For some reason the Minister does not agree and seems bent on completely dismantling student services as a result. Members should make no mistake; that is exactly what will happen. As I say, the vice-chancellors, the senate and everybody who is a professional at universities understands this very well, which is why a letter was sent to my colleague the member for Armadale. In defence of his point of view, the Minister has apparently spoken of various international conventions on human rights. He referred to article 20 of the United Nations Universal Declaration on Human Rights. It seems to me a startling thing in itself from a conservative Minister who, as is the custom of conservatives, has taken a pretty dim view of international organisations and conventions over the years. However, he sought to bring it to his own defence on this occasion. As my colleagues in the other place have made clear, it is erroneous and illegitimate to rely on these international conventions to make a case against universal student membership of university guilds. My colleague in the other place Hon Alannah MacTiernan, who is a lawyer, said during the debate that any analysis of international law will show that compulsory membership of student associations does not in any way violate the human right of freedom of association. She goes on to quote Justice Bollen. This is not the first time this has appeared in an Australian Parliament; it has been bowled up year after year. Numerous cases have been heard about this in the courts and it has been universally rejected.

The case of *Harradine v the University of Adelaide* was heard in South Australia in 1990. The plaintive case invoked the article on which the Minister seeks to rely for his case

against compulsory student association fees. In that 1990 case the trial judge rejected all submissions and the case went to appeal in the South Australian Supreme Court. In completing my contribution I will quote the words of Justice Bollen -

The suggestion that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is at all relevant to issues here is not sound . . . The Article does not demand that there be no qualification to entry to a university as a student. Nor does it contemplate a "union" at a university. Moreover, no one is compelled to belong to the union. Membership follows lawful entry to undergraduate study at the university. And, of course, membership produced by payment of a fee can be ignored, never exercised.

He simply does not believe this universal declaration, which is produced by the Minister to support his case, is legitimate and can be used to make this case.

There is plenty of evidence that the case the Minister seeks to make about this matter cannot be made in law. As if that were not enough, the protest of not only students, but also vice-chancellors, senate members and other officials of universities throughout the country should be sufficient to let us know it is a most unwise thing to pass this kind of legislation which will prevent a universal guild fee being paid by all students for the benefit and common good of all other students.

MR JOHNSON (Whitford) [12.57 pm]: Only two types of people have come to see me in relation to the voluntary student guild fees. Many students have come to see me who are totally opposed to it, for very good reasons which they put to me. The only people who came to see me, as a member of this House, advocating we should not support this Bill were the guild presidents - and why not? They earn \$20 000 a year and have the benefit of various flights across Australia.

Mrs Hallahan: What a terrible denigration that is.

Mr JOHNSON: It is a fact. The member for Armadale is probably upset because she realises that by making membership of the student guild voluntary, the Labor Party will miss out on some political donations of which they have had the benefit in the past. She may look puzzled, but she should find out about it. The Labor Party in Australia had \$100 000 donated at one point.

Mrs Hallahan interjected.

Mr JOHNSON: I do not want to see the money of innocent students who are forced to pay their fees being channelled in that way.

Mrs Henderson: Do you have to pay your council rates? Are they voluntary?

Mr JOHNSON: Yes; I must pay my council rates, but every person within a municipality benefits.

Several members interjected.

Mr JOHNSON: Opposition members do not like hearing the truth; that is why they are trying to talk me down.

Mrs Henderson interjected.

Mr JOHNSON: McDonald's and the other cafeterias will be delighted to get into those campuses. They will do a roaring trade.

Several members interjected.

The **ACTING SPEAKER** (Mr Day): Order! The member for Whitford has the call.

Mr JOHNSON: Is the member for Thornlie the Speaker now?

Several members interjected.

Mr JOHNSON: She referred to this last night. When does a person become an Australian?

Mrs Henderson: When they are committed to the place.

Mr JOHNSON: People in my electorate think I am very committed to this country, particularly this State.

[Leave granted for speech to be continued at a later stage of the sitting.]

[Continued on p 9437.]

Sitting suspended from 1.00 to 2.00 pm

[Questions without notice taken.]

MOTION - NOTICES OF MOTION Nos 9 AND 10 BE NEXT CONSIDERED

MR C.J. BARNETT (Cottesloe - Leader of the House) [2.33 pm]: I move -

That Notices of Motion Nos 9 and 10 be next considered.

MR RIPPER (Belmont) [2.34 pm]: While we are dealing with the business of the House, I will comment on an observation made by the Leader of the House during question time. He sought to mock the numbers presented by the Opposition during a division. I remind him that we could present more numbers if we returned to the previous practice of cancelling pairs.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Crocodile tears; I will get out my hanky.

The SPEAKER: Order! I ask members on my right to come to order.

Mr RIPPER: I hope he was not inviting us to return to that action. If the Leader of the House seeks to use the pairs arrangement to denigrate the Opposition, he casts doubt on the continued operation of that practice. I am advised by our Whip that the Government had asked for additional pairs on this occasion, and those pairs were created by the Opposition.

To return to the motion in hand, early in the week the Leader of the House indicated that he wanted to deal with these disallowance motions before the end of the sitting, and the Opposition has agreed to deal with them. They were put on the Notice Paper not to oppose the planning processes which represent an extension of what was undertaken by the previous Government, but to allow discussion of certain issues relating to those matters. This is the only way in which we can get discussion on those issues.

It is a problem because there is a guillotine on the Voluntary Membership of Student Guilds and Associations Bill, which comes down at four o'clock. This is another piece of business that will get in the way of debate on that Bill. We will spend five minutes only on each of these notices of motion.

Question put and passed.

MOTION - METROPOLITAN REGION SCHEME AMENDMENT No 938-33, SOUTH WEST CORRIDOR (STAGE A), DISALLOWANCE

MR MARLBOROUGH (Peel) [2.35 pm]: I move -

That this House disallows the Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment No 938/33, South West Corridor (Stage A), a copy of which was laid upon the Table of the Legislative Assembly on 18 October 1994.

By arrangement with the Minister for Planning I will briefly put on record my concerns about this proposed regional plan for the south west corridor. There are a number of areas of concern about the impact of this plan on individuals and on the Leda reserve. I raise with the Minister the concerns of my constituent Mr Ellement, who has a property on Wattleup Road, on which he has operated a market garden for many years. The road rapid transport route being proposed in the south west regional scheme will not only take away a portion of Mr Ellement's property but also will impact on the accommodation in which he and his family have lived for many years.

I have raised with the Minister the concern of three residents located on Johnson Road and Thomas Road - the Spectacles area, without being specific about lot numbers. The

Minister is aware and equally concerned that those three privately owned properties with single dwellings on them, in which people have chosen to live in a particular lifestyle for a number of years, will be affected by this rapid transport route. That proposal will ensure that those people can no longer live on any of those three lots. It is unfortunate that is the case. The Minister will agree that there is a possibility of rerouting the rapid transit requirements in that area if agreement can be reached with the local conservationists.

I am very concerned about those individual householders and I intend to continue working with the Conservation Council of Western Australia and with the local conservation movement to see whether there can be some understanding of the need to move the rapid transport lane slightly to one side so that all parties can be happy. As a local member, I hope that I will be able to approach the Minister who will look at such a move with some sensitivity. He has indicated that if we can head down that track, he is willing to look at the proposal with some sympathy.

The next matter I raise is the impact of the rapid transport route through the Leda reserve in the town of Kwinana.

Mr Pandal: Saved by the Liberals.

Mr MARLBOROUGH: It was not saved by the Liberals at all. It was saved by the local member.

Mr Pandal: Your Government was going to sell the Leda reserve. Your mate next to you knows what I am talking about.

Mr MARLBOROUGH: You are talking about the Kennedy reserve, not the Leda reserve.

Mr Pandal: I know what you are up to now.

Mr MARLBOROUGH: The then Government did not intend to sell that either. I have made arrangements with the Minister and I do not want to be sidetracked. I have no intention of supporting the sale of the Leda reserve.

Mr Pandal: Not now.

Mr MARLBOROUGH: Or at any time. When I became a member of this House in 1986, while the Labor Party was in government, it was proposed to urbanise 1 100 hectares of the 1 400 ha area in the Leda reserve. As the local member I took it up with my government colleagues, advising that I did not support that level of urbanisation and neither did the local community. I dealt with five different Ministers for Planning during that time and had a helluva fight trying to convince them to reduce the urban impact on a beautiful piece of natural bushland. At the end of the day I was able to convince them to reduce it, so that we were left with an area, including the railway reserve, double the size of Kings Park. That is a credit to the local people, and I would like the member for South Perth to give me some credit as the local member for carrying forward their wishes.

Mr Pandal: I do, but it was with a lot of help from the Opposition of the day. I think we will call it a truce.

Mr MARLBOROUGH: Having gone through that exercise, with the Government now indicating its support for me, I call on the member for South Perth to do more work for me. I ask him to try to convince the Minister for Planning that, having saved the Leda reserve, it is not appropriate - even though the Kwinana council agrees with the Minister - to put the rapid transport route through that reserve. I believe - and have argued this with the Kwinana council - that a future rapid transport route to the south west, and eventually to Mandurah, abutting the existing town of Kwinana, will effectively be able to meet the rapid transport needs by directly running down the east side of the Kwinana townsite. This is basically a railway station at the end of the Wellard and Miller Roads intersection. It should go around the southern part of the Leda reserve linking to the existing railway line. I am concerned that the rapid transport route should not run through the middle of what can become one of the finest metropolitan reserves close to urban growth.

Mr Pental: Is that the one they are calling the Marlborough reserve?

Mr MARLBOROUGH: Yes. Although I am a great supporter of the rapid transport system, I hope we can revisit that at some time in the future, with some broader vision of the needs of the community. Finally, I place on the record the concerns of the people living on the Woodbridge estate. The proposed rapid transport route has been changed where it exits the inner Rockingham townsite. It was initially intended to locate that route within 30 metres of the nearest house on the Woodbridge estate, which is a beautiful inner suburban development settled around an existing 18-hole golf course. It is close to the Rockingham hospital, and the residents are extremely upset that this suburban enclave will be impacted upon by a rapid transport route.

I want the Minister to know how strongly they feel about it, and that I support their concerns. These proposed routes are not necessarily set in concrete, and it would be possible to move that road from the centre point without its being locked away. To be fair to the Minister, in discussions with me he has indicated that the route has been moved 80 metres. I am not sure even that distance will meet the needs of the local residents and, therefore, I place their concerns on the record. I will have further discussions with them, to determine whether those concerns can be met. I will perhaps have further discussions with the Minister along those lines.

My final point relates to the property of the Sumich Group Ltd. I do not have the lot numbers with me, but I am sure the Minister will be aware of the property presently occupied by that group. The Sumich Group is the largest exporter of fruit and vegetables in the southern hemisphere. Its export operations, together with massive areas of market garden, are located on this site. The original plan proposed that some of the land would be classified as future urban. The Minister may correct me if I am wrong, but I understand the new regional plan removes the possibility of urban zoning of the land. The Sumich Group has raised its concerns about the future zoning. I am not aware of the stage reached in the negotiations with the Minister, but those concerns have been raised with me. I will negotiate further with the Sumich Group, because the deletion of that urban cell should be carefully considered.

On the positive side, this regional plan has been needed for a long time, bearing in mind the impact it will have on the south west corridor. The previous Government had worked on the plan, and it has been finalised by this Minister. The overall picture indicates that the future needs of the people in the south west corridor will be taken care of on the basis of this report. I commend the department, under the direction of the Minister, for the work it has done.

MR LEWIS (Applecross - Minister for Planning) [2.48 pm]: I appreciate the Opposition's acknowledgment of the need for the two amendments to the metropolitan region scheme affecting the south west corridor. I am not being critical, but I believe that the south west corridor in general has been ignored for many years, and its potential for urban and other uses has not been met.

Mr Marlborough: Certainly not in comparison with the northern suburbs.

Mr LEWIS: I can remember when members opposite were in government, that at one stage a comment was made from the floor to the effect that they believed the south west corridor had been ignored.

Mr Marlborough: It is called the south of the river complex.

Mr LEWIS: That is exactly right.

A fair amount of work was done in the structure and planning of that before I became the Minister. One of the big pluses in the amendments is the Government's move to identify and locate a corridor for a rapid transit system in that south west area. Without being too critical, I believe the previous Government shied around this amendment a little. It could not identify the technology. The technology dictates what sort of corridor is needed, and the geometry and the like. One of the positives to come out of this - opposition members cannot hang their hat on this result in any way - is that the Government has got on with the job of identifying that rapid transit corridor. As the member for Peel said, it will

impact on three people in particular at the Spectacles. The original alignment as proposed in the amendment was correct. It was deliberately aligned so it would not impact on the lives of the people who live in those three homes. Unfortunately - I say unfortunately because I believe in some respects it is a bit over the top of what was required -

Mrs Henderson: Have you walked around that area? It is superb.

Mr LEWIS: Yes, I have. However, the corridor we located was on the ridge line above it. It does not go through the Spectacles. It has now been moved over, and it goes straight through people's homes. Society must start thinking about whether a few banksias are more important than humans and the emotions of those associated with the homes. Now and again, unfortunately, it goes over the top. In this regard - the member for Peel will probably agree with me - the original alignment was the better alignment. The moving of it has caused stress and concern to those owners, and it does not achieve anything in an environmental sense, other than appeasing some people who make a lot of noise. If the member for Peel and the environmental movement could identify a route for that transit that did not impact on those three homes, I am sure the State Planning Commission would be prepared to accept it. I would be more than delighted to process that and endeavour to put it through the planning system so we could give some relief to those people.

The railway at Wattleup does impact on the market garden of Mr Ellement. The difficulty is that when we bring down major amendments they are extreme to the extent that they are zoning thousands of hectares of land for residential purpose, and for parks and reserves, particularly in the south west corridor. There are some people who win, and some who lose. That is the unfortunate situation in which planners and the Minister for Planning find themselves on the basis that some land is injuriously affected. No-one would try deliberately to impact on people. However, we must have a plan, and we do have a plan for the future. Some people are financially and, indeed, emotionally affected by some of the decisions that are made; however, unfortunately, for the wider common good those decisions must prevail in the longer term.

These two amendments will set aside around 4 000 hectares of parks and reserves. In the stage A amendment 1 050 ha will be set aside for urban and urban deferred use, against 2 312 ha of land that will be set aside specifically as parks and reserves. In other words, it is 2:1; twice the amount of regional open space will be set aside in the south west A amendment than urban land. Similarly, in the south west B amendment, 1 701 ha will be set aside as urban and urban deferred land, and 1 747 ha will be set aside for parks and reserves. The setting aside of that land will allow the eventual establishment of the Beeliar regional park and the Jandakot botanic park.

Another matter the member addressed was the rapid transit corridor going through Leda. One of the difficulties with a rapid transit corridor is that it must be located close to the catchment of people. It is difficult to wind it in and out, and to miss everything that one would like to keep. That sort of transport is designed in a geometric sense for the speed of vehicles and the like. They must have a rather direct route to get from station to station to pick up the patronage. In a purer world, if we had our druthers and there was a better place for that to be located, we would try to miss that Leda area. Unfortunately people must get from Kwinana to Rockingham. The engineers and transport planners went over that area very thoroughly. They hired helicopters to trace out the area and determine the best location, where it would have the least impact. They have done a remarkable job and I have no hesitation in commending them for that. Obviously we cannot please everyone. Now and again we must make decisions which impact on areas such as the Leda reserve.

Notwithstanding that, as the member said, these things are not etched in stone. This is a start. If this plan is passed this afternoon, it can be amended at a later date. Like all planning in society, this is dynamic. I expect that in the future major amendments will be brought to the Parliament which will see a refinement of the plan we are trying to put in place. The alignment went close to the Woodbridge Estate; it was 30 or 40 metres from

the backs of the houses adjacent to the practice fairways of the golf course. After the submissions were heard and the lengthy processes associated with a major amendment completed, the committee took cognisance of those submissions and moved the alignment out by 80 metres. It is intended to relocate the fairways of that golf course and build a bund and plant between the Woodbridge Estate and the transit corridor. One likes to think that the fears of these people about nuisance and disturbance will be minimised as much possible.

A large parcel of land in the stage A amendment was identified as urban deferred when the amendment went on exhibition. Part of that is owned by the Sumich Group Ltd, and its operations are within that land identified for urban deferred. Industry also has made submissions. On the basis of Alcoa's contract, which is underwritten by an Act of this Parliament, it drew to the attention of the Government that if in any way the establishment of housing within that area would lead to the restriction of the use of its refinery, the Government would be in breach of that agreement.

It was decided, on submission and after full consideration, to delete that part of the amendment that would have set aside that land, some of which is owned by Sumich, as urban deferred. The Sumichs were quite aggrieved. They saw me, and I know they saw the Leader of the Opposition, on the basis that they had planned, as I understand it, to develop that land, and their plans have now been put on hold for an indeterminate period. The point that I tried to impress upon them is that no-one can ever presume what will happen in the planning process because it allows for people to be heard and for legitimate submissions or objections to be made. All the time planning amendments that are presented to me are changed from what was proposed originally after there has been full submission and public consultation. On balance, the Government, or I as the Minister, in concert with the State Planning Commission, and after the hearings of the committee of the State Planning Commission, decided that it would be better from an environmental point of view, because of the mud lakes and the dust that is associated with them, and also because of the need to have a buffer for industry, to delete the urban deferred zoning. That decision was made not because the Government has any reason to be vexatious towards the Sumichs but because of planning principles and the weight of reason. The bottom line is that the Sumichs have lost nothing. Their expectations were raised initially but, as I said, one cannot ever gamble on what may or may not be the final result in any planning process, and unfortunately their best expectations were dashed.

