

Sir Charles Court: You are months out of date. Even your leaders are taking credit for some of the measures to stimulate the economy.

Mr. J. T. TONKIN: It is to be expected that Western Australia, with its high growth rate, would suffer most when there is a deliberate policy to put men out of work in order to dampen down the economy and counteract inflation. It all stems from the failure of the Commonwealth Government properly to interpret what type of inflation was operating in Australia. It was not inflation resulting from too much money chasing too few goods, as is the general experience. It was a cost-push inflation which was an entirely different matter and should have been dealt with in a different way.

We will find, Mr. Speaker, with the approaching election that the Budget which the Commonwealth Government brings down in a fortnight's time will be very different from the 1971 Budget—

Government Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. J. T. TONKIN: —because it will be done for a different purpose.

Sir David Brand: What is wrong with that?

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

*In Committee, etc.*

Bill passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment, and the report adopted.

*Third Reading*

Bill read a third time, on motion by Mr. J. T. Tonkin (Treasurer), and transmitted to the Council.

*House adjourned at 12.39 a.m.  
(Wednesday).*

## Legislative Council

Wednesday, the 2nd August, 1972

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT (The Hon. N. E. Baxter) took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

### QUESTIONS (17): ON NOTICE

#### 1. TAXES AND CHARGES

*Increases*

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH, to the Leader of the House:

What further increases in taxes and charges has the Government in mind for the current financial year?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:

The Budget for this year is now being framed and if any increases in taxes and charges are to be imposed they will be announced in due course.

2.

#### FISHING

*Turtles*

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON, to the Leader of the House:

- (1) How many commercial fishing boats are currently licensed to take turtles?
- (2) How many turtles have been taken by licensed fishermen in the years 1969-70, 1970-71 and 1971-72?
- (3) What is the value to Western Australia of the turtles so taken in each of these years?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:

- (1) Two.
- (2) Data available only in calendar years and by export weight—
 

1969	....	356,241 lb.
1970	....	398,139 lb.
1971	....	264,096 lb.
- (3) Value figures not available.

#### 3. ROAD MAINTENANCE TAX

*Collections*

The Hon. G. W. BERRY, to the Minister for Transport:

- (1) What were Road Maintenance Tax collections for the years 1969-1970 and 1970-71?
- (2) What is the anticipated collection for 1971-72?

The Hon. J. DOLAN replied:

- (1) and (2) Road Maintenance contributions collected for the following years amounted to—
 

1969-70	....	\$3,623,518
1970-71	....	\$3,990,144
1971-72	....	\$3,821,729.

4.

#### RAILWAYS

*Perth-Albany Service*

The Hon. J. M. THOMSON, to the Minister for Railways:

- (1) Has the Minister's attention been drawn to a statement appearing in the *Albany Advertiser* issue of the 31st July, 1972, under the heading—"W.A.G.R. may scrap passenger train. Passenger train services between Albany and Perth may be scrapped"?
- (2) If the contents of the newspaper article are factual, would he comment as to what future rail passenger transport is envisaged to replace this service?

The Hon. J. DOLAN replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) A complete review of all country road and rail passenger services, operated by the Commission, has recently been made, but no decision has been taken with regard to the recommendations made.

## 5. FRUIT FLY

### *Baiting Schemes Subsidy*

The Hon. F. D. WILLMOTT, to the Leader of the House:

- (1) Has the subsidy formerly paid to approved Fruit Fly baiting Schemes been discontinued or reduced?
- (2) If so, what is the reason for such discontinuance or reduction?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:

- (1) The policy to assist Fruit Fly Baiting Schemes by the payment of subsidies will be continued on the same basis as existed previously.
- (2) Answered by (1).

## 6. HOUSING

### *Vacant Premises*

The Hon. T. O. PERRY, to the Leader of the House:

- (1) How many State Housing Commission homes are unoccupied in the metropolitan area?
- (2) How many State Housing Commission homes are unoccupied in country areas?
- (3) Will the Minister list the number of these homes which are unoccupied in each country town?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:

As at 30th June, 1972.