I thank the Opposition for its support of these two amendments, which augur well for the future development of that vital south west corner of the Perth metropolitan region.

Question put and negatived.

MOTION - METROPOLITAN REGION SCHEME AMENDMENT No 937-33, SOUTH WEST CORRIDOR (STAGE B), DISALLOWANCE

MR MARLBOROUGH (Peel) [3.02 pm]: I move -

That this House disallows the Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment No 937/33, South West Corridor (Stage B), a copy of which was laid upon the Table of the Legislative Assembly on 18 October 1994.

Question put and negatived.

VOLUNTARY MEMBERSHIP OF STUDENT GUILDS AND ASSOCIATIONS BILL

Second Reading

Resumed from an earlier stage of the sitting.

MR JOHNSON (Whitford) [3.03 pm]: I was able to say only a few words about this Bill before the luncheon suspension, mainly due to the lovely interjections from members opposite. The primary mission of the University of Western Australia is to advance,

transmit and sustain knowledge and understanding through the conduct of teaching, research and scholarship at the highest international standards, for the benefit of the international communities and the State of Western Australia. I am at a loss to see where a group of pseudo politicians elected by approximately 20 per cent of the student body fits into this altruistic notion. Further, values and principles pursuant to this mission include academic freedom and the fostering of openness, honesty, tolerance, fairness and responsibility in social and moral, as well as academic, matters. The State Labor Party platform states in objective 14 -

Recognition and protection of fundamental political and civil rights, including freedom of expression, the press, assembly, procession and non-violent dissent.

The State Liberal Party platform states -

The Liberal Party vigorously advocates individual liberty and the right of freedom of speech, religion, organisation, assembly, procession and non-violent dissent.

Such positive statements lead one to conclude that voluntary student unionism is both right and wrong; that is, freedom of association is right, and the fact that voluntary student unionism has not happened yet is wrong.

I have noted that one way in which supporters of compulsory student unionism have softened the undertones of the words "compulsory unionism" is to describe it with less offensive words. For example, in an article written by the President of the National Union of Students, Ken Fowlie, which appeared in *The Australian* higher education supplement of 18 August 1993, he states, "The objective of the Bill is to outlaw the system of automatic membership for all student organisations upon enrolment at university". I point out to Mr Fowlie that whether we call compulsory union membership pussycat, XYZ or automatic, or whatever we like, it is still compulsory. For this reason, I will refer to compulsory guild membership as teddy bear unionism; and, at the end of the day, Mr Fowlie had better find another teddy bear to hug.

Before lunch, the member for Perth unloaded a show bag of goodies on the Table of the House. I have taken the opportunity to look through that bag, which contains a variety of publications and goodies from some of the student guilds. A publication which I did not expect to find, of which I hope she is ashamed, and of which I certainly am ashamed, is a copy of "Harambee". I cannot see a date on it.

Mr Marlborough: It is either March or April.

Mr JOHNSON: That publication is an affront to any Christian in this country. It is deplorable, and just its cover is a disgrace. For the benefit of members, I will leave this copy on the Table of the House for the remainder of the sitting, if I am allowed to.

Mrs Henderson: Why do that if it is so bad?

Mr JOHNSON: Because it is important that members of this House realise what trash some of these student guilds are putting out. Some of the articles within this publication are so disgraceful that I would not read them out in this Chamber.

Mrs Henderson: If you found them so offensive, why did you read them?

Mr JOHNSON: Once I had read some of the articles, I stopped reading, because the stories and the language that is used are disgraceful. This is what some of the student guild money is used for.

Mrs Hallahan: Will you dwell on the positive things that student guilds do?

Mr JOHNSON: I hope Hansard caught that interjection because I happen to know that a Christian group which wanted to have an article printed in that publication in order to balance this rubbish was denied that opportunity, so it is rather one-sided.

Mr Marlborough: That publication has been cleaned up completely. It is now a very good publication.

Mr JOHNSON: The member said it is dated March or April. That is not very long ago.

Mrs Henderson: Have you seen the more recent ones?

Mr JOHNSON: Yes, I have seen them.

Mrs Henderson: Are you going to table those also?

Mr JOHNSON: Some are already tabled.

Mrs Hallahan: You are not acknowledging that changes have been made?

Mr JOHNSON: Changes have been made, but that does not mitigate this trash.

Mr Cunningham: It is definitely one, and could be two.

Mr JOHNSON: Now we have gone from one to two. Another one is tabled. I urge members to read some of the disgraceful sexual content on the Table which denigrates both men and women in different ways. It is a disgrace and not the job of the student union to sell that. Innocent students who must pay this student guild fee are subsidising that sort of rubbish.

Mrs Henderson: They do not have to read those.

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Ainsworth): Order!

Mr JOHNSON: Some students who have been to see me said that they have paid the student guild fee; they did not want to, but they felt if they paid it, they might have got some benefit rather than donate the money to charity. In fact, they wished they had donated it to charity. One person said that when he wanted to ask for one of the benefits that students were supposed to get by paying the guild fee, he was rejected on his book allowance subsidy. He was on Austudy, so he was not from a wealthy family.

I agree that this Government is recognising an international agreement in article 20 of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, but members opposite do not want to appreciate it this time. They acknowledge it only when it supports their own view; not when it favours both views. In conclusion, if a student wishes to receive a university education at the moment, he must pay that guild fee. It is a compulsory payment, which I find abhorrent. Students should have the right to education in this State without having to pay money for something they do not want. The students who have come to see me have been very clear in their commitment and do not want to be forced to pay this money. Some said they would pay it if it were voluntary, but they feel that to make it compulsory is a standover tactic. It is abhorrent to be forced to be a member of a student union at a place of learning.

DR CONSTABLE (Floreat) [3.13 pm]: I will begin by going back to the basics of what this Bill is all about. It is about three things: Firstly, it bans compulsory membership of student guilds, but it goes much further than that. Perhaps it should have stopped at that point and I would have been able to support it in total. It also forbids universities from collecting amenities fees. There is an amendment on the Notice Paper that will allow the University of Notre Dame to collect amenities fees. However, public universities will not be able to do that under this Bill. Thirdly, it bans universities from accepting Commonwealth grants in lieu of the fees that are now collected as guild fees. The Bill expressly prohibits universities from accepting Commonwealth funding to make up for the shortfalls that will occur when the guilds are no longer able to collect these fees.

I agree with voluntary membership of student guilds as a matter of principle. I totally support choice in such matters for students of universities. However, I have a great deal of concern about other aspects of this Bill. Unlike what the member for Whitford said, universities are not only about education of students, going to lectures, or doing assignments; they are not degree factories, they are much more than that. They are about the total education of students in offering a range of activities outside the straight educational aspects of those places of learning. Traditionally universities in Australia have provided clubs, and recreational and community service activities. They have provided involvement and responsibilities for students in university life; and so they should. The member for Perth listed a range of activities in which guilds are involved at present. However, it is worth noting the community service aspects of our universities.

The University of Western Australia activities such as Camp for Kids which provide holiday camps and weekend activities for disadvantaged children in the community are very worthwhile activities. I would be very sorry to see those activities disappear from the life of university students.

The publication and sale of the university magazine *Prosh* allows students to write a hugely amusing newspaper to sell to collect funds from the general community to donate to worthwhile charities. We must be very careful in cutting off the supply of funds to student activities. The Bill forbids government universities from collecting general amenities fees and from accepting Commonwealth grants in lieu of guild fees, and that will seriously interfere with the lives of students who rely on guild provided activities. The activities are offered now, but as of 1 January they will be severely curtailed and many students' lives will be less satisfactory as a result of that.

I foreshadow an amendment in my name on the Notice Paper. Although I support voluntary student guild membership, I would also like to see the universities able to collect amenities fees if they wish to do so in order that the services to students can continue at the existing level. The Government intends to allow the Notre Dame University to do just this. Why allow a private university to collect an amenities fee and not allow public universities to do that? I will be looking forward to the answer from the Parliamentary Secretary later. I think the Government may well have taken a leaf out of the book of its Victorian counterpart and followed its legislation. The Victorian legislation, while banning compulsory student guild membership, allows universities to charge a universal levy for the provision of services in specified areas. I think that is at least a compromise that will allow those amenities to continue.

I support the views of all the vice-chancellors of the Western Australia universities who are anxious to ensure student services and amenities are maintained. This Bill has serious implications for university budgets. All the university guilds, as far as I know, have loans. Who will take over those? They are guaranteed by the universities themselves. If these services are not provided, the Minister must have some expectation that the universities will somehow find the money in their very tight budgets to provide those services. I sadly suspect that many of the services will disappear, as will jobs when the services already provided through the student guilds are no longer available; something on which the Minister for Industrial Relations might dwell.

We must improve the legislation by making it non-discriminatory. At the moment it discriminates against students in government universities by not allowing the universities to collect an amenities fee in lieu of the guild fees. A workable compromise along the Victorian lines is possible, and I hope that during Committee, if we have one, the Parliamentary Secretary will seriously consider that possibility. The Bill raises a number of very important questions, one of which I alluded to a moment ago. What will happen to the existing loans of student guilds? It is a great pity this cannot be delayed until at least 1996 to allow the guilds to get that matter in order. How in practice will the new system work? Will the universities be forced to absorb the shortfalls caused by the voluntary fees? Minister Moore said on 26 October this year -

The Government is now saying that the universities will have to work their way around this. They will have to work out how they will provide the services which the guilds do not provide, or will not provide because the students do not want them.

That is a little gobbledygook from the Minister. He is suggesting that universities can find the money somewhere. We all know the universities do not have millions of dollars lying around to provide such services. Therefore, many of the services will disappear and we will see the effect on university budgets.

The timing of this Bill is abominable. It is ridiculous for the Government to bring this Bill forward now, at the end of the first week of December, when the universities are already beginning to enrol students. I understand it is intended that this Bill will become law on 1 January. Most re-enrolling students will have paid their fees by 1 January and will have to go through the process, if they wish, of having those fees refunded. It is

absurd to put that additional cost on university administrations at this time or at any time when they have such tight budgets. It would have been much more sensible to have delayed the introduction of this Bill until 1996 so that it could be debated in full rather than trying to guillotine it through in the dying days of the 1994 session. The Government should be ashamed of bringing this Bill forward at this time.

I repeat, I support voluntary membership of student guilds. This legislation goes way beyond that. It is a punitive piece of legislation punishing not only the students in the provision of amenities that the universities should provide, but also the universities and the university administrations and budgets. It is highly destructive of university life and of the administrators in universities. I will support the Bill at the second reading stage because I support the principle of voluntary unionism. I hope that in the time that is available some sense will be drilled into the heads of government members so that we will see some reason and my amendments supported.

MR THOMAS (Cockburn) [3.24 pm]: I will speak very briefly on this matter. I acknowledge my colleague the member for Marangaroo who has deferred to me to allow me to speak. I know he strongly opposes this legislation. I thank him for making the time available for me to speak.

This Bill represents an action by an ideologically driven Government. The Liberal Party has always been opposed to student guilds. The reason for that essentially is that it has been singularly unsuccessful in student politics. For the most part, student politics tend to be dominated by the Labor Party or parties to the left. The Liberal Party has been singularly unsuccessful. Those are often the formative years when people become Liberal politicians and now they will have the chance to get their own back by making guild membership non-compulsory.

As I suggested when I was speaking to a group of State Energy Commission workers at a rally outside yesterday, the Liberal Party imagines that all public sector workers spend their time sitting around drinking cups of tea and filling in overtime forms and that therefore it must privatise those organisations. The same sort of irrationality is applied to student guilds. When I say that it is ideologically driven, the ideology is that it compares student guilds with compulsory unionism, as the Liberals call it. I am prepared to argue at any time the merits of preference to unionists, which is sometimes misnamed compulsory unionism. However, that is not an appropriate analogy in any event. If one wanted to look for comparisons with the operations of student guilds run by students and governed by councils that are elected by students, the appropriate analogy would be local government because a range of services must be provided by the universities. The legislation provides that the students will elect bodies that run these organisations and collect the fees. In my view, that is similar to local government.

Mr Osborne: Your analogy is that every resident in a local government authority area uses local government services. They do not and, therefore, your analogy is incorrect.

Mr THOMAS: That is not the case. I live in the City of Melville. During the last mayoral election in that city, some people resented the fact that sporting facilities are provided out of local government rates and, because they did not happen to play cricket, they believed they should not have to pay. Cricket pitches are paid for out of local government rates. I do not use the local library because I have access to the Parliamentary Library and I have access to the university library. However, I still have to pay my rates because the facility is there. I suggest there are very few people at a university who do not use the facilities, because the Guild of Undergraduates at the University of Western Australia and the Student Guild at Curtin University, the two with which I have some familiarity, provide a whole heap of services that are used virtually by every student.

These ideologues on the other side of the House think they have a comparison with a preference to unionists which they sometimes misname compulsory unionism and say that they will apply the same principles here. However, they are taking away what has been an important part of the government of universities in this State since the University of Western Australia Act passed this place in the early part of this century. As I recall it,

that Act says that universities shall comprise the senate, the guild and the convocation. They are the three key elements in the government of the university and it has worked very well.

Why must the Government interfere? The reason is that for most of this century that side of politics has been singularly unsuccessful in student politics. It resents that. It happens to be the case that, at a time of life when most people are students, most students opt for the Left side of politics, and those opposite do not like that. That is not always the case; there are many exceptions. However, it happens to be most often the case. Those are the formative years for a lot of Liberal politicians and it sticks in their gullets, so much so that they now want to take this chance for revenge. What they are doing is equivalent to saying that it will be voluntary to pay rates in the City of Melville. No-one should have to pay rates in the City of Melville because the elected council sometimes passes opinions on things which do not accord with mine or the views of other ratepayers! Therefore, it should not be compulsory to pay rates because some people may not want to be represented by the City of Melville! That is an absurd proposition. Everyone should pay taxes because everyone has access to the facilities, whether or not they use them. Similarly, if services are to be provided by a public body, it is best that that body be elected. That is precisely what happens with student guilds.

Mr Tubby: What you are advocating was the death warrant of Maggie Thatcher. You are advocating a poll tax.

Mr THOMAS: No, I am not.

Mr Osborne: You are suggesting that everyone who owns a car must join the RAC.

Mr THOMAS: That is a cretinous analogy. The correct analogy, if members opposite want to have one, is that everyone who owns a car must use a road; roads must be built and the people who build the roads must be paid; roads cost money and therefore everyone who pays taxes in one form or another must pay for those roads.

A Government that collects taxes and decides where and how roads are built must be democratically elected. We see precisely that in the government of our universities. A substantial proportion of quite mundane things such as catering, sport, clubs and societies must be provided for by somebody or other, and it was decided a long time ago in this State that it should be by a democratically elected organisation of which students are members. Members opposite do not like the fact that their ideological soulmates suffer when they contest elections at universities because for the most part they are unsuccessful. Students are smart enough to get into universities and, therefore, will not vote for the likes of members opposite. They want to try to get back at the students. The Government is doing a petty and silly thing. The universities and guilds in this State have worked in providing services to students. The Government's motivation to interfere with them is ideologically driven. If I said as a ratepayer of the City of Melville that I did not like the views expressed on some issues, a terrible publication it put out or the city directorate -

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Order!

Mr THOMAS: Part of the electorate of Cockburn is in the City of Melville. I should not pay rates because I do not use the library. I have said that I have access to the parliamentary library and other libraries. I might not have a car and therefore do not use the roads, so why should I have to pay rates to the City of Melville? This is a silly move and quite inappropriate. If the Government wants to draw a comparison with some field of public life to look for inspiration instead of looking at trade unionism and its preference to refer to compulsory unionism, as it is sometimes called, the appropriate analogy would be democratically elected local government, which is what we have in undergraduate guilds.

MR TUBBY (Roleystone - Parliamentary Secretary) [3.33 pm]: I thank members for their contribution to the debate. I will be brief as I know members want to go to the Committee stage and many opposition members have not spoken because of that. Some

of the issues raised will be discussed during Committee. No speaker from the Opposition has been able to justify the compulsory membership of an association. They have tried to justify compulsory membership by pointing to the provision of services. As the member for Floreat pointed out, the provision of services is a completely different situation from the compulsory membership of a student body, which this Bill will make illegal. Students will be able to join an association if they so wish. The member for Floreat asked, "Why not allow them to charge an amenities fee?" We did that in 1977, and we have learnt from history. We will not repeat history. In 1977 the universities charged an amenity fee right across the student body, collected it and gave it to the student guilds en bloc saying, "That is voluntary membership and amenity fees all in one." We do not want to go down that track again and, therefore, the Bill deliberately precludes anyone from doing that. Many members opposite, including the members for Cockburn, Armadale and Perth, stated that the fees paid to the guilds are more analogous to rates paid to local government or taxes to the State Government.

Ms Warnock: That is exactly what they are.

Mr TUBBY: They are not. Taxes and rates are paid by everyone in the community who can afford to pay. They are used to provide public services for the good of the whole of the community without which society would not function. No university will fail to provide what it is there for simply because we are abolishing the compulsory membership -

Mrs Henderson: What they are there for? You have a narrow view.

Mr TUBBY: They are there to provide students with an education. All of the other facilities provided by the guilds are there, not because they are vital, but because they are convenient for students. They are not vital to the main purpose of a university. The member for Perth argued intellectually that the involvement in student guilds is an educational experience. I agree wholeheartedly. We are not stopping students from joining guilds to gain that educational experience. We are saying it should not be made compulsory for all students to pay a rate or tax to a student body so that they can go to university. That is exactly the same as members opposite advocating, in true socialist form, that every person in the community in Australia should pay a flat rate of tax of \$15 000. That is regressive. It is the same as the poll tax. If the Opposition went to the next election advocating for the wider community what it is advocating for students, it would go the same way as Margaret Thatcher. This regressive taxation measure does not stack up. On taxation grounds the Opposition's argument holds no water.

Let us look at some of the services. The member for Perth mentioned some of the welfare services. Does everybody in the community not pay rates and taxes for the provision of services for the whole community? University students are more intellectually able than the general community and therefore much better qualified and educated than the general community norm. What on earth makes university students such basket cases that they need welfare services and facilities far superior to those provided to the general community? There is no answer to that question. A member mentioned child minding services. What on earth is the justification for charging an 18 year old single student with no child and no dependants in order to pay for a child minder for the child of a 32 year old student? If the community or the universities consider that such a facility should be provided for students with dependent children, fine! Let the community fund it, but why should we penalise the 18 year old students without dependants just to subsidise the luxuries of other students? It is not on. It is not fair. In the wider community, the Federal Government provides funding for most child-minding facilities and the State Government provides other funding. Employers provide child-minding facilities; and so should the universities and TAFE colleges. Students should not be required to pay a levy to provide such facilities; the entire community should pay.

Retail services were mentioned. With the captive market at universities, without question the retail service will not go down the tube. If university guilds are half way smart they will not charge fees of \$140 a student. If they are smart - and some of the people are involved in the business faculties - the retail outlets could charge at a higher rate. Instead

of subsidising the food outlet, they could collect a university amenities fee from the turnover in the retail outlets; then they could return this revenue to the students by providing the facilities that the students want.

Without doubt, if the student guilds provide the facilities that students require, students will join the guilds. I come from an education background. In my day, it was not compulsory to join the State School Teachers Union, but the vast majority of teachers were - and will continue to be - members of that union. I was a member for 25 years; I joined at teachers' college. I paid a lot of money over the years because I appreciated the services that the union provided. Without doubt, if the guilds market their services properly, and provide the services the students want, the students will join the guilds. As I have said before, there is more than one way to skin a cat. Compelling students to join an association in this day and age, in a free country such as Australia, goes against everything that is happening around the world. Members opposite will be regarded as troglodytes if they pursue this notion any further. All around the world, people are fighting for freedom, and they are getting it.

Members opposite want to compel university students to join an association, and if they do not join they will be fined or not be allowed to attend university. That is disgraceful. The Liberal Party has always maintained a policy of voluntary membership of student guilds. That was our policy at the last election - indeed, at every election in the 1980s and earlier. We uphold that policy and we will continue to do so. I hope that all members will support the legislation.

Question put and a division taken with the following result -

Ayes (25)		
Mr Ainsworth	Mr Kierath	Mr Strickland
Mr C.J. Barnett	Mr Lewis	Mr Trenorden
Mr Board	Mr McNee	Mr Tubby
Mr Bradshaw	Mr Minson	Dr Turnbull
Dr Constable	Mr Osborne	Mrs van de Klashorst
Mr Court	Mrs Parker	Mr Wiese
Mr Cowan	Mr Pandal	Mr Bloffwitch (<i>Teller</i>)
Mrs Edwardes	Mr Prince	
Mr House	Mr W. Smith	

Noes (16)		
Mr M. Barnett	Mrs Henderson	Mr Thomas
Mr Brown	Mr Kobelke	Ms Warnock
Mr Cunningham	Mr Marlborough	Dr Watson
Dr Edwards	Mr McGinty	Mr Leahy (<i>Teller</i>)
Dr Gallop	Mr Ripper	
Mrs Hallahan	Mrs Roberts	

Pairs	
Mr Omodei	Mr Graham
Mr Shave	Mr Grill
Mr Blaikie	Mr D.L. Smith
Mr Marshall	Mr Bridge
Mr Nicholls	Mr Taylor

Question thus passed.

Bill read a second time.

Referral to Select Committee

MRS HALLAHAN (Armadale) [3.47 pm]: I move -

That the Bill be referred to a select committee to consider and report on the most appropriate way for the State Government to compensate any university in Western Australia which is legally required to bear part or all of the repayment of the principal or interest of any loan advanced to a student guild, if as a result of

the effects of the Voluntary Membership of Student Guilds and Associations Bill 1994 that guild is unable to meet fully its loan repayment commitments.

This is an important motion. During the second reading debate I referred to a letter from Professor Peter Boyce in which he pointed out the significant problems in the legislation. In part, the letter reads -

The Minister has indicated in conversation that he would not wish any university to inherit a financial burden as a result of this legislation, yet there is no provision in the bill for compensation. We would therefore seek an additional clause to the bill guaranteeing such compensation.

It is extraordinary that the Government has not accommodated the concerns expressed by the vice chancellors. The letter from Professor Peter Boyce was written on behalf of the Western Australian vice chancellors and indicates the three areas of serious concern they have about this legislation. It is out of respect for learned, knowledgeable and well intentioned people that I bring this motion to the House. I hope that, even at this late hour of the parliamentary session, the Government will reconsider its stance.

The passage of this legislation will cause an administrative nightmare at universities. The Government was not prepared to respond to the suggestion by Professor Boyce that the effective date of the legislation be deferred to December 1995, which would result in the student guild fees having effect in the 1996 academic year. The Government is acting in a seriously irresponsible way. The legislation will affect tens of thousands of students, the staff and communities of universities.

I cannot commend too strongly the referral of the Bill to a select committee. If the Parliamentary Secretary and other government members consider favourably this very reasonable measure to overcome a very serious problem, it will result in a positive response from a large body of responsible Western Australians as well as the students - our leaders of tomorrow - who have similar concerns.

Statutes for the universities will have to be changed. I do not see how that can be achieved if the intention of the Government is to have this Bill proclaimed by 1 January and put in place. The motion is a reasonable measure and I hope there will be a positive response from the Government.

MRS HENDERSON (Thornlie) [3.50 pm]: This legislation has been described as heavy-handed, draconian and based on ideology. There is no question of that. We have had reasonable requests from the vice chancellors of the various universities asking us to reconsider this legislation and drawing to our attention that the universities have underwritten very expensive loans which provide capital facilities for students and a range of services that are available to all the students on the campuses. Those services have been outlined this afternoon. Among other things they include very large refectory style buildings where students can eat their meals and obtain food and drink throughout the day and evening; optical, counselling and advocacy services; second-hand book shops and a range of other facilities and services. Those facilities have been provided at great expense. Millions of dollars have been put into providing buildings that have been guaranteed by the university. If the student guilds cannot rely on a set income to repay those loans, they will have substantial problems.

I am interested in the Parliamentary Secretary's argument that if the services are good enough the students will join. How would the Parliamentary Secretary feel if the student guild put a turnstile at the refectory door which said, "Insert your student card", and students had to produce that card before they could purchase a meal or coffee, or before they could play in the university cricket or football teams, or take part in amateur dramatics? The guilds provide those services for the benefit of their members. As soon as any suggestion was made that they should limit those services to their members, I am sure the member for Roleystone would be the first to come to this House and cry discrimination and say that they should not be allowed to restrict those services to their own members. In fact, his suggestion is that they should add an extra amount to every bottle of Coke, coffee, lunch and dinner they sell. Does he not appreciate that students

use those facilities because they provide food and drink at prices students can afford? Once a levy is added to everything the students buy there is no reason why they would not walk down to Broadway or to the nearest facility.

The member for Roleystone fails to appreciate that students cannot provide those services if they do not sink funds into major capital investments for the future. Look at the sporting facilities that have been built at major universities, and the cost of providing those facilities. They cannot be provided by the current generation of students for future students unless they take out loans. There is no other way that the high level of facilities provided for those purposes could be funded by the current round of students. The member for Roleystone ignores that totally, so strong is the obsession of the Liberals with this notion of compulsion; so strong is their desire for revenge against the students involved in political activity who have not supported their cause. They do not care whether that means that loans become difficult to repay; that university bodies find themselves as guarantors in a position where this legislation prohibits them from raising an amenities fee that could then be used to deflect the responsibility that will fall on them if the student guilds are unable to service their loans. He ignores the reality of those things. He ignores the reality that student life is not just studying and attending lectures. It is a whole range of activities, sporting, social, dramatic and all those other things that students do.

The Minister is not in the least bit concerned about that part of a so-called rounded education. He would be happy to see all those services disappear. He is happy to say that the guilds should be able to attract people to pay the fee. Of course they will not pay the fee if they can walk in the door - as they can now - and get cheap food and drink without paying the fee. It is subsidised by every student at that university. It is every student's right to walk in there and use those services, and so they should. The member is about 50 years out of date in his approach to these matters. He would see education returned to a very narrow set of the three Rs.

The Government is so desperate to get this legislation through it is prepared to guillotine it on the last day of the House's sitting. It is not prepared to have proper debate. Here I am making a five minute speech rather than a proper speech in a full debate. I would like to debate the Bill clause by clause. I would particularly like to debate the amendment proposed by the Government to give the University of Notre Dame the right to raise an amenities fee, but not other universities. If that is not discrimination between a private university and the public universities, I do not know what is. Because the University of Notre Dame has been successful in its lobbying, where the other universities' vice chancellors' pleas have fallen on deaf ears, we will not see that extended to everybody.

This is legislation that members opposite, with their obsession, will come to regret. By the time they come to regret it, student services and student life at the various universities will be reduced to a shadow of what it is currently. The Government's colleagues in other States have not gone down this path. They have not produced such harsh and draconian measures. They have been more measured and reasonable in their approach. I condemn both the legislation and the use of the guillotine to ram it through the Parliament this afternoon.

DR CONSTABLE (Floreat) [3.57 pm]: This motion for a select committee addresses the fundamental problems of the legislation. Those problems have been outlined not only in my contribution to the second reading debate but by others now.

One of the major issues is that this will happen quickly in the next two or three weeks. On 1 January 1995 this legislation will come into effect and will cause chaos for university administrations. It will also throw into grave doubt the loans that student guilds have taken out and which have been guaranteed by the universities themselves. It will probably mean the universities must spend money, and take it out of their tight budgets for purposes they have not budgeted for in the coming year.

I refer again to my speech in the second reading debate, and without repeating the comments I made about what I saw as the weaknesses of the legislation, I support this motion.

MR TUBBY (Roleystone - Parliamentary Secretary) [3.59 pm]: The Government does not support this motion to set up a select committee for a number of reasons. The Minister has indicated to the universities that if there are any financial problems as a result of this legislation he will be very amenable to doing something with the universities to work their way through it. There are many ways that the \$140 can be collected by the student body. I am sure the universities have enough business sense to be able to work their way through this without causing any problems to the student services or the funding of any loans the student guilds have taken out. There is no question they have the capacity to work their way through it, and they will. If for some unknown reason they fall flat on their faces, the Minister has indicated he will help wherever he can. The Government does not support this motion.

The **ACTING SPEAKER** (Mr Johnson): Order! The time has arrived for completion of all remaining stages of this business. Under the sessional order every question necessary to complete the business must be put without further debate or amendment. The question is that the Bill be referred to a select committee.

Question put and a division taken with the following result -

Ayes (18)

Mr M. Barnett
Mr Brown
Mr Catania
Dr Constable
Mr Cunningham
Dr Edwards

Dr Gallop
Mrs Hallahan
Mrs Henderson
Mr Kobelke
Mr Marlborough
Mr McGinty

Mr Ripper
Mrs Roberts
Mr Thomas
Ms Warnock
Dr Watson
Mr Leahy (*Teller*)

Noes (23)

Mr Ainsworth
Mr C.J. Barnett
Mr Board
Mr Bradshaw
Mr Court
Mr Cowan
Mrs Edwards
Mr House

Mr Kierath
Mr Lewis
Mr McNee
Mr Minson
Mr Osborne
Mrs Parker
Mr Pendal
Mr Prince

Mr Strickland
Mr Trenorden
Mr Tubby
Dr Turnbull
Mrs van de Klashorst
Mr Wiese
Mr Bloffwitch (*Teller*)

Pairs

Mr D.L. Smith
Mr Graham
Mr Riebeling
Mr Taylor
Mr Grill
Mr Bridge

Mr Blaikie
Mr Shave
Mr Nicholls
Mr Omodei
Mr W. Smith
Mr Marshall

Question thus negatived.

Committee

The Deputy Chairman of Committees (Mr Johnson) in the Chair; Mr Tubby (Parliamentary Secretary) in charge of the Bill.

The **DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**: Order! The time has passed for completion of all remaining stages of this business. Under the sessional order every question necessary to complete the business must be put without further debate or amendment. The question is that the amendments standing on the Notice Paper in the name of the Parliamentary Secretary, clauses 1 to 18 as amended and the title of the Bill be agreed to and that I do now leave the Chair and report the amendments.

Question put and a division taken with the following result -

Ayes (24)

Mr Ainsworth
Mr C.J. Barnett
Mr Board
Mr Bradshaw
Mr Court
Mr Cowan
Mrs Edwardes
Mr House

Mr Kierath
Mr Lewis
Mr McNee
Mr Minson
Mr Osborne
Mrs Parker
Mr Pandal
Mr Prince

Mr W. Smith
Mr Strickland
Mr Trenorden
Mr Tubby
Dr Turnbull
Mrs van de Klashorst
Mr Wiese
Mr Bloffwitch (*Teller*)

Noes (17)

Mr M. Barnett
Mr Brown
Mr Catania
Mr Cunningham
Dr Edwards
Dr Gallop

Mrs Hallahan
Mrs Henderson
Mr Kobelke
Mr Marlborough
Mr McGinty
Mr Ripper

Mrs Roberts
Mr Thomas
Ms Warnock
Dr Watson
Mr Leahy (*Teller*)

Pairs

Mr Omodei
Mr Marshall
Mr Shave
Mr Nicholls
Mr Blaikie
Mr Day

Mr D.L. Smith
Mr Grill
Mr Graham
Mr Riebeling
Mr Taylor
Mr Bridge

Question thus passed.

Amendments agreed to under the foregoing resolution were as follows -

Clause 2

Page 2, line 7 - To delete "1 December 1994" and substitute "the day on which it received the Royal Assent".

Page 2, line 8 - To delete "The" and substitute "Except as provided in subsection (3), the"

Page 2, after line 11 - To insert the following -

(3) If, before this Act comes into operation, a subscription, fee or amount has been paid under a principal Act that is amended by this Act for membership of a student guild or association in the year commencing 1 January 1995, or any part of that year, the student guild or association shall, upon written application by the person by or on whose behalf the subscription, fee or amount was paid, refund that subscription, fee or amount.

Clause 15

Page 19, line 21 to page 20, line 8 - To delete the lines and substitute the following -

(2) It is not compulsory for any student or person seeking enrolment as a student to make a subscription or pay any fee required by a student association, either directly or indirectly, or pay an amount in lieu of such a subscription or fee, unless that person has chosen to join the student association.

Report

The SPEAKER: The question is that the report be adopted.

Question put and a division taken with the following result -

Ayes (24)

Mr Ainsworth
Mr C.J. Barnett
Mr Board
Mr Bradshaw
Mr Court
Mr Cowan
Mrs Edwardes
Mr House

Mr Johnson
Mr Kierath
Mr Lewis
Mr McNee
Mr Minson
Mr Osborne
Mrs Parker
Mr Pendal

Mr Prince
Mr W. Smith
Mr Strickland
Mr Trenorden
Dr Turnbull
Mrs van de Klashorst
Mr Wiese
Mr Bloffwich (*Teller*)

Noes (17)

Mr M. Barnett
Mr Brown
Mr Catania
Mr Cunningham
Dr Edwards
Dr Gallop

Mrs Hallahan
Mrs Henderson
Mr Kobelke
Mr Marlborough
Mr McGinty
Mr Ripper

Mrs Roberts
Mr Thomas
Ms Warnock
Dr Watson
Mr Leahy (*Teller*)

Pairs

Mr Blaikie
Mr Shave
Mr Omodei
Mr Marshall
Mr Nicholls
Mr Day

Mr Riebeling
Mr Taylor
Mr D.L. Smith
Mr Bridge
Mr Graham
Mr Grill

Question thus passed.

Third Reading

The SPEAKER: The question is that the Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and a division taken with the following result -

Ayes (24)

Mr Ainsworth
Mr C.J. Barnett
Mr Board
Mr Bradshaw
Mr Court
Mr Cowan
Mrs Edwardes
Mr House

Mr Johnson
Mr Kierath
Mr Lewis
Mr McNee
Mr Osborne
Mrs Parker
Mr Pendal
Mr Prince

Mr W. Smith
Mr Strickland
Mr Trenorden
Mr Tubby
Dr Turnbull
Mrs van de Klashorst
Mr Wiese
Mr Bloffwich (*Teller*)

Noes (17)

Mr M. Barnett
Mr Brown
Mr Catania
Mr Cunningham
Dr Edwards
Dr Gallop

Mrs Hallahan
Mrs Henderson
Mr Kobelke
Mr Marlborough
Mr McGinty
Mr Ripper

Mrs Roberts
Mr Thomas
Ms Warnock
Dr Watson
Mr Leahy (*Teller*)

Pairs

Mr Blaikie
Mr Shave
Mr Omodei
Mr Marshall
Mr Nicholls
Mr Day

Mr Riebeling
Mr Taylor
Mr D.L. Smith
Mr Bridge
Mr Graham
Mr Grill

Question thus passed.

Bill read a third time and returned to the Council with amendments.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE - SPECIAL

Adjournment Debate - Christmas Greetings; Thanks to Parliament Staff Services

MR C.J. BARNETT (Cottesloe - Leader of the House) [4.16 pm]: I move -

That the House at its rising adjourn until a date and time to be fixed by the Speaker.