- (1) 222—Includes 139 in Kwinana—Does not include houses under maintenance not available for re-occupation.
- (2) 438—Does include houses under maintenance.
- (3) Albany—10.  
Ardath—1.  
Balingup—1.  
Beverley—1.  
Boddington—1.  
Bolgart—1.  
Boyanup—2.  
Boyup Brook—7.  
Bridgetown—3.  
Brookton—1.  
Broome—2.  
Broomehill—2.  
Brunswick Junction—1.  
Bruce Rock—6.  
Bunbury—93.

Busselton—9.  
Calingiri—2.  
Carnamah—1.  
Carnarvon—4.  
Collie—63.  
Corrigin—2.  
Cuballing—2.  
Cunderdin—4.  
Denmark—4.  
Derby—1.  
Donnybrook—1.  
Dowerin—1.  
Dumbleyung—2.  
Esperance—34.  
Geraldton—8.  
Gnowangerup—5.  
Goomalling—4.  
Harvey—1.  
Jerramungup—1.  
Kalannie—1.  
Kalgoorlie—1.  
Karratha—2.  
Katanning—8.  
Kellerberrin—2.  
Kondinin—15.  
Kulin—3.  
Kununurra—1.  
Kununoppin—1.  
Lake Grace—1.  
Latham—2.  
Leonora—1.  
Mandurah—2.  
Manjimup—2.  
Marble Bar—2.  
Meekatharra—1.  
Merredin—1.  
Moora—4.  
Morawa—3.  
Mt. Barker—5.  
Mukinbudin—1.  
Nannup—5.  
Narembeen—5.  
Narrogin—4.  
Northam—2.  
Northcliffe—1.  
Nungarin—1.  
Ongerup—1.  
Onslow—1.  
Perenjori—2.  
Picton—1.  
Pingrup—1.  
Port Hedland—5.  
Quairading—2.  
Ravensthorpe—1.  
Serpentine—1.  
Tambellup—1.  
Tammin—1.  
Toodyay—1.  
Trayning—2.  
Wagin—29.  
Waroona—1.  
Wickepin—1.  
Witchcliffe—1.  
Wittenoom—11.  
Wundowie—7.  
Wyndham—1.  
Yarloop—4.  
Yealering—1.  
Yelbent—1.  
Yeracoona—1.  
York—2.

## 7. DAYLIGHT SAVING

*Government Policy*

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH, to the Chief Secretary:

The issue of *The West Australian* dated the 19th July, 1972, contained an article headed "Government in favour of daylight saving"—

- (1) To the extent that the Chief Secretary was reported in the article, were the facts said to be stated by him accurate in every degree?
- (2) If not, to what extent was the report inaccurate?
- (3) Is the Minister or Government in any way impressed by the report which appeared in *The West Australian* of the 21st July, 1972, on the subject of daylight saving, in which it was stated by the Motion Picture Industry that the introduction of daylight saving could bring the closing of 41 drive-in theatres in Western Australia, resulting in wholesale unemployment in that industry, thus further adding to one of the State's greatest problems?

The Hon. R. H. C. STURBS replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) The paragraph—"Though there was still opposition to daylight saving by some people and organisations the Committee had found in favour of introducing it in Western Australia." The word 'Committee' should read 'Cabinet'.
- (3) The submission made by the Motion Picture Exhibitors to the Committee of Inquiry was prepared last year in opposition to the introduction of daylight saving in this State and did not include any additional evidence to show that the trial period of daylight saving in the Eastern States caused any drastic effects on the film industry; it is felt that the industry's opinion is one of conjecture.

Enquiries made today concerning the closure of theatres in the Eastern States during the trial period of daylight saving which concluded in February, resulted as follows:—

*New South Wales—*

No Drive-in Theatre closed down. No positive evidence has been produced to show any drastic effect on the industry.

*Victoria—*

No Drive-in Theatres closed down and nobody is known to have lost their jobs on account of daylight saving.