I remind members that it may be necessary - I hope it will not - for the House to resume for a brief sitting on 20 December. That will depend on the passage of legislation in the upper House and any amendments that may be made.

I thank you, Mr Speaker, and your deputies for all your support and efforts over the year. I also thank the Clerk and his staff for all the services provided to all members of Parliament in this Chamber. I especially thank the staff in the parliamentary services area, Kevin Humphries, Nick Hagley, Sally Menagh and Tanya Mirco, for the assistance that they give to me and to all members of this House. Finally, I thank the members, both government and opposition. I particularly thank the Leader of the House for the Opposition. Although we have had several clashes - one or two today - generally we have worked fairly well together. Most legislation has been dealt with amicably which has allowed debate to take place. I also thank the Whips for both the Government and the Opposition.

The major change in the Parliament and its procedures this year has been the use of the sessional order for time management. I appreciate that there will always be philosophical and ideological positions on its use; I equally appreciate that there will always be Bills that are contentious and for which there will never be agreement across the Chamber. I think we have just seen one such Bill go through.

This year the House has dealt with 80 pieces of legislation - sometimes I wonder why we deal with so much legislation. The process continues to grow, and it becomes more complex. Of those 80 Bills, 52 were passed through this House since late September when the sessional order was put in place. Of those 52 that were passed, only six had debate cut short in any way. It has also been the case that there have been very few occasions when this House has sat beyond midnight. Last night we sat until about two o'clock in the morning. The orderly sitting of the House and the greater predictability of the passage of legislation is a reform. I do not suggest that the sessional order is perfect. The Select Committee on Procedure, headed by the Chairman of Committees, Mr Strickland, will look at the use of the sessional order for time management. I put it to members that time management is a form of parliamentary practice which is prevalent everywhere and is now in Western Australia to stay.

I wish all members a very happy and joyous Christmas, and a safe and happy one for them and their families.

MR COURT (Nedlands - Premier) [4.20 pm]: I also take this opportunity at the end of 1994 to wish all members on both sides of the House and their families a very happy Christmas and a joyous new year. One of the sacrifices of our jobs as politicians is that we have so little time to spend with our families. The Christmas period provides an opportunity to spend some extra time with our families, and I hope all members in this Chamber will take that opportunity. I also thank all the staff of the Parliament. It has been another hard year, but the staff have acted in a very professional way. It is hard to single out all the different components of the Parliament, whether it be the Clerks in this House, the catering staff, or Hansard. I cannot miss out parliamentary services, because someone gave me a subtle hint that no-one has mentioned the staff in that area for the past six years. We take the opportunity to wish all members of the staff and their families all the best for the festive season. We thank you, Mr Speaker, and your deputies for the way in which you have run the Parliament this year.

MR COWAN (Merredin - Deputy Premier) [4.21 pm]: On behalf of the National Party, I endorse the remarks made by the Premier and the Leader of the House. It is most interesting that, as always, the Leader of the House has demonstrated some innovation. From memory, this is the first time that the salutatory remarks at the end of a session

have been part of a formal debate. Normally, it has been a most disorderly time with no question before the Chair. It makes no difference; the sentiment expressed is one most people support, even though we have had a very difficult time and on many occasions the debate in this Chamber has been very robust. We have seen some innovation, and we must acknowledge that time management has its place in the parliamentary system. I hope that in time, time management will be grudgingly accepted, and we shall be able to ensure in some way, shape or form that it is accepted in parliamentary practice and is handled in a way that reduces even further the number of occasions on which the processes in this place curb debate. In other words, it requires discipline from all members of this Parliament to ensure they manage the time from week to week in such a way that debate can continue without being curtailed in any way.

I also pay my compliments to the Leader of the Opposition and his colleagues, my ministerial colleagues, and my parliamentary colleagues on this side of the House. I extend that to the staff of the Parliament, whether it be the officers of the Table, the Hansard staff, the catering and hospitality services, or the security services throughout the Parliament. Every member in this place acknowledges the service provided and the contribution made by every member of the staff, irrespective of the part they play. In conclusion, on behalf of my National Party colleagues, I wish you, Mr Speaker, and everybody a very merry and safe Christmas and a prosperous 1995.

MR MCGINTY (Fremantle - Leader of the Opposition) [4.24 pm]: I place on record on this last sitting day for 1994, the appreciation of the members of the Opposition Labor Party of the role played by you, Mr Speaker, and your staff in the Parliament. It has been a difficult job, particularly at times when we have been dealing with matters about which members of this side of the Parliament have felt very strongly. We wish you, Mr Speaker, a very relaxing few months when you will not be sitting in the Chair. We also thank the Clerk and his staff for the assistance they have so capably provided during the course of the year. That applies also to the Hansard reporters. I think their job has been more difficult in the past few months, as a result of a certain increase in the volume and intensity of the debate. We appreciate that they work under very difficult conditions, as do the Dining Room staff and others on the staff of Parliament House. We record our appreciation for the great work they have put in during the course of 1994. I also thank a group of people who have shared many a long hour and many a tense moment with us; that is, our friends in the media who have the responsibility of conveying to the public what happens in this Parliament. Again, it is a most important duty. Finally, I thank all members of the House - those members of the Government and those of my own party, as well as the Independent member - for the support, opposition, criticism and contribution that has been made during the course of this year.

In light of the comments made by various speakers opposite, it would be inappropriate to conclude today without commenting on the application of what has been euphemistically called time management, but which the Opposition still refers to as the guillotine. It is fine for the Leader of the House to say that 52 Bills have been passed under the sessional order since September. It is very easy to do that with an absolute majority in both Houses of Parliament. Members on this side of the House have never enjoyed that, because of the voting system in this State which has ensured that at every election for the past 100 years, regardless of the popular vote, the conservative parties have enjoyed a majority in the upper House. The use of the guillotine results in bad law. Legislation passed last year is bad law, and that has been demonstrated as a result of a number of decisions by courts, tribunals and other commentators in respect of industrial relations. I believe the voluntary student union legislation will go into the same category, because this Parliament was not given a chance to debate it. Having said that, I believe it would be inappropriate to allow members of this House to pass this off with a nice glossy reference to how successful time management has been, because the Opposition does not see it that way.

I conclude on a cheerier note: I wish all members present a very merry Christmas and a happy new year. My new year's wish, in advance, is that in 1995 we shall have a fairer electoral system operating in Western Australia.

DR GALLOP (Victoria Park - Deputy Leader of the Opposition) [4.27 pm]: It is appropriate on this occasion to do two things; that is, firstly, to thank the staff and others who contribute to the Parliament for the work they have done. The other speakers have done that very admirably. Secondly, it is an opportunity to reflect on our achievements as a Legislature within the Western Australian parliamentary system. Reflecting on one's achievements can be a very dangerous exercise. I remember the case of the former Prime Minister of Australia, William McMahon, who was asked to outline his Government's achievements on the television program "This Day Tonight" in 1971. He concluded -

Admittedly, I can't go too far and tell you explicitly what we have done because I think if I did it would undo all the good that has been achieved already.

THE SPEAKER (Mr Clarko): It is very hard to top that quote, but I must say a few brief words. It is nearly Christmas and I hope everyone will have time to get away from their intensive lives and to celebrate Christmas and the festive season with their families and friends. It takes many good, capable and energetic people to ensure the good operation of this House. I thank all those who make sure the House operates successfully in its role as an effective Legislative Assembly. I thank the Clerk of the House and his assistants for a job well done. I thank the many parliamentary attendants who assist him. I thank the Deputy Speaker and the four Chairmen of Committees. I thank the Chief Hansard Reporter, Mr Neil Burrell, and his entire Hansard staff. The catering staff must be commended for their outstanding work. Thanks also to the general administration staff, sometimes described loosely as the Joint House Committee, especially Vince Pacecca. The Library staff deserve commendation for the work they do providing members with important information. Thanks also to the post office and switchboard staff who invariably are cheerful in their dealings with members. I thank also the gardeners, cleaning staff, security staff and police. Of course, special thanks go to all the members, who carry out their various duties so expertly and often under great stress. I wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Question put and passed.

House adjourned at 4.30 pm

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS - "TOGETHER IS BETTER IN THE YEAR OF THE FAMILY", PRODUCTION

943. Mr GRAHAM to Minister for the Family:

- (1) What was the cost of production of the document "Together is better in the year of the family"?
- (2) What was the purpose of producing the document?
- (3) What was the cost of distribution of the document?
- (4) To whom were the copies distributed?
- (5) Where was the document printed?

Mr NICHOLLS replied:

I am advised that the Department for Community Development did not produce a document called "Together is better in the year of the family".

POLICE - BUNBURY STATION
Reallocation Funding

1712. Mr CATANIA to the Minister for Police:

As Bunbury police station needs to be reallocated and all sections - Criminal Investigation Bureau, forensic, traffic, general purpose - need to be housed in one building to ensure more cooperation and efficiency, when does the Government intend to allocate money to ensure better conditions apply?

Mr WIESE replied:

This Government recognises the need for a new purpose built police complex at Bunbury. However, due to the legacy of 10 years of Labor Government there are other higher priorities which need to be addressed. Bunbury's requirements will be continually monitored and a replacement complex will be listed in the Police Department's capital works budget when the other priorities have been assessed. I am sure the member would appreciate that this Government has allocated greatly increased funding to the department to address the appalling conditions of police facilities throughout the State which was ignored by the previous Government.

POLICE - WOMEN PRISONERS, BODY SEARCHES
Roebourne, Wiluna, Kalgoorlie, Derby or Katanning

1757. Dr WATSON to the Minister for Police:

- (1) Further to question on notice 1484 of 1994, on how many occasions in 1994 has the urgency or danger been such that a man has conducted a body search on a woman prisoner at Roebourne, Wiluna, Kalgoorlie, Derby or Katanning?
- (2) What circumstances deem that a prisoner is subject to a body search by a police officer?

Mr WIESE replied:

I have been advised by the Commissioner of Police as follows -

I presume the Minister is referring to question on notice 1486 of 1994.

- (1) Inquiries at Roebourne, Wiluna, Kalgoorlie, Derby and Katanning Police Stations indicated that no body search of a woman prisoner was conducted by a male police officer in 1994.
- (2) Section 236 of the Criminal Code states, "When a person is in

lawful custody upon a charge of committing any offence, it is lawful for a police officer to search his person, and to take from him anything found upon his person, and to use such force as is reasonably necessary for that purpose".

A prisoner is searched by a police officer for -

- (a) items of property for safe keeping while in a lockup
- (b) items carried for the purpose of self-harm or to cause harm to another
- (c) items which may afford evidence as to the commission of an offence.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES - OPINION POLLS

1887. Dr GALLOP to the Minister for Water Resources; Local Government:

What opinion polls or surveys have been conducted or commissioned by the Minister's departments or agencies since 1 January 1994?

Mr OMODEI replied:

Water Resources:

I am not prepared to divert the considerable departmental resources which would be required to provide this information. However, in the interests of accountability, if the member has a specific query she should put it in writing and I will have the matter addressed.

Local Government:

Local Government Grants Commission information return for the financial year ended 30 June 1994.

Survey on contemporary issues in local government.

Survey on performance indicators of the Department of Local Government.

CONSULTANTS - EMPLOYED BY MINISTER

1896. Dr GALLOP to the Deputy Premier; Minister for Commerce and Trade:

- (1) What consultants have been employed by the Minister since 1 January 1994?
- (2) For what specific purposes were these consultants retained?
- (3) What is the cost of each consultant and what was the duration of each consultancy?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

- (1)-(3) Details of consultants engaged by the Government for the six month period commencing 1 July 1994 and ended 31 December 1994 will be tabled in due course.

CONSULTANTS - EMPLOYED BY MINISTER

1899. Dr GALLOP to the Minister representing the Minister for Mines; Lands:

- (1) What consultants have been employed by the Minister since 1 January 1994?
- (2) For what specific purposes were these consultants retained?
- (3) What is the cost of each consultant and what was the duration of each consultancy?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

The Minister for Mines; Lands has provided the following reply -

- (1)-(3) Details of consultants engaged by the Government for the six month period commencing 1 July 1994 and ending 31 December 1994 will be tabled in due course.

CONSULTANTS - EMPLOYED BY MINISTER

1905. Dr GALLOP to the Minister representing the Minister for Health; the Arts; Fair Trading:

- (1) What consultants have been employed by the Minister since 1 January 1994?
- (2) For what specific purposes were these consultants retained?
- (3) What is the cost of each consultant and what was the duration of each consultancy?

Mr MINSON replied:

The Minister for Health; the Arts; Fair Trading has provided the following reply -

- (1)-(3) The information sought would require considerable research and I am not prepared to allocate resources for this purpose. If the member has a specific question I will be pleased to respond.

CONSULTANTS - EMPLOYED BY MINISTER

1907. Dr GALLOP to the Minister for Community Development; the Family; Seniors:

- (1) What consultants have been employed by the Minister since 1 January 1994?
- (2) For what specific purposes were these consultants retained?
- (3) What is the cost of each consultant and what was the duration of each consultancy?

Mr NICHOLLS replied:

- (1)-(3) Details of consultants engaged by the Government for the six month period commencing 1 July 1994 and ending 31 December 1994 will be tabled in due course.

CONSULTANTS - EMPLOYED BY MINISTER

1908. Dr GALLOP to the Minister for Labour Relations; Works; Services; Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs:

- (1) What consultants have been employed by the Minister since 1 January 1994?
- (2) For what specific purposes were these consultants retained?
- (3) What is the cost of each consultant and what was the duration of each consultancy?

Mr KIERATH replied:

- (1)-(3) Details of consultants engaged by the Government for the six month period commencing 1 July 1994 and ending 31 December 1994 will be tabled in due course.

CONSULTANTS - EMPLOYED BY MINISTER

1910. Dr GALLOP to the Minister for Planning; Heritage:

- (1) What consultants have been employed by the Minister since 1 January 1994?
- (2) For what specific purposes were these consultants retained?

- (3) What is the cost of each consultant and what was the duration of each consultancy?

Mr LEWIS replied:

- (1)-(3) Details of consultants engaged by the Government for the six month period commencing 1 July 1994 and ending 31 December 1994 will be tabled in due course.

DOCTORS - INDIVIDUAL WORK CONTRACTS WITH PUBLIC HOSPITALS

1921. Dr GALLOP to the Minister representing the Minister for Health:

- (1) Does the Government intend to put doctors on individual work contracts with public hospitals?
- (2) If yes, what guarantee will there be that small country hospitals facing limited supply of doctors could afford to attract and keep medical staff?
- (3) If not, will the Government be looking to negotiate within the framework laid down by the Non-Teaching Hospitals Agreement which expires on 31 December?

Mr MINSON replied:

The Minister for Health has provided the following reply -

- (1) Visiting medical practitioners working on a fee for service basis in government non-teaching hospitals are currently appointed on an individual basis. Their contracts import the terms of a standardised agreement commonly known as the visiting medical practitioners non-teaching hospitals agreement 1992/1995. That agreement expires on 31 December 1994 and the Health Department is currently negotiating new arrangements with the Australian Medical Association.

The department proposes to develop in consultation with the AMA an agreement using the framework of the current agreement. The agreement will be for three years. Doctors may therefore continue to provide services to hospitals under a central agreement in a form similar to the current agreement. However, the agreement will also provide that individual practitioners may *opt out* of that agreement and negotiate their own terms directly with the hospital. It is an option visiting medical practitioners may or may not use but it will be available.

It is proposed that the opt out option can be exercised in the first six months of the agreement and thereafter on the anniversary date of the appointment. This would allow doctors as individuals or in groups to freely and easily move from an agreement that incorporates the central agreement to tailored agreements. This will provide increased flexibility for doctors and health service managers, which in turn should improve health services by increasing the focus on local community requirements.

Some medical practitioners may choose from the outset not to use the central agreement but to negotiate directly with hospital management and secure different but mutually acceptable conditions.

- (2) The question assumes that individual contracts change the existing contractual relationship, which as the answer to (1) indicates is not the case. The proposal will provide for a central agreement, which in practical terms will apply in a manner similar to the existing agreement. If one or more doctors chooses to opt out of the model agreement this will only be by mutual agreement. Clearly health

service management would not agree to any change which jeopardises the provision of medical services.

The proposal combines the benefits of standardised terms together with the ability to customise agreements which improve services to the community and assist with the attraction and retention of medical practitioners. This flexibility will provide an alternative to the previous "one size fits all" approach, which should be especially beneficial in country areas.

- (3) As already mentioned, the proposed central agreement would reflect the tenor of the existing agreement. However, the Government in consultation with the AMA will be seeking to upgrade the agreement so that it is cost-effective and reflects best practice and the Government's management reforms. As such the new agreement would be utilised in conjunction with model by-laws. Such by-laws would address many of the procedural and professional matters contained within the current agreement. These by-laws could be used "off the shelf" or customised to suit local conditions.

These proposals are subject to negotiation with the AMA and consultation with other interested parties such as the Rural Doctors Association. In the meantime, the Government has offered to extend the current agreement for up to six months to ensure continuity of service provision pending completion of the negotiations.

POLICE - SERVICES, IMPROVEMENTS

1969. Mr CATANIA to the Minister for Police:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of comments made by Hon Derrick Tomlinson at a recent public meeting held at Westfield Primary School in response to escalating violence on Perth's trains, at which he told the meeting-
- (a) "our police force is undermanned";
 - (b) "their equipment is obsolete and inadequate";
 - (c) "the number of vehicles needed to respond quickly is insufficient"?
- (2) Does the Minister agree with these comments from his Upper House colleague?
- (3) If so, what does he intend to do about this situation?