*South Australia—*

No Drive-in Theatres closed down and nobody is known to have lost their jobs because of daylight saving.

*Queensland—*

The Premier's Department was not aware of any closures having been made.

## 8. ROAD AND AIR TRANSPORT COMMISSION

*Collections*

The Hon. G. W. BERRY, to the Minister for Transport:

- (1) What was the amount of Permit Fees collected by the Road and Air Transport Commission in the years 1969-70 and 1970-71?
- (2) What is the anticipated collection for 1971-72?

The Hon. J. DOLAN replied:

- (1) and (2) Permit fees collected for goods' vehicles for the following years amounted to—
- |         |      |            |
|---------|------|------------|
| 1969-70 | .... | \$481,726  |
| 1970-71 | .... | \$891,809  |
| 1971-72 | .... | \$843,182. |

## 9. INFANT HEALTH SERVICES

*Transport Facilities*

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS, to the Leader of the House:

Will the Minister consider paying the taxi fares of a mother and child between towns which lack public transport systems, when it is proven that the facilities for infant health in her home town are not provided for her racial group, and when she is advised that her racial group is provided for in a neighbouring town?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:  
No.

## 10. MANJIMUP CANNING CO-OPERATIVE

*Financial Position*

The Hon. V. J. FERRY, to the Leader of the House:

- (1) On what date was the Manjimup Canning Co-operative officially opened?
- (2) From what sources was the Co-operative financed at that time, and what amount of money was made available from each source?

- (3) What was the indebtedness to each source as at the 31st May, 1972?
- (4) What was the total amount owing by the Co-operative to unsecured creditors as at the 31st May, 1972?
- (5) What was the operating loss as at the 31st May, 1972?
- (6) What additional financial arrangements have been entered into in an endeavour to make the venture a commercially viable proposition?
- (7) On what basis was the venture researched prior to its establishment?
- (8) Who carried out the research?
- (9) On what basis was a recent feasibility study made?
- (10) Who carried out the study?
- (11) Is the Government satisfied that the Co-operative will now be capable of functioning successfully without further demands for financial assistance?
- (12) In view of the serious deterioration of the business venture since the official opening, has the Minister for Development and Decentralisation personally discussed the matter with the Board or visited the cannery to see the problems at first hand?
- (13) If not, why?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:

- (1) 18th February, 1972.
- (2) (a) A term loan of \$260,000 from Motor Vehicle Insurance Trust.
- (b) A bridging finance advance of \$40,000 from the Rural and Industries Bank.
- (c) A working capital advance against current book debts and stocks of finished goods from the Rural Credits Division of the Reserve Bank.  
Each of these loans is the subject of a State Government guarantee.
- (3) (a) \$260,000; (b) \$51,144; (c) \$69,245.
- (4) \$161,727 including provisions for payments to growers and all accrued expenses.
- (5) \$111,515.
- (6) A reorganisation programme has been drawn up for operation from the 1973 season, with provision for the funding of losses in the 1972 season. This is to be financed by a Government guaranteed loan of

\$420,000 which will enable the short term debts to be paid and the reorganisation programme undertaken.

- (7) A Co-operative Cannery Study Group formally constituted on 27th October, 1970, investigated and reported on the feasibility of the establishment of the cannery. The report, which was submitted in February, 1971, covered such aspects as marketing, establishment costs, availability of fruit, orchard economics, operating costs, and financial requirements.
- (8) The Group consisted of two representatives of each of the Departments of Development and Agriculture, one representative of Westralian Farmers Co-operative Ltd., and the President of the W.A. Fruitgrowers' Association.
- (9) A leading cannery engineer, who is regarded as a highly qualified person in Australia in this field, was engaged to carry out a thorough study and submit estimates for reconstruction. Copies of his report were submitted to the Ministers for Development and Agriculture on the 23rd May, 1972.
- (10) Mr. David Elford, of 2 Bond Street, Kyabram, Victoria.
- (11) The Government is satisfied that the reorganisation programme, coupled with the engagement of a top-line cannery manager on a full-time basis, will enable the cannery to increase its efficiency and throughput sufficiently to lead it to a profitable operating basis. It is not expected that there will be any further need for guarantees for long term finance. Working capital secured on current stocks and debtors will remain a normal operating requirement.
- (12) The Ministers for Development and Agriculture met the Board of Directors on the 23rd May, 1972, on the occasion of the presentation of the feasibility study. Since that time both Ministers have been in direct touch with the Chairman of the Board, or with the Managing Director, and the Minister for Development has had numerous reports from his department.  
A representative of the Department of Development is a member of the Board of Directors, and attends all meetings. Officers of the Department of Agriculture are frequently called upon in an advisory capacity.
- (13) Answered by (12).