Mr WIESE replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2)-(3) Many of the problems of the Police Force are the consequences of 10 years of Labor Government. Since February 1993, the coalition Government has been addressing these problems and has provided -

Funding for 100 additional police officers and 70 public servants (March 1993).

An allocation increase of \$18m in the 1993-94 Budget.

An additional \$1.5m over two years to engage Arthur Andersen consultancy to assist the Police Department in implementing changes to provide a more efficient and effective police service (Delta program).

A special allocation of \$2.5m for basic equipment and urgent maintenance at police stations (March 1994).

An increase of \$26m in the 1994-95 Budget.

\$52m over three years for equipment, upgrade of stations and purchase of land (\$15.8m for 1994-95, an increase of \$9.4m over previous year.)

\$4.5m to employ 100 civilians to enable at least 100 trained police officers to be released for operational duty by June 1995.

Furthermore, 500 additional police officers will be trained commencing in January 1995, while 300 trained officers in nonoperational areas are to be deployed to operational areas and replaced by civilians.

POLICE - WILUNA LOCKUP

Women, Charges

1980. Mr DAY to the Minister for Police:

With reference to question on notice 1486 of 1994 and the answer that from 1 January 1994 to 18 October 1994 a total of 720 women were put into the police lockup at Wiluna, would the Minister advise what charges were laid against the women which resulted in their admission to the lockup?

Mr WIESE replied:

I am advised by the Commissioner of Police as follows -

Charges were laid against the women for the following offences -

- Assault
- Burglary
- Communication with a prisoner
- Disorderly conduct
- Driving motor vehicle under suspension
- Stealing motor vehicle
- Excess 0.08 driving under influence
- Refusal to leave licensed premises
- Failure to leave licensed premises
- Re-entering licensed premises
- Reserve drinking
- Street drinking

In addition, other women were admitted to the lockup as a result of -

- Bench warrant
- Wiluna Court warrant of commitment
- Other Court warrant of commitment
- Warrant 62 (Sentenced prisoner ex-court)
- Drunkenness.

RESERVES - No 27807

1981. Mr McGINTY to the Minister representing the Minister for Lands:

- (1) Given that on 19 March 1982, reserve No 27807 was vested in trust to the Minister for Transport for "harbour purposes", on 1 November 1994 that vesting order was revoked, and on 1 November 1994 under section 33 (2) of the Land Act a vesting order was gazetted which increased the size of reserve No 27807 but excluded the tenure of the reserve from that of a reserve being held in trust by a Minister (the Minister for Transport), why is reserve No 27807 no longer held in trust by the Minister for Transport for harbour purposes?
- (2) Given that prior to 1 November 1994 the Minister for Transport had powers to lease reserve No 27807 for a term of up to 21 years, why has that power been revoked?
- (3) Given that prior to 1 November 1994 reserve No 27807 land was held in

the Crown Land Record Register Book Volume 3096 Folio 773, and the Southern Breakwater identified as Lot 2097 has been recorded in the Register Book as Crown Land Record Volume 3103 Folio 581-

- (a) when was the purported Lot 2097 surveyed;
- (b) when will the purported lot actually become a "lot" as defined under the Town Planning and Development Act?
- (4) As the purported Lot 2097 (Vol 3103 Folio 581) is now amalgamated with the Crown Land Register Book Vol 3096 Folio 773 what is the new Crown Land Register number for the larger reserve No 27807?
- (5) When will the new Crown Land Record number for the enlarged reserve No 27807 issue?

Mr LEWIS replied:

The Minister for Lands has provided the following reply -

- (1) The 1 November 1994 gazettal did issue a new vesting order to the Minister for Transport over the enlarged reserve 27807 for "harbour purposes".
- (2) The Minister for Transport did not have power to lease reserve 27807 under the Land Act. Leasing powers are available under section 12 of the Marine and Harbours Act.
- (3)
 - (a) Lot 2097 was defined using photogrammetry techniques as shown on the Department of Land Administration reserve plan 423, which was prepared in June 1994.
 - (b) The land now described in lot 2097 was vacant Crown land having been created from the sea floor. The Department of Land Administration allocated the lot number in June 1994.
- (4) The new Crown land register number will be volume 3098 folio 680.
- (5) It is expected that the new Crown land record will issue within two weeks.

CONTRACTS, GOVERNMENT - ADVERTISING OR PROMOTIONS

2013. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Resources Development; Energy:

- (1) What advertising or promotions contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the advertising or promotions contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

State Energy Commission of Western Australia:

- (1)-(3) SECWA has not awarded any advertising or promotions contracts. However, SECWA has used the following agencies for advertising and promotional activities as required -

Adlink DDB Needham
Oak Ridge Communications Group
Shorter/FCB Pty Ltd
Armstrong Advertising and Marketing

Department of Resources Development:

- (1) The Karratha 25 promotion, which celebrated the town's twenty-fifth anniversary.
- (2) Mr Barry Collinson, consultant.

(3) \$13 646.

CONTRACTS, GOVERNMENT - PHONE POLLING OR TELEMARKETING

2036. Mrs ROBERTS to the Premier; Treasurer; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal Affairs; Tourism:

- (1) What phone polling or telemarketing contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the phone polling or telemarketing contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?

Mr COURT replied:

- (1)-(3) I am not prepared to divert the considerable departmental resources which would be required to provide this information. However, in the interests of accountability, if the member has a specific query she should put it in writing and I will have the matter addressed.

CONTRACTS, GOVERNMENT - PHONE POLLING OR TELEMARKETING

2037. Mrs ROBERTS to the Deputy Premier; Minister for Commerce and Trade:

- (1) What phone polling or telemarketing contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the phone polling or telemarketing contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?

Mr. COWAN replied:

- (1) (a) The Department of Commerce and Trade commissioned a customer survey which was conducted via a telephone administered questionnaire in July 1994.
(b) The Small Business Development Corporation conducted phone polling of the small business sector.
- (2) (a) The successful tender was a joint venture between KMPG Management Consulting and the Roy Morgan Research Centre.
(b) Patterson Market Research on two occasions.
- (3) (a) The contract included a number of elements of the survey overall and the telephone administration of the questionnaire was not separately quoted. The entire contract cost was \$47 000
(b) \$2 000 and \$1 900 respectively.

CONTRACTS, GOVERNMENT - PHONE POLLING OR TELEMARKETING

2038. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Resources Development; Energy:

- (1) What phone polling or telemarketing contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the phone polling or telemarketing contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

- (1)-(3) I am not prepared to divert the considerable departmental resources which would be required to provide this information. However, in the interests

of accountability, if the member has a specific query she should put it in writing and I will have the matter addressed.

CONTRACTS, GOVERNMENT - PHONE POLLING OR TELEMARKETING

2039. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Primary Industry; Fisheries:

- (1) What phone polling or telemarketing contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the phone polling or telemarketing contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?

Mr HOUSE replied:

- (1)-(3) I am not prepared to divert the considerable departmental resources which would be required to provide this information. However, in the interests of accountability, if the member has a specific query she should put it in writing and I will have the matter addressed.

CONTRACTS, GOVERNMENT - PHONE POLLING OR TELEMARKETING

2042. Mrs ROBERTS to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education; Employment and Training; Sport and Recreation:

- (1) What phone polling or telemarketing contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the phone polling or telemarketing contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?

Mr TUBBY replied:

The Minister for Education; Employment and Training; Sport and Recreation has provided the following reply -

- (1)-(3) I am not prepared to divert the considerable departmental resources which would be required to provide this information. However, in the interests of accountability, if the member has a specific query she should put it in writing and I will have the matter addressed.

CONTRACTS, GOVERNMENT - PHONE POLLING OR TELEMARKETING

2045. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Water Resources; Local Government:

- (1) What phone polling or telemarketing contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the phone polling or telemarketing contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?

Mr OMODEI replied:

- (1)-(3) I am not prepared to divert the considerable departmental resources which would be required to provide this information. However, in the interests of accountability, if the member has a specific query she should put it in writing and I will have the matter addressed.

CONTRACTS, GOVERNMENT - PHONE POLLING OR TELEMARKETING

2049. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Labour Relations; Works and Services; Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs:

- (1) What phone polling or telemarketing contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the phone polling or telemarketing contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?

Mr KIERATH replied:

Department of Productivity and Labour Relations:

- (1) A two stage telephone survey to measure public awareness about the workplace agreement laws and related issues
- (2) Roy Morgan Research Centre
- (3) \$19 800.

Commissioner of Workplace Agreements:

- (1) Telephone marketing poll of parties to workplace agreements to assess the effectiveness of performance indicators set by the commissioner
- (2) Advantage Training and Personnel
- (3) \$552.

Building Management Authority:

- (1)
 - (i) Customer satisfaction survey - corporate clients
 - (ii) Customer satisfaction survey - building occupiers
 - (iii) Construction operations - project survey
 - (iv) Satisfaction of corporate clients
 - (v) Survey of consultants.
- (2)
 - (i) Curtin University - BMA cooperative education program
 - (ii) Curtin University - BMA cooperative education program
 - (iii) Reark Research Pty Ltd
 - (iv) Donovan Research
 - (v) Insight Research Australia Pty Ltd.
- (3)
 - (i) \$12 800
 - (ii) \$12 800
 - (iii) \$2 500
 - (iv) \$2 200
 - (v) \$5 000

Department of State Services:

- (1)
 - (i) Telemarketing contract for the State Supply Disposals Centre 1993
 - (ii) 1994 vehicle satisfaction survey
- (2)
 - (i) 132929 Australia Pty Ltd
 - (ii) Reark Research

- (3) (i) \$817
- (ii) \$726.

CONTRACTS, GOVERNMENT - PHONE POLLING OR TELEMARKETING

2051. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Planning; Heritage:

- (1) What phone polling or telemarketing contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the phone polling or telemarketing contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?

Mr LEWIS replied:

- (1)-(3) I am not prepared to divert the considerable departmental resources which would be required to provide this information. However, in the interests of accountability, if the member has a specific query she should put it in writing and I will have the matter addressed.

CONTRACTS, GOVERNMENT - PHONE POLLING OR TELEMARKETING

2052. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs; Housing:

- (1) What phone polling or telemarketing contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the phone polling or telemarketing contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1)-(3) I am not prepared to divert the considerable departmental resources which would be required to provide this information. However, in the interests of accountability, if the member has a specific query she should put it in writing and I will have the matter addressed.

CONSULTANTS - RETAINED BY MINISTER

2055. Dr GALLOP to the Deputy Premier; Minister for Commerce and Trade:

What consultants have been retained by the Minister since 1 January 1994?

Mr COWAN replied:

I refer the member to my answer of parliamentary question No 1896.

CONSULTANTS - RETAINED BY MINISTER

2058. Dr GALLOP to the Minister representing the Minister for Mines; Lands:

What consultants have been retained by the Minister since 1 January 1994?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

The Minister for Mines; Lands has provided the following reply -

I refer the member to my answer of parliamentary question No 1899.

CONSULTANTS - RETAINED BY MINISTER

2064. Dr GALLOP to the Minister representing the Minister for Health; the Arts; Fair Trading:

What consultants have been retained by the Minister since 1 January 1994?

Mr MINSON replied:

The Minister for Health; the Arts; Fair Trading has provided the following reply -

I refer the member to my answer of parliamentary question No 1905.

CONSULTANTS - RETAINED BY MINISTER

2066. Dr GALLOP to the Minister for Community Development; the Family; Seniors:
What consultants have been retained by the Minister since 1 January 1994?

Mr NICHOLLS replied:

I refer the member to my answer of parliamentary question No 1907.

CONSULTANTS - RETAINED BY MINISTER

2067. Dr GALLOP to the Minister for Labour Relations; Works; Services; Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs:
What consultants have been retained by the Minister since 1 January 1994?

Mr KIERATH replied:

I refer the member to my answer of parliamentary question No 1908.

CONSULTANTS - RETAINED BY MINISTER

2069. Dr GALLOP to the Minister for Planning; Heritage:
What consultants have been retained by the Minister since 1 January 1994?

Mr LEWIS replied:

I refer the member to my answer of parliamentary question No 1910.

CREDIT CARDS, GOVERNMENT - MINISTER AND MINISTER'S STAFF

2089. Dr GALLOP to the Minister representing the Minister for Mines; Lands:
- (1) Has the Minister been issued with a government credit card?
 - (2) Has it been used by the Minister?
 - (3) Which of the Minister's staff have a government credit card?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

The Minister for Mines; Lands has provided the following reply -

(1)-(2) Yes

(3) (a) Executive Officer

(b) Senior Policy Officer.

MINISTERIAL OFFICES - STAFF OR CONSULTANTS EMPLOYMENT

2152. Dr GALLOP to the Attorney General:

- (1) Further to question on notice 123 of 1993, what staff or consultants have since been employed in the Minister's office and on what salaries, terms, conditions and allowances?
- (2) What staff or consultants are no longer employed in the Minister's office and for what reason?
- (3) What variations have occurred to salaries, terms, conditions and allowances, if any?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- | | | |
|-----|------------------|------------------------|
| (1) | B. Cullen | L7 |
| | G. Paddick | L7 (vehicle allocated) |
| | D. Russell-Coote | L6 |
| | G. Ellson | L5 |
| | G. McGowan | L5 |
| | B. David | L5 |
| | T. Weston | L3 |
| | J. Davis | L3 |
| | D. Weerasooriya | L3 |
| | V. Lukan | L2 (part time) |
| | J. Murphy | L1 |
| | L. Schofield | L1 |
| (2) | C. Cahil | Transferred |
| | R. Grimley | Transferred |
| | M. Lawrance | Resigned |
| | R. Mortlock | Transferred |
| | D. Trott | Transferred |
| | E. Shannon | Resigned |
| | J. Munday | Transferred |
| | C. Veersma | Transferred |
| | J. Bowker | Transferred |
| | L. Schofield | Contract expired |
| (3) | None. | |

CLEANING CONTRACTS - AWARDED BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

2171 Mrs ROBERTS to the Deputy Premier; Minister for Commerce and Trade:

- (1) What cleaning contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed Ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the cleaning contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

(1)-(2) Department of Commerce and Trade:

Airlite Cleaning - contract awarded for Technology Park for two years from 18.10.93. The contract is let and managed by Chesterton International which manages Technology Park on behalf of the Department of Commerce and Trade.

Gascoyne Development Commission:

Favco Cleaning Services

Dawson Cleaning Services

Peel Development Commission:

Quell-Cleen

Pilbara Development Commission

Building Management Authority property service - Karratha office

P & O Property Services - Port Hedland office.

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| (3) | Airlite Cleaning | \$50 1178.42 per year |
| | Favco Cleaning Services | \$5 184 1993-94 |
| | Dawson Cleaning Services | \$5 184 1994-95 |

Quell-Cleen (general office cleaning)	\$158 per month
(window cleaning)	\$4 per clean
Building Management Authority	
property service	\$205 per month
P & O Property Service	\$80 per week.

FIRE BRIGADE - VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADES ASSOCIATION
Politicians' Support and Assistance Call

2218. Mr CATANIA to the Minister for Emergency Services:

- (1) In the October issue of *Communicator* did the Western Australian Volunteer Fire Brigades Association (Inc) call for assistance and support from all politicians because -
 - (a) they were not receiving appropriate funding for training or urban firefighting personnel;
 - (b) the funding for urban volunteers will be approximately \$210 000 less this year than that until 30 June 1994;
- (2) If so, would the Minister advise if this is correct and, if so, why?

Mr WIESE replied:

- (1)
 - (a) Yes.
 - (b) Yes. However, the October issue of the *Communicator* also states that urban volunteer firefighters are aware that the reduction in 100 per cent funding relates to the requirement of loans, debt interest adjustments.
- (2) Budget allocation for training of volunteers -

1993-94	\$306 000
1994-95	\$389 000

Moneys allocated as follows -

Year	Travel Allowances	Fares	B.A.	General Training
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1993-94	52 277	25 600	125 681	102 430
1994-95	96 543	46 050	191 880	54 304

All brigades receive breathing apparatus and training by the district officer, i.e. fire, hazardous materials and rescue, administration, fire prevention and public awareness activities. Additionally, most brigades access the basic or leadership courses which are run on a regional basis.

RECYCLING - WASTE, BUDGET ALLOCATION

2219. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) What was the total expenditure in programs advertising and promoting waste recycling in the financial years -
 - (a) 1990-91;
 - (b) 1991-92;
 - (c) 1992-93;
 - (d) 1993-94?
- (2) What is the budget available for promotion of waste recycling in the current 1994-95 financial year?
- (3) What budget allocation has been provided to the Office of Waste Management to promote recycling in the current financial year?

- (4) Does this current budget allocation illustrate the level of commitment of the Court Government to waste recycling?

Mr MINSON replied:

- (1) Prior to April of this year responsibility for the waste management program was spread between the then EPA, the Health Department and the Department of Commerce and Trade, formerly State department. Within the Environment portfolio the resources devoted to advertising and promoting waste recycling were -
- (a) 1990-91 - approx \$34 000 salaries; \$10 000 contingencies;
 - (b) 1991-92 - approx \$34 000 salaries; \$10 000 contingencies;
 - (c) 1992-93 - approx \$34 000 salaries \$10 000 contingencies; and
 - (d) 1993-94 - approx \$215 000 salaries; \$40 000 contingencies, budget annualised on a pro rata basis, based on the Environment portfolio experience.

I cannot provide exact details for the other portfolios but I understand that the total resources allocated to waste management prior to 1993-94 were similar to that year. The member might like to pursue that with the relevant Minister.