11. **METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORT TRUST**  
*Financial Losses*

The Hon. G. W. BERRY, to the Minister for Transport:

- (1) What was the financial loss of the Metropolitan Transport Trust for the years 1969-70 and 1970-71?
- (2) What is the estimated financial loss for 1971-72?

The Hon. J. DOLAN replied:

- (1) 1969-70 ..... \$921,439  
1970-71 ..... \$1,791,653.
- (2) The audit of accounts of the Metropolitan (Perth) Passenger Transport Trust are currently being undertaken and the financial position for 1971-72 should be available at an early date.

12. **INFANT HEALTH CLINIC**  
*Roebourne*

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS, to the Minister for Local Government:

In view of the need for an Infant Health Clinic at Roebourne, and because the advice from the Minister for Health indicates that it is a matter for the Local Authority to take up with the Department, and for the Authority to present plans and bear a major part of the cost, will the Minister advise if the decision for such planning and financial commitment relies on the final decision of the Commissioner, or on the decision of the Minister for Local Government?

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS replied:

Under Section 31 of the Local Government Act a Commissioner is regarded as being the Council of the municipality and has and may exercise the powers and shall discharge the duties of the Council and the mayor or president. Decisions on behalf of municipalities are not made by the Minister.

13. *This question was postponed.*

14. **INFANT HEALTH CENTRES**  
*Staffing*

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS, to the Leader of the House:

In view of the fact that a Public Health nurse conducts clinics for Aboriginal children in hospital accommodation at Roebourne, and a Child Health Centre exists in Wickham which requires non-Aboriginal mothers to travel from Roebourne to Wickham, plus consideration of the Minister for Health's advice that Infant Health Sisters cannot be obtained for employment in at least three centres in the State, will the Minister consider the placement of

Public Health Sisters in posts normally accepted by Infant Health Sisters, and to allow support financing from the Infant Health scheme?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:

An infant health clinic is held in Roebourne every Monday morning and in Wickham every Monday afternoon for mothers and infants regardless of race.

15. **WALPOLE SCHOOL**  
*Toilet Block*

The Hon. V. J. FERRY, to the Leader of the House:

- (1) Is it the intention of the Education Department to request the Public Works Department to replace old and unsatisfactory toilet facilities at the Walpole Primary School with a modern toilet block nearer the main school building?
- (2) If so, when may it be expected that this work will be undertaken?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The work is to be listed for consideration in the 1973-74 loan programme.

16. **TRANSPORT**  
*North-West Towns: Linking*

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS, to the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Is there any public transport system planned for communication between the towns of Roebourne, Wickham, Dampier, Pannawonica and Karratha?
- (2) If so, when will it be implemented?

The Hon. J. DOLAN replied:

- (1) and (2) The Transport Commission has carried out investigations and concluded that a public passenger transport service is not warranted. However, the mining company has undertaken a service for its own purposes.

The Director General of Transport and the Commissioner of Transport are at present inspecting transport matters in the "North-West" and on return, this subject will be raised with them. I will advise the Honourable Member of the outcome in due course.