- (2) In 1994-95 the salaries and contingency budget, excluding indirect overheads, for the promotion of waste recycling in various forms is approximately \$255 000 within the environment protection program and the waste management subprogram. Salaries form approximately 80 per cent of this figure.
- (3) Answered by (2).
- (4) The Court coalition Government is committed to ensuring the success of recycling within the community. Primarily this is being done by coordination and facilitation of business, local government and community resources in strategic areas such as buy recycled programs, and construction and demolition waste. The newly appointed and broad based advisory council on waste management will provide important advice in this area.

SHARK BAY - WORLD HERITAGE AREA, MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT
Monkey Mia Reserve, Management Plan; Shell Beach, Shell Mining

2248. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Has the Government reached a new management agreement with the Federal Government on the Shark Bay world heritage area?
- (2) If yes, can the Minister provide details of the agreement?
- (3) If not, why not?
- (4) Why has the final management plan for the Monkey Mia reserve not been released?
- (5) When will it be available?
- (6) Is the Government aware of plans by the owner of the Monkey Mia Dolphin Resort to expand the resort?
- (7) If so, could the Minister provide detailed plans of this expansion?
- (8) Is the Government aware of other developments planned for the Monkey Mia reserve?
- (9) If yes, could the Minister provide details of these developments?
- (10) At what stage is the shell mining proposal for Shell Beach?

Mr MINSON replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) There have been negotiations with the Federal Government but these are not yet complete.
- (4) A review of the Shark Bay region plan has commenced. Finalisation of the Monkey Mia reserve management plan has been delayed so that it can be considered in the broader context of a review of the region plan.
- (5) The review of the region plan is due to be completed by November 1994. The Monkey Mia reserve management plan may be completed within that time frame.
- (6) Yes.
- (7) See below.
- (8) Yes.
- (9) There was a recent proposal to establish a clam hatchery within the Monkey Mia reserve; however, this has since been withdrawn. The establishment of an area for aquaculture land bases within the Monkey Mia reserve has also been suggested by the Shark Bay Shire Council but is yet to be considered. There is currently also a proposal, in the early stages, to upgrade the Monkey Mia dolphin information centre and include a small research facility. Development at Monkey Mia will be considered in the context of the Shark Bay region plan.
- (10) No proposal for an expansion of the currently approved shell mining project has been received by the Department of Environmental Protection. The DEP understands that the Shire of Shark Bay has approved in principle an additional mining proposal of 20 000 tonnes per year, subject to environmental assessment. The proponent is understood to be preparing a proposal document.

SWAN RIVER TRUST - MEMBERSHIP

2249. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Who are the members of the Swan River Trust?
- (2) When was each appointed and for how long?
- (3) What is each member's occupation?

Mr MINSON replied:

The answer was tabled.

[See paper No 700.]

RESERVES - 33202, BATH STREET, MAYLANDS *Public Open Space between Tranby on Swan-Swan River*

2250. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister representing the Minister for Lands:

- (1) What are the boundaries of the Bath Street reserve in Maylands?
- (2) What public open space is between Tranby on Swan and the Swan River?
- (3) Does this differ from strata plan 2232 issued in October 1973?
- (4) If yes, in what way does it differ?
- (5) How can this situation be resolved?

Mr LEWIS replied:

The Minister for Lands has provided the following reply -

(1)-(2) The area of land between Tranby on Swan and the Swan River is "public recreation" reserve 33202 which is vested in the City of Stirling. The boundaries of the reserve are depicted on attached DOLA plan No 17904. [See paper No 701.]

(3)-(5) The present common boundary between Tranby on Swan, strata plan 2232, and reserve 33202 is the same as in October 1973.

WETLANDS - CONSERVATION POLICY

2252. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the state wetlands conservation policy which was released for public review in early 1993?
- (2) Why has the policy not been finalised or implemented?
- (3) When will the policy be implemented?

Mr MINSON replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) A costing of implementation of the proposed policy is being prepared.
- (3) Progressively, following finalisation.

CONSERVATION GROUPS - VOLUNTARY, GOVERNMENT GRANTS *Neighbourhood Conservation Grants Scheme; Green Grants Scheme*

2255. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Has the Minister made any grants to voluntary conservation groups this financial year?
- (2) If so, what are the details of the grants?
- (3) What schemes has the Government put in place to provide financial assistance to voluntary conservation groups?
- (4) Has the Government dismantled the neighbourhood conservation grants scheme and the green grants scheme?
- (5) If yes, what is the explanation?

Mr MINSON replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) The Government will provide funding for conservation which is at least equivalent to that provided in previous years. Details of the Government's intentions will be announced in the near future.
- (4)-(5) The neighbourhood conservation grants scheme was a component of the Labor Government's pre-election social advantage package. It has not been continued.

DISABILITY SERVICES COMMISSION - SCHOOL AGE THERAPY SERVICES *Full-time Equivalents Employment*

2260. Dr WATSON to the Minister for Disability Services:

How many school age therapy services full time equivalent staff were employed in 1993-94?

Mr MINSON replied:

- (1) 1 July 1993 to 31 December 1993 -
The Authority for Intellectually Handicapped Persons employed the equivalent of 8.1 FTEs. The Health Department of Western Australia

employed the equivalent of 19 FTEs. The Bureau for Disability Services expended \$309 951 on therapy services salaries and contract therapists.

- (2) 1 January 1994 to 30 June 1994 -

The Disability Services Commission expended \$491 367 on therapy services and contract therapists. The Health Department of Western Australia employed the equivalent of 19 FTEs.

PRINTING CONTRACTS - AWARDED BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

2262. Mrs ROBERTS to the Deputy Premier; Minister for Commerce and Trade:

- (1) What printing contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the printing contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?
- (4) For which of the printing contracts were tenders called?
- (5) For which of the printing contracts were at least three quotes sought?
- (6) For which of the printing contracts were neither tenders called nor three quotes sought?

Mr COWAN replied:

- (1)-(6) The information sought would require considerable research and I am not prepared to allocate resources for this purpose. If the member has a specific question about a printing contract I will provide a response.

PRINTING CONTRACTS - AWARDED BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

2265. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister representing the Minister for Mines; Lands:

- (1) What printing contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the printing contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?
- (4) For which of the printing contracts were tenders called?
- (5) For which of the printing contracts were at least three quotes sought?
- (6) For which of the printing contracts were neither tenders called nor three quotes sought?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

The Minister for Mines; Lands has provided the following reply -

- (1)-(6) The information sought would require considerable research and I am not prepared to allocate resources for this purpose. If the member has a specific question about a printing contract I will provide a response.

PRINTING CONTRACTS - AWARDED BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

2271. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister representing the Minister for Health; the Arts; Fair Trading:

- (1) What printing contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?

- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the printing contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?
- (4) For which of the printing contracts were tenders called?
- (5) For which of the printing contracts were at least three quotes sought?
- (6) For which of the printing contracts were neither tenders called nor three quotes sought?

Mr MINSON replied:

The Minister for Health; the Arts; Fair Trading has provided the following reply -

- (1)-(6) The information sought would require considerable research and I am not prepared to allocate resources for this purpose. If the member has a specific question about a printing contract I will provide a response.

PRINTING CONTRACTS - AWARDED BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

2273. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Community Development; the Family; Seniors:

- (1) What printing contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the printing contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?
- (4) For which of the printing contracts were tenders called?
- (5) For which of the printing contracts were at least three quotes sought?
- (6) For which of the printing contracts were neither tenders called nor three quotes sought?

Mr NICHOLLS replied:

- (1)-(6) The information sought would require considerable research and I am not prepared to allocate resources for this purpose. If the member has a specific question about a printing contract I will provide a response.

PRINTING CONTRACTS - AWARDED BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

2274. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Labour Relations; Works; Services; Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs:

- (1) What printing contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the printing contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?
- (4) For which of the printing contracts were tenders called?
- (5) For which of the printing contracts were at least three quotes sought?
- (6) For which of the printing contracts were neither tenders called nor three quotes sought?

Mr KIERATH replied:

- (1)-(6) The information sought would require considerable research and I am not

prepared to allocate resources for this purpose. If the member has a specific question about a printing contract I will provide a response.

PRINTING CONTRACTS - AWARDED BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

2276. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Planning; Heritage:

- (1) What printing contracts have been awarded by agencies within the Minister's portfolio areas since the Minister assumed ministerial office for each of the portfolio areas?
- (2) Which companies or persons were each of the printing contracts awarded to?
- (3) What was the monetary consideration for each of the contracts?
- (4) For which of the printing contracts were tenders called?
- (5) For which of the printing contracts were at least three quotes sought?
- (6) For which of the printing contracts were neither tenders called nor three quotes sought?

Mr LEWIS replied:

- (1)-(6) The information sought would require considerable research and I am not prepared to allocate resources for this purpose. If the member has a specific question about a printing contract I will provide a response.

FIRE BRIGADE - VOLUNTEER

Air-conditioned Toyota Landcruiser Trayback Vehicles

2316. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister for Emergency Services:

- (1) What action has the Minister taken since his answer of 13 September 1994 to ensure the supply of air conditioned Toyota Landcruiser trayback vehicles to units of the Volunteer Fire Brigade?
- (2) When will units of the Volunteer Fire Brigade located in Port Hedland and South Hedland receive air conditioned vehicles?

Mr WIESE replied:

- (1) At the Western Australian Fire Brigades Board meeting of 8 November 1994 it was resolved that the air conditioning of 20 light tankers would occur. The light tankers would be progressively located above the 26th parallel and in high temperature areas. The brigade's engineer has advised the board that as the vehicles are diesel and require running in prior to being stationed in areas where infrequent use is recorded, the initial allocation will be at stations where the appliances are used daily for lengthy periods.
- (2) The 20 vehicles will then be relocated to the higher temperature areas plus areas north of the 26th parallel prior to the 1995-96 summer season. Port Hedland and South Hedland will receive air conditioned units at this time.

DISABILITY SERVICES COMMISSION - "INTRODUCING THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DISABILITY SERVICES ACT (1993)"

2318. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister for Disability Services:

- (1) What was the cost of production of the package of publications "Introducing the Western Australian Disability Services Act 1993"?
- (2) What was the purpose of producing the package?
- (3) What was the cost of distribution of the package?
- (4) To whom were the copies distributed?

- (5) Where were the documents printed?
- (6) By which company were the documents printed?

Mr MINSON replied:

- (1) The Disability Services Commission has produced a pamphlet "Introducing the Western Australian Disability Services Act (1993)" at a cost of \$1 304.
- (2) The purpose of the pamphlet is to explain the contents of the Act in plain English to people with disabilities, their families and carers. The other major audiences for the pamphlets are disability service providing agencies as well as community agencies.
- (3) No specific cost can be provided as the pamphlet is distributed through the statewide chain of Disability Services Commission offices and posted with other relevant information in response to demand.
- (4) As above.
- (5) Perth.
- (6) Lamb Print.

SCHOOLS - LANGUAGE PROGRAMS

2351. Mr McGINTY to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education:

- (1) What languages are offered in Western Australian secondary schools?
- (2) What languages are offered as tertiary entrance examination subjects?
- (3) How many primary schools offer language programs?
- (4) How many secondary schools offer language programs?
- (5) Which schools offer:
 - (i) Modern Greek;
 - (ii) Vietnamese;
 - (iii) Spanish;
 - (iv) Aboriginal languages?
- (6) Are there any plans to expand the number of languages on offer in Western Australian schools in 1995?

Mr TUBBY replied:

In respect of government schools and based on 1993 figures, which are the most recent ones available?

- (1) The following languages are offered in WA government secondary schools: Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Modern Greek and Thai. Aboriginal languages, Spanish and Vietnamese are also departmental priority languages, but they are currently not offered in any secondary schools.
- (2) The following languages are offered as tertiary entrance examination subjects: Chinese (second language and advanced courses), French, German, Indonesian (second language and advanced), Italian and Japanese.
- (3) In 1993, 298 out of 550 government primary schools offered language programs. This has increased in 1994.
- (4) In 1993, 132 out of 147 government secondary schools offered language programs.
- (5) Based on 1993 figures -

- (i) Modern Greek is offered by Mount Lawley Senior High School and a number of the primary schools are in Mt Lawley's catchment area. These schools change from year to year.
 - (ii) Vietnamese is currently not offered by any school. Girrawheen SHS has plans to introduce it in 1995.
 - (iii) Spanish is currently offered as a trial at Bungaree Primary School; and
 - (iv) Aboriginal languages are offered at Meekatharra DHS, Jigalong Remote Community School, South Hedland PS, Blackstone Remote Community School, Warakurna Remote Community School, Warburton Ranges Remote Community School, Yintarri PS, Roebourne PS, Bayulu Remote Community School, Broome PS, Kununurra DHS, La Grange Remote Community School, One Arm Point PS, Wananami Remote Community School, Wangkatjungka Remote Community School, Fitzroy Crossing DHS and East Narrogin PS.
- (6) The Education Department has a list of priority languages which are Aboriginal languages, Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian, Modern Greek, Spanish and Vietnamese. Schools may select languages from this list. There are no plans to expand the list in 1995.

MEDIA SERVICES - GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS

South West Development Commission and Peel Development Commission Areas

2367. Mr D.L. SMITH to the Deputy Premier, Minister for Commerce and Trade:

- (1) How much has his ministry and each of his agencies spent on media services by way of payments to private organisations in the areas covered by -
 - (a) the South West Development Commission;
 - (b) the Peel Development Commission;
 in the year 30 June 1993 to 30 June 1994 including all moneys paid for -
 - (i) the services of journalists;
 - (ii) the services of persons to organise and promote itineraries for Ministers;
 - (iii) public relations;
 - (iv) compiling and setting up any pamphlets or information brochures;
 - (v) the promoting of these items;
 - (vi) the distribution of these items;
 - (vii) the taking of photographs and videos;
 - (viii) the production of videos;
 - (ix) the hiring of vehicles, helicopters and other aircraft for this purpose?
- (2) What was the total cost of each such item and what agency was responsible for its production?
- (3) What was the date of each such segment and who was the payment made to?

Mr COWAN replied:

- (1)-(3) The information sought would require considerable research and I am not prepared to allocate resources for this purpose. If the member has a specific question I will be pleased to respond.

MEDIA SERVICES - GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS

South West Development Commission and Peel Development Commission Areas

2370. Mr D.L. SMITH to the Minister representing the Minister for Mines; Lands:

- (1) How much has his ministry and each of his agencies spent on media services by way of payments to private organisations in the areas covered by -
- (a) the South West Development Commission;
 - (b) the Peel Development Commission;
- in the year 30 June 1993 to 30 June 1994 including all moneys paid for -
- (i) the services of journalists;
 - (ii) the services of persons to organise and promote itineraries for Ministers;
 - (iii) public relations;
 - (iv) compiling and setting up any pamphlets or information brochures;
 - (v) the promoting of these items;
 - (vi) the distribution of these items;
 - (vii) the taking of photographs and videos;
 - (viii) the production of videos;
 - (ix) the hiring of vehicles, helicopters and other aircraft for this purpose?
- (2) What was the total cost of each such item and what agency was responsible for its production?
- (3) What was the date of each such segment and who was the payment made to?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

- (1)-(3) The information sought would require considerable research and I am not prepared to allocate resources for this purpose. If the member has a question about a specific media service I will provide a response.

MEDIA SERVICES - GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS

South West Development Commission and Peel Development Commission Areas

2376. Mr D.L. SMITH to the Minister representing the Minister for Health; the Arts; Fair Trading:

- (1) How much has his ministry and each of his agencies spent on media services by way of payments to private organisations in the areas covered by -
- (a) the South West Development Commission;
 - (b) the Peel Development Commission;
- in the year 30 June 1993 to 30 June 1994 including all moneys paid for -
- (i) the services of journalists;
 - (ii) the services of persons to organise and promote itineraries for Ministers;

- (iii) public relations;
 - (iv) compiling and setting up any pamphlets or information brochures;
 - (v) the promoting of these items;
 - (vi) the distribution of these items;
 - (vii) the taking of photographs and videos;
 - (viii) the production of videos;
 - (ix) the hiring of vehicles, helicopters and other aircraft for this purpose?
- (2) What was the total cost of each such item and what agency was responsible for its production?
- (3) What was the date of each such segment and who was the payment made to?

Mr MINSON replied:

- (1)-(3) The information sought would require considerable research and I am not prepared to allocate resources for this purpose. If the member has a specific question I will provide a response.

MEDIA SERVICES - GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS

South West Development Commission and Peel Development Commission Areas

2378. Mr D.L. SMITH to the Minister for Community Development; the Family; Seniors:

- (1) How much has his ministry and each of his agencies spent on media services by way of payments to private organisations in the areas covered by -
- (a) the South West Development Commission;
 - (b) the Peel Development Commission;
- in the year 30 June 1993 to 30 June 1994 including all moneys paid for -
- (i) the services of journalists;
 - (ii) the services of persons to organise and promote itineraries for Ministers;
 - (iii) public relations;
 - (iv) compiling and setting up any pamphlets or information brochures;
 - (v) the promoting of these items;
 - (vi) the distribution of these items;
 - (vii) the taking of photographs and videos;
 - (viii) the production of videos;
 - (ix) the hiring of vehicles, helicopters and other aircraft for this purpose?
- (2) What was the total cost of each such item and what agency was responsible for its production?
- (3) What was the date of each such segment and who was the payment made to?

Mr NICHOLLS replied:

- (1)-(3) The information sought would require considerable research and I am not

prepared to allocate resources for this purpose. If the member has a specific question I will provide a response.

MEDIA SERVICES - GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS

South West Development Commission and Peel Development Commission Areas

2381. Mr D.L. SMITH to the Minister for Planning; Heritage:

- (1) How much has his ministry and each of his agencies spent on media services by way of payments to private organisations in the areas covered by -
 - (a) the South West Development Commission;
 - (b) the Peel Development Commission;
 in the year 30 June 1993 to 30 June 1994 including all moneys paid for -
 - (i) the services of journalists;
 - (ii) the services of persons to organise and promote itineraries for Ministers;
 - (iii) public relations;
 - (iv) compiling and setting up any pamphlets or information brochures;
 - (v) the promoting of these items;
 - (vi) the distribution of these items;
 - (vii) the taking of photographs and videos;
 - (viii) the production of videos;
 - (ix) the hiring of vehicles, helicopters and other aircraft for this purpose?
- (2) What was the total cost of each such item and what agency was responsible for its production?
- (3) What was possible the date of each such segment and who was the payment made to?

Mr LEWIS replied:

- (1)-(3) The information sought would require considerable research and I am not prepared to allocate resources for this purpose. If the member has a specific question I will provide a response.

SENIORS PORTFOLIO - GOVERNMENT BOARDS OR AUTHORITIES

2418. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Seniors:

- (1) Which Government boards or authorities operate within the seniors portfolio area?
- (2) Who are the members of each of those boards or authorities?
- (3) How are those members appointed?
- (4) When were each of those members appointed?
- (5) When will each of those members' term expire?
- (6) What remuneration, if any, is paid to each of those members?
- (7) When do each of the boards or authorities meet?
- (8) On how many occasions did each of those boards or authorities meet during 1994?
- (9) Are there any proposals to disband any of those boards or authorities?
- (10) Are there any proposals to establish new boards or committees?

Mr NICHOLLS replied:

Not applicable.

WATER AUTHORITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA - GOLDEN WEST PTY LTD, JOHN TONKIN WATER CENTRE CLEANING CONTRACT

2512. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Water Resources:

- (1) For what period of time has Golden West Pty Ltd had the cleaning contract for the John Tonkin Water Centre?
- (2) What tender process was followed?
- (3) On what date was Golden West Pty Ltd awarded the cleaning contract for the JTWC?
- (4) When will the contract expire?
- (5) Which other companies tendered for the JTWC cleaning contract?
- (6) Was Golden West Pty Ltd the lowest priced tender?

Mr OMODEI replied:

- (1) Two and three-quarter years.
- (2) The standard Water Authority "Request for Tenders" process was adopted which included advertising the tender over a period of three weeks in the weekend *The West Australian* newspaper.
- (3) The contract was let to Golden West Pty Ltd on 31 March 1992.
- (4) The contract will expire on 31 March 1995 (two year contract with one year extension option). The authority is currently preparing tender documents for the next period.
- (5) The following companies tendered for the contract -
 - Airlite Cleaning Pty Ltd
 - Servo Systems Pty Ltd
 - Quick Corporate Cleaning Australia Pty Ltd
 - Tempo Services Pty Ltd
 - E & V Cleaning Services
 - Delvon Cleaning Pty Ltd
 - Mastercare Property Services Pty Ltd
 - R.S. Linfoot Investments Pty Ltd
 - Western Office Cleaning Service
 - Kennedy Cleaning Service Group
 - Golden West
 - S.M.C. Cleaning Services
 - Coltton Property Services
 - P.R.J. Building Management
 - Avalon Cleaning Services Pty Ltd
 - Granny's Cleaning Service
 - Jason Cleaning Services
 - Berkeley Challenge Property Services Pty Ltd
 - Boomerang Cleaning Service
- (6) The contract was awarded to the lowest conforming tender, Golden West Pty Ltd. The lowest priced tender did not meet the tender specifications.

SENIORS PORTFOLIO - PRESS RELEASES

2514. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Seniors:

- (1) How many press releases did the Minister release relating to the Seniors portfolio in 1994?

- (2) How many press releases did the Minister release relating to the Seniors portfolio in 1993?
- (3) Will the Minister provide me with copies of these press releases?
- (4) If not, why not?
- (5) If so, when?

Mr NICHOLLS replied:

- (1)-(5) No differentiated record of press releases is kept.

SENIORS' INTERESTS, OFFICE OF - DIRECTOR APPOINTMENT

2519. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Seniors:

- (1) When does the Minister expect to appoint a director of the Office of Seniors' Interests?
- (2) When will the position be advertised?

Mr NICHOLLS replied:

- (1)-(2) To be advised.

SENIORS' INTERESTS, OFFICE OF - NEW PUBLICATIONS OR PAMPHLETS

2523. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Seniors:

- (1) How many new publications or pamphlets did the Office of Seniors' Interests produce in 1994?
- (2) What is the title of each new publication or pamphlet?

Mr NICHOLLS replied:

- (1) Nine.
- (2) Western Australian Seniors
Impact of the federal Budget 1994-95 for Seniors
OSI Annual Report 1993-94
Seniors Week Program of Events 1994
The Phasing Out of the Wife and Widows B Pension and the
Introduction of the Widows Allowance (1994)
Pride of Place Award (1994)
Senior of the Year Award (1994)
Touch Screen Database System (1994)
Volunteers Program (1994).

SENIORS INTERESTS, OFFICE OF - NEW PUBLICATIONS OR PAMPHLETS

2524. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Seniors:

- (1) How many new publications or pamphlets did the Office of Seniors Interests produce in 1993?
- (2) What was the title of each?

Mr NICHOLLS replied:

- (1) Five.
- (2) 1993-94 Seniors Card discount directory
OSI Annual Report 1992-93
OSI Annual Report 1993-94
Housing information sheets 1992-93
Seniors information sheets 1992-93.

SENIORS INTERESTS, OFFICE OF - NEW INITIATIVES

2525. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Seniors:

What new initiatives did the Office of Seniors Interests take in -

- (a) 1993;
- (a) 1994?

Mr NICHOLLS replied:

Refer to the 1993-94 Annual Report.

WATER AUTHORITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA - SEWERAGE
Catch-up Works, Funding

2537. Mr D.L. SMITH to the Minister for Water Resources:

- (1) How much has been contributed by the State Government from the consolidated fund, or loan funds to date to the Western Australian Water Authority for the purpose of assisting WAWA with its catch-up sewerage scheme?
- (2) What catch up works has WAWA undertaken to date, since the announcement of the catch-up program?
- (3) What have been the costs of each such works?
- (4) Where has the money for each such project come from?

Mr OMODEI replied:

- (1) The Western Australian Government through the Water Authority of Western Australia has budgeted for \$65m in year one of the 10 year program, of which \$51.2m has been committed to date.
- (2) Seventeen construction contracts have been let in 1994-95 to date. Five construction tenders closed on 6 December and have not yet been awarded. Three construction tenders close on 20 December.
- (3) The majority of the works are "schedule of rates" contracts and the costs will be made available on completion. The total commitment of the projects is \$51.2m.
- (4) WAWA capital replacement account.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS BOARD - MINISTERIAL DIRECTIONS

2566. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Has the Minister given any formal directions to the Zoological Gardens Board?
- (2) If so, when and what was the nature of each direction?

Mr MINSON replied:

- (1) If the member is referring to formal direction for which there is a statutory requirement to report to Parliament, then the answer is no.
- (2) Not applicable.

HOMESWEST - LAKE KOGOLUP LAND, BARRIER FENCES
CONSTRUCTION

2574. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) Have barrier fences been constructed on the Homeswest land at Lake Kogolup to help prevent destruction of fauna?
- (2) If so, at what sites?
- (3) If not, why not?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Stage 1, Kogolup.

- (3) Not applicable.

POLICE - OFFICERS
Retirements

2575. Mr CATANIA to the Minister for Police:

- (1) Will the Minister advise how many police officers will retire or have given an indication that they will retire in each of the following months -
- (a) December 1994
 - (b) January 1995
 - (c) February 1995
 - (d) March 1995
- (2) What are their ranks?

Mr WIESE replied:

I have been advised by the Commissioner of Police as follows -

- (1) (a) 4
(b) 1
(c)-(d) Nil
- (2) (a) 1 superintendent
1 chief inspector
1 sergeant 1/class
1 constable 1/class
(b) 1 sergeant
(c)-(d) Not applicable.

The figures indicated above are officers who have advised police staff office in writing of their intention to retire as of 8 December 1994. These figures are subject to change pending any subsequent written advice being received.

POLICE - RECRUITMENT PROGRAM

2576. Mr CATANIA to the Minister for Police:

- (1) Will the Minister advise when the recruitment drive in the police service will commence?
- (2) When will the recruitment program be released?
- (3) Will the first intake commence in January 1995?
- (4) If not, why not?
- (5) What numbers are expected to be recruited each month?

Mr WIESE replied:

I have been advised by the Commissioner of Police as follows -

- (1) Based on past indications, the normal process of recruiting will produce sufficient suitable applicants to enable the organisation to recruit the planned monthly intake. Should the availability of suitable applicants decrease, appropriate advertising will occur and additional recruiting strategies will be employed.
- (2) The recruiting program is to induct 32 persons into the Police Force each month, commencing on 16 January 1995. The exception to the planned 32 person intakes will be on three occasions when slightly lesser numbers (26, 30 and 29), involving cadets, will be inducted into a reduced length training course of 15 weeks. At this rate of recruitment, a total of 821 persons will have been inducted into the Police Force as at 16 December 1996.

- (3) Yes.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) Thirty-two persons will be recruited each month with the exceptions as explained in (2).

HOMESWEST - COMPLAINTS AGAINST BUILDING MATERIALS

2578. Mr RIEBELING to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) How many complaints has the Minister or his department made in the past two years about the quality of building materials used in the construction of Homeswest properties?
- (2) Which companies were involved?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1) Any faults in building materials which may arise are rectified by the manufacturer. No records are kept.
- (2) Not applicable.

HOMESWEST - COMPLAINTS AGAINST BUILDING COMPANIES

2579. Mr RIEBELING to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) Has Homeswest made any complaints about any building companies about the quality of workmanship over the past two years?
- (2) If yes, how many in 1993 and 1994?
- (3) What were the names of the companies in each case?
- (4) Have the problems in each case been rectified?
- (5) If not, what action is being taken to protect the State's assets?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1) Any faults in building materials which may arise are rectified by the manufacturer. No records are kept.
- (2)-(5) Not applicable.

HOMESWEST - KARAWARA

Units Vacant; Waiting List

2581. Mr RIEBELING to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) In relation to the area known as Karawara and the Homeswest properties within that area, how many empty units of accommodation are there as at 30 November 1994?
- (2) What type of accommodation is vacant, as at 30 November 1994?
- (3) Why has Homeswest not filled the vacancies?
- (4) How many people are currently on the Homeswest waiting list in the zone that covers Karawara?
- (5) What does the Minister plan to do with this area?
- (6) Is the Minister considering using the vacant accommodation for student accommodation for Curtin University?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1) 102.
- (2) Bedsitters and apartments.
- (3) Homeswest is planning to convert 68 existing bedsitters in two separate complexes to one bedroom units in 1994-95, and vacant possession is necessary to effect this due to the structural nature of the works. Two

apartment complexes are in the process of being leased privately. The balance of vacant properties is being offered to applicants on the Homeswest waiting list.

- (4) Approximately 900, although the great majority will not accept an apartment.
- (5) At this stage, various options are still under consideration.
- (6) See answer to (5).

HOMESWEST - CLUSTER ACCOMMODATION SOLD TO TENANTS

2582. Mr RIEBELING to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) Are duplex, triplex and other cluster types of accommodation now being offered for sale to tenants?
- (2) Prior to being offered for sale are the properties strata titled?
- (3) What is the current length of time being taken to process a property from offer to transfer when a strata title is required?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1) Yes, subject to strata costs being acceptable.
- (2) No. Due to the large demand, Homeswest is strata titling units where sales have been requested. In future, units will be strata titled as they are constructed.
- (3) On average 25 weeks in the metropolitan area and 30 weeks outside the metropolitan area. However, some properties, for a variety of reasons, take longer.

HOMESWEST - CARNARVON UNITS, SECURITY AND MAINTENANCE

2583. Mr RIEBELING to the Minister for Housing:

In reference to the 35 units at 17 George Street, Carnarvon, what action has the Minister taken to rectify the concerns of the tenants in each of the following areas-

- (a) provision of security perimeter fencing;
- (b) security patrols;
- (c) removal of fire hazard and debris;
- (d) provision of safe walk ways;
- (e) repair of pot holes in driveways;
- (f) provision of marked disabled parking bays;
- (g) employment of a groundsman;
- (h) a maintenance of grounds program;
- (i) better drainage in the car park;
- (j) upgrading of outside lighting;
- (k) cleaning up of surrounding areas;
- (l) upgrading of maintenance of units?

Mr PRINCE replied:

The units at 17 George Street, Carnarvon are a joint venture between Homeswest and the Gascoyne Memorial Fund Inc. Responsibility for management and administration is undertaken by the Gascoyne Memorial Fund. The above concerns have been brought to the attention of the joint venturer.

EAST PERTH REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT - HOMESWEST, LAND RESUMPTION

2596. Ms WARNOCK to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) Has the Minister allocated any funds to Homeswest to build in the East Perth redevelopment area?
- (2) What is the value of Homeswest land already contributed to or part of the East Perth redevelopment area?
- (3) What are the Minister's plans for public housing in the East Perth redevelopment area?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) Homeswest had its land resumed by the EPRA.
- (3) Nil.

HOMESWEST - TENANTS, BOND PAYMENTS

2597. Ms WARNOCK to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) Now that Homeswest tenants must contribute to their bonds what will happen to the funds accrued?
- (2) Will they go into an interest bearing account?
- (3) What will Homeswest do with the funds and interest accrued?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1) All bond payments accumulated will be deposited into a designated trust account at State Treasury. Bonds held in the trust account will be available to the tenants when they leave their Homeswest rental property to pay for any tenant liability.
- (2) The account will be interest bearing.
- (3) To be decided.

POLICE - STAFFING

2652. Mr CATANIA to the Minister for Police:

In respect of each of the following Police Regions -

- (a) Bunbury
- (b) Perth
- (c) Fremantle
- (d) Geraldton
- (e) Armadale
- (f) Inglewood
- (g) Joondalup
- (h) Northam
- (i) Mandurah
- (j) Midland
- (k) Victoria Park
- (l) Albany
- (m) Broome
- (n) Kalgoorlie
- (o) Kambalda;
- (p) Narrogin

could the Minister provide the following information -

- (1) the number of staff and services provided by the regional office;

- (2) the number of police stations and shop fronts covered by the region;
- (3) the number of staff in each station covered by the region;
- (4) the designation of each station re 24 hour;
- (5) the authorised versus actual strength of each station in the region;
- (6) the statistics showing the crimes reported at each station in -
 - (i) 1991-92;
 - (ii) 1992-93;
 - (iii) 1993-94;
- (7) the workload statistics for the region; and
- (8) what community policing programs exist in the region?

Mr WIESE replied:

The information sought would require considerable research and I am not prepared to allocate resources for this purpose.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

SCOTT FOUR COLOUR PRINT - PERTH CITY COUNCIL CONTRACT *Controlled Marketing Contract*

686. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Water Resources:

I refer to the Minister's accident prone record in his portfolios, starting with his breach of tender processes in regard to letting a printing contract to his Liberal mates at Scott Four Colour Print, his false claim that no decision had been made on the sewerage tax when Cabinet had made a secret decision several months earlier, and the awarding of Water Authority contracts to Controlled Marketing without obtaining the necessary three quotes.

- (1) Does the Minister also accept responsibility for the fact that the Premier misled the House about Controlled Marketing's role in the infill sewerage promotion program because he had been given a false answer prepared by the Minister and his legion of highly paid advisers?
- (2) How does the Minister reconcile his claim in answer to a question on notice dated 22 November that Controlled Marketing had not been engaged by the Western Australian Water Authority to do any phone polling, with his statement of 8 June that "over two weeks between 18 April and 2 May the Water Authority commissioned a consultant in Controlled Marketing to do some phone polling"?
- (3) Given that the Minister has an outstanding record of deceiving this House, the community and even the Premier, does he seriously expect anything other than demotion in the forthcoming Cabinet reshuffle?

The SPEAKER: Order! I advise the member for Glendalough that this question contains much extraneous information. It is very important, in asking a question, that any additional comments be brief. I do not think they were in that question.

Mr OMODEI replied:

(1)-(3) In regard to Scott Four Colour Print and the tender for the Perth City

Council, that tender was prepared by the in-house committee preparing the restructure of the City of Perth, and it was found that Scott Four Colour Print had the appropriate qualifications for that tender. That is borne out by the fact that the previous Government used Scott Four Colour Print on 13 August 1990 to print a publication titled "Aboriginal Studies Book 1", at a cost of \$200 000. It is convenient that the question should be asked because I have here a letter, signed by someone from the State Tender Board, which states in the first paragraph -

I understand there is a concern on the part of the State Tender Board that the appropriate procedures as specified in State Tender Board Policy 1/88 have not been fully observed in regard to the above.

It explains that Scott Four Colour Print was used because it could provide not only the technology but also the quality.

Mrs Roberts interjected.

Mr OMODEI: I have admitted in the Parliament and publicly that I was not pleased with that, but it was a matter over which I did not have direct control. Likewise, in the case of the Water Authority's tenders over the polling for the infill sewerage program and for the announcement of water restrictions, the Water Authority did not breach tender guidelines. The Auditor General's report says quite clearly - it is report No 2D of May 1994 - there are some exemptions for government departments. It says that the Water Authority of Western Australia is totally exempt. It says also that the State Supply Commission estimates that 180 public authorities are subject to the State Supply Commission Act. It says also that, as of November 1993, the State Supply Commission had granted some form of exemption to approximately 60 of these authorities. The Water Authority was one of them. The Auditor General also says that the Water Authority was adhering to the terms and conditions of the state supply policy.

In relation to the involvement of Controlled Marketing - I intend to table this document to which I know the Opposition had access because it referred to it as a leaked document from the Water Authority; I will not read it all because there are three pages of examination - the first question stated -

How was Controlled Marketing selected for the Infill Sewerage 'Hotline' job?

The answer was -

Controlled Marketing was recommended by Telecom who said they had done a good job on handling the enquiries on the SGIO public float.

The second question was as follows -

Was the Authority aware that Chilla Porter was a principal of Controlled Marketing and of his former connections with the Liberal Party?

The answer stated -

During the initial contact I was unaware that Chilla Porter was a Principal of Controlled Marketing, I dealt with Mr Greg Wallace, Managing Director. It was not until after I had made the decision to employ Controlled marketing that I met Chilla Porter for the first time. His background in the Liberal Party seemed irrelevant.

That has been borne out. I have said in this House before that people who

have connections with political parties should not be precluded from winning government contracts. The document goes on to give a comprehensive response to the allegations made by the Opposition and says finally -

Mrs Roberts interjected.

Mr OMODEI: Why does the member not keep quiet? She is like a little spoilt schoolchild.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr OMODEI: One of the last questions was -

Why were these two contracts not put out to public tender? It seems like the proper process was not followed by the Water Authority.

This question has been posed by the Opposition. The answer to the officer was -

In both cases the time to call proper quotations was not available. The normal process requires the preparation of a brief and the calling of three written quotations. I simply did not have the time nor the administrative resources to follow this procedure.

However there is provision in our processes to seek exemption in exceptional circumstances. In both cases exemption was sought and given by the appropriately delegated officer (Manager Supply).

Mrs Roberts: Their combined total is about \$75 000. The Auditor General also said that that is not what you should do.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr OMODEI: I think I answered that. I will table that paper, which is a memorandum to the Minister for Water Resources from the Manager Communications, Water Authority. [See paper No 700.]

The SPEAKER: Order! I ask the Minister to begin to bring his answer to a conclusion.

Mr OMODEI: It is important that I respond. What we saw in the House this morning was an attempt to denigrate the Premier and the Opposition was caught out because the question of 9 August was about the communications strategy.

Point of Order

Mr BROWN: I raise a point of order, Mr Speaker.

Mr Catania: Sit down, Minister.

The SPEAKER: Order! I will formally call to order the next person who makes that comment.

Mr BROWN: I do not know whether you intend to enforce what you say, but you asked the Minister to wind up.

The SPEAKER: I did not say that. I will tell the member the precise words.

Mr BROWN: You asked him to draw his comments to a close. The Minister totally ignored you and moved on to another subject about which he proposes now to lecture the House. I do not know whether we will have just one question in question time. There are 10 minutes to go.

The SPEAKER: Order! It was an extremely long question with many parts, as the member knows. I indicated that the Minister should begin to draw his answer to a conclusion. Some members will know that I used those words

"begin to bring". I hope the Minister will do so quickly, otherwise I will have to ask him to conclude.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr OMODEI: The direct question in relation to the advertising campaign costs was responded to today quite adequately by the Leader of the House.

MOTIONS - CENSURE, QUESTION RULED OUT OF ORDER

687. Mr BLOFFWITCH to the Leader of the House:

Is the Leader of the House aware of the lack of seriousness with which the Opposition approached the censure motion it moved in the House earlier today?

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Dr Gallop: What a piece of parliamentary process!

The SPEAKER: Order! I must say that I am not particularly impressed by the structure of that question. I do not think that type of question has been carefully framed.

Point of Order

Mr KOBELKE: I draw the House's attention to something of which I know you, Mr Speaker, are well aware, and that is that questions with or without notice cannot seek an opinion. The question asked of the Leader of the House, while not using the word "opinion", clearly sought the opinion of the Leader of the House and, therefore, should not be allowed.

The SPEAKER: Order! I think on reflection the member is correct. It is asking for an opinion and as such I rule it out of order.

Questions without Notice Resumed

STATE PRINT - SALE

688. Mr MARLBOROUGH to the Minister for Services:

I refer to the Minister's disgraceful handling of the sale of State Print and, in particular, to his comments to this House yesterday. The Minister claimed at least three times that the Cabinet decided to sell State Print on 10 October 1994. The Minister claimed he wanted to execute the contract that week but could not because Vanguard shifted ground and backed off from the conditions he had taken to Cabinet.

- (1) How does he explain the fact that Vanguard Press has unequivocally assured the Opposition that it did not seek to make any changes to its original and successful offer that would have hindered the Minister advising the company of its successful tender within a week of the Cabinet decision?
- (2) Why did he withhold from Vanguard Cabinet's decision to give the company the contract, when by his own statements to Parliament, all details of the sale to Vanguard should have been completed by 14 October 1994?

Mr KIERATH replied:

- (1)-(2) This answer might be simple enough even for the member for Peel. As I outlined in the House yesterday, the Cabinet made the decision on 10 October to sell to Vanguard Press. The member for Peel forgot yesterday that it was to Vanguard Press and not to Lynward Enterprises. The deal was for \$2.25m, 27 jobs and some issues relating to sick leave. When we went to sign the deal agreed between Vanguard and the Government, I

said to the House that I hoped to advise the House very shortly because I hoped to conclude the deal by the end of the week. When we went to sign there was no \$2.25m and, in fact, it had shifted to an offer of \$2m.

Point of Order

Mr MARLBOROUGH: My question is quite specifically about the week following the Cabinet decision. The Minister is deliberately setting out to mislead you, Mr Speaker, and this Parliament with his answer. He quite clearly knows it is incorrect because the facts that he is putting before this House did not occur during the period on which I have asked for an answer.

The SPEAKER: There is no point of order whatsoever. That is just an opinion.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr KIERATH: I knew it would be difficult for the member for Peel. He was a failure as a labour relations spokesman. He has been a dismal failure when it comes to services.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Peel.

Mr KIERATH: Vanguard Press - and this is the bottom line - had an option to sign on the agreed terms and it would have had a deal, but its bid was down to the extremes of our bottom line. When I negotiate, I am aware of the bottom line. That bid was at the bottom. It was marginally acceptable, because we would have made more money by closing the operation. It was an extreme decision. When the company tried to lower the bid we said that the deal was not on. Vanguard Press had an offer on the table. It chose to play silly games to improve its position, and it missed out on the deal. Vanguard Press can blame only itself.

Mr Marlborough interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Peel.

Mr KIERATH: Part of the public tender process was that only those who offered expressions of interest and tendered could make a bid. Vanguard Press came in, and we know that the Catholic Church is involved with Vanguard Press. Ultimately, the Catholic Church did not want to be involved with the Vanguard Press offer. It wanted to stay out of the deal, so the deal was done with Lynward Enterprises Pty Ltd. I have nothing to hide. I informed the House yesterday that I am happy to have the Public Accounts and Expenditure Review Committee go over the tender process, the expressions of interest, and even the area of private treaty. The Government has nothing to hide, which is more than we could say about the Labor Party in government.

WORKPLACE AGREEMENTS - SUCCESS

689. Mr BOARD to the Minister for Labour Relations:

Just over 12 months ago, the Government's system of workplace agreements came into operation. Is the Minister in a position to inform the House about the acceptance of the new system by workers?

Mr KIERATH replied:

Members will recall the predictions of doom and gloom by members opposite. Members opposite are the political wing of the trade union movement.

Mrs Henderson interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr KIERATH: They said that the workers did not want workplace agreements. No wonder the member for Thornlie is bleating; she was the spokesperson at the time; she has been dumped from that job. She said that the legislation was deliberately designed to undermine people's living standards, turn back the clock, and open the door to the exploitation of workers. The member for Thornlie predicted that the Minister would not succeed with the legislation because there would be such outrage in the community.

Mrs Henderson interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Thornlie.

Mr KIERATH: The member for Thornlie would never get a job as a fortune teller. Many members opposite spoke about doom and gloom.

Mrs Henderson interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order! I formally call to order the member for Thornlie.

Mr KIERATH: I am proud to tell the House that we have 12 000 reasons to say that the system is working. At the end of November, 11 898 workers had accepted workplace agreements with 418 employers. The following news is even better: Last month 1 300 agreements were put in place for 1 704 employees. That represents almost 2 000 people a month; it is a record number.

We have learnt from the experiences of the Labor Opposition. Members opposite ignore the facts. They make things up as they go along.

Mrs Henderson interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order! I formally call to order the member for Thornlie for the second time. She cannot continue to interject when I call for order.

Mr KIERATH: Members opposite tell Richos to present a false picture. The workplace agreements club is almost as popular as the Eagles and the Dockers. The State awards covered 315 000 people over 92 years - that is, 3 500 workers a year. In the first year of the workplace agreements system, almost 12 000 workers have been involved. We are ecstatic about the success of the system. It is here to stay. The member for Thornlie and her cronies cannot turn back the clock because people have power in the workplace for the first time.

HOSPITALS - BENTLEY *New Mental Health Wing, Staff*

690. Dr GALLOP to the Minister representing the Minister for Health:

Some notice has been given of the question.

- (1) Is it true that the new mental health wing of the Bentley Hospital is operating with two registrars working every day and every second night, and three consultants, one of whom has other research responsibilities?
- (2) Is this a sufficient level of senior staff to operate a 50 bed hospital, a 24 hour a day emergency service, and an entire district clinic?
- (3) Can the Minister assure the House that no security and safety concerns will result from such a staff allocation, particularly given the fact that a registrar will not be working on every shift?

Mr MINSON replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. It is good to know that the system works sometimes. Just as the member asked the question the message from the Minister's office was placed in my hand. As I read

this to the House it will be the first time I have seen the answer the Minister has provided for my guidance.

- (1) No.
- (2) Over recent years views have changed as to the workload expected, especially of registrars. What some people now regard as a reasonable workload is less than what was previously the generally accepted view. I believe it is, and certainly should be, when a fourth consultant commences in January 1995.
- (3) A registrar is available for each shift as well a consultant on call at all times.

MOTIONS - CENSURE

Premier, Government's Position

691. Mr BLOFFWITCH to the Leader of the House:

Will the Leader of the House explain the criteria which determine the Government's position on motions to allow censures such as this morning's motion?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

A censure motion against a Minister, and particularly against a Premier, is a most serious matter. One would expect a censure motion to at least have content, and if it is to have content it should be new content. This morning's censure motion lacked content. It certainly did not contain anything that was new. It also raised the issue of timeliness. I can quote no more authoritative source than the former member Hon Bob Pearce, who said in this Chamber on 11 September 1991 that standards in this House dictate that if members want to attempt to censure a Minister, it should be done at the first available opportunity. The Opposition did not choose to do that. It chose to move a censure motion about one hour and a quarter after proceedings commenced this morning. A censure motion is particularly serious when it is directed against a Premier. What is important is the level of commitment behind those who move a censure motion.

Mr McGinty: It was a motion to suspend standing orders.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: It is the same thing. Members opposite are dodging.

Mr McGinty: We were not allowed to debate the content. We were debating whether we could suspend standing orders.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: The Leader of the Opposition is a bit less gung-ho now. It does not matter if it is a motion to suspend standing orders to move a censure motion, or a censure motion.

I looked at three previous examples when the coalition was in opposition and there were moves to censure then Premiers of the Labor Party. On 20 October 1992 there was a motion to censure the then Premier about the Western Women saga. The vote was 28 noes, 28 ayes. The Speaker had to rule to defeat the motion. On 17 March 1992 there was a censure motion against the Premier of the day over the John Metaxas scandal. The vote was 28 noes, 25 ayes. In March 1991 there was another motion to censure the Premier and calling on him to resign. The vote at that stage was 30 noes, 24 ayes. They were all issues that were taken seriously with a high level of vote. What did we see this morning? We saw no less a person than the Leader of the Opposition come into this place and move a motion to suspend standing orders to censure the Premier of Western Australia. It is a most serious matter, and the vote is a measure of the degree to which members opposite took it seriously. The vote was 25

noes, 15 ayes. Fifteen members of the Opposition turned up here to support their leader in censuring the Premier. The records are being checked, but it is my belief that we have seen in the Parliament today the record low level of support for a Leader of the Opposition censuring a Premier. The Leader of the Opposition has achieved the lowest level of support on a censure motion moved by the Opposition in the history of this Parliament. It reflects on the Leader of the Opposition's strength as a leader and what members opposite think about the great job being done by the Premier.

GROUND WATER - SELECT COMMITTEE REPORT
Zoological Gardens Board Report

692. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

I remind the Minister of the recent release of the report of the parliamentary committee investigating metropolitan ground water supplies which recommended against urban development in priority 2 catchment areas, principally because fertilisers and pesticides from suburban lawns could leach into ground water.

- (1) Has the Minister bothered to read the report?
- (2) If so, why has he once again rolled over at the slightest pressure from the Minister for Planning and done nothing to stop him from bulldozing through north east corridor planning scheme amendments which contravene the findings of that report?
- (3) If the Minister has any concern for the water catchment area, when will he stop plans by the Department of Conservation and Land Management to use toxic herbicides on the Gngangara water mound?
- (4) When will the Minister release the secret internal report of the Perth Zoological Gardens which shows it is also a contributor to ground water pollution?

Mr McGinty: This is probably the last answer you will give as Minister for the Environment.

Mr MINSON replied:

This is such a lovely question that I can guarantee that the answer will take up the rest of question time.

- (1) I have sped read - if I may use that term - the report of the select committee on ground water supplies.

Dr Edwards: You lost demerit points as well!

Mr MINSON: No. I have had a look at the report and there is a lot in it which is worthy of further investigation. I have today officially transmitted it to the Environmental Protection Authority Board for its comment and suggested action. I intend to take a range of advice from various sources in government and around the metropolitan area which have expertise in this area.

- (2) I am a little mystified because the EPA put out a bulletin on the north east corridor which said that rezoning could take place, but before development occurred certain things had to happen. On those grounds, I have given my support to the Minister for Planning.

It is interesting to note that around the world prior to any development taking place, scoping studies are undertaken first and then more detailed studies are done. That is the direction environmental protection is taking. It is the way Western Australia will go, and it has my support. In the case of the north east corridor the previous Government left this Government

with a mess, but the EPA has now adopted the scoping method. It has already detailed what additional information is required. I have no problem supporting that approach because it is the way of the future.

- (3) I presume the member is referring to the same matter she referred to yesterday on 6PR. I telephoned that radio station to give the correct information; it is obvious she did not hear my reply. Toxic herbicides are not being used on the Gnangara water mound, but to the edge of it. It is a trial which is being conducted in conjunction with the EPA. Dr Shea and Dr Steadman have discussed the matter and depending on the result of the trials they will determine whether to spray over the water mound.

The member for Maylands has a farming and a semi scientific background and I am sure she knows that some sprays break down to harmless products under ultraviolet light, some get bound up in organic material in the soil, some are bound to inorganic material and some remain active and are carried down into the ground water. What happens depends on the type of spray that is used and what is the effect when they are sprayed on the ground. Members opposite should get the facts straight, particularly the scientific and technical facts, before they shoot off at the mouth in an attempt to upset the people of Western Australia.

- (4) I am pleased the member asked this question. I was a little concerned when I heard the accusation that the Zoo had contributed to ground water pollution and that secret internal reports were floating around.

In December 1991 the Zoo board - that is, the previous board appointed by the former Government - commissioned a report. Those investigations were ongoing for three years and the report was handed to the Zoo board on 3 February 1994. It was an internal document to allow the Zoo to assess the effect of its operations on the ground water and to react to it. That report was never brought to the attention of the Minister for the Environment. However, I have it with me and I am more than happy to table it for the edification of all members.

The Zoo has already reacted to possible problems. It now picks up and burns or composts the herbivore animal waste daily; it sends wash-down water through the sewer system so that it does not get into the ground water, and therefore the river; it regularly monitors the ground water; it drains the lake less often, promoting biological solutions and aeration of the water; and all sludge is pumped through the sewerage system rather than going into sumps or soak wells.

Mr Marlborough: I thought the Zoo washed its water into the sewerage system and that a mechanical operation was involved.

Mr MINSON: The sludge and anything dangerous that is left is now put into the sewer and is treated, rather than going into the ground water and, therefore, the river. To reassure members of this House and members of the public, I advise that in August 1994 the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation checked the monitoring bores at the Zoo. The resultant report from David R. Williamson, the principal research scientist, catchment rehabilitation project, states -

Attached are results from our Chemistry Laboratory for the groundwater at the sites where we drilled new wells for you recently . . . This has a reasonably high nitrate level . . . below the 10mg/L level which is often used as the maximum for drinking water.

This refers to ground water under the Zoo. Another part of the report states -

The sum of ions measured, and given as Total Soluble Salts . . . show levels that . . . would be classified as marginal quality.

People could drink the ground water that comes out from under the Zoo.

Dr Watson: You go first.

Mr MINSON: I have drunk far worse water than that.

Mr Marlborough: And it shows.

Mr MINSON: That is why I am so thin. I have been drinking water from other sources. This question of ground water is getting out of hand. Ground water is used for two basic purposes - for providing potable water, and for irrigation. They require totally different standards. The water underneath the Zoo would not, by any stretch of the imagination, be used to provide water for drinking - but it could be drunk, such is the commitment of the Zoo to make sure that it is a good citizen. I table the hydro-plan report and the CSIRO report. [See papers Nos 704 and 705.]