17. **ABORIGINES**  
*Housing: Regional Management Committees*

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS, to the Leader of the House:

With reference to the Minister's statement on Community Welfare and Aboriginal Advancement, issued on the 9th June, 1972, and in

particular the reference concerning the awareness of the Housing Commission to the needs of the people and the regional approach to problems, will the Minister—

- (a) ascertain why the Housing Commission placed all of the five regional management centres in the three quarters of the State that have an overall growth rate of 4% per annum, and why it did not centre a regional office in the Kimberley which has a population growth rate of 15% per annum and contains 32% of the State's Aboriginal population in 25% of the State's land area; and
- (b) request that a management centre be established in the Kimberley?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:

The Housing Commission proposals for regional management were approved by the previous Government in January, 1969 and have the concurrence of the present Government. These proposals were formulated in the light of the Commission's total responsibilities in housing across the State and are not related solely to the question of Aboriginal housing and were confirmed prior to the total devolution of that function on the Commission as from 1st July, 1972. Having regard to all relevant factors bearing on the question, Hedland was chosen as the most convenient regional management centre to service the Kimberley, Pilbara and Ashburton areas. Within the overall concept of regional management from Hedland, the Kimberley will be serviced by local branch offices at Derby and Kununurra—the latter being a consolidation of operations currently conducted from there by an Area Supervisor and from Wyndham by a housing officer.

### SUPPLY BILL

#### *Standing Orders Suspension*

**THE HON. W. F. WILLESEE** (North-East Metropolitan—Leader of the House) [4.55 p.m.]: I move—

That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as is necessary to enable a Supply Bill to pass through all stages at any one sitting.

I would like to advise that it is not my intention to take advantage of the motion in order to dispose of this Bill today.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You're telling me!

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE: I would like to offer the same courtesy the Leader of the Opposition offered me during the five years I was in Opposition. The purpose of the motion is simply to allow the Bill to pass through the Committee, report, and third reading stages immediately at the conclusion of the second reading debate. Today I will offer the Opposition an adjournment until the next sitting of the House which has been the custom in this Chamber for so many years; and then I propose, with the permission of the House, to conclude the debate when all the speeches necessary in regard to supply have been made. For this purpose I intend to make this Bill the first item on the notice paper tomorrow, in order that the debate might be concluded by the time we rise tomorrow.

**THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH** (North Metropolitan—Leader of the Opposition) [4.57 p.m.]: Of course I intend to support this motion. I appreciate the comment of the Leader of the House that it has been customary to deal with the Supply Bill in one sitting. However, I will take a little time out to research the question as to when the Bill is usually introduced. If my memory serves me correctly, the Bill is not usually introduced in this House on the second day of the second half of the session. This is the first time the Supply Bill has been introduced at the beginning of the second half of a session. From memory I would say that the debate has not been concluded necessarily on a Thursday.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: Always.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Always on a Thursday?

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: When I was sitting opposite you I always concluded the debate at your request.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I am anxious to co-operate and ensure that the debate on this occasion is concluded at the request of the Leader of the House—

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: Thank you.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH:—despite the rumours which have been communicated to me about the ultimate fate of the Bill. These rumours have considerably worried me in the last few days.

However, I would point out to the Leader of the House that our Whip (Mr. Heitman) has indicated to me that at least 12 members from the Liberal and Country Parties will speak.

The Hon. J. L. Hunt: You will have to make it pretty short.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: When Mr. Hunt's turn occurs he can set a good example. If Mr. Hunt does intend to speak that will make 13, and if any of his colleagues intend to speak then we will be here later still.

It has not been customary to sit on Thursday evenings at this stage of the session. Whilst I do not doubt Mr. Willesee's word concerning the passage of the Supply Bill, I am trying to remember what the situation has been previously. I will, however, look it up tonight or tomorrow morning. It does seem to me that if speeches are not brief—and heaven only knows I could speak for a couple of hours tomorrow afternoon about the shortcomings of the Government—we could be here tomorrow night. I do not know whether that is the Minister's intention. If the Minister desires the Bill to be passed tomorrow members must expect to be here tomorrow night, and that is unusual on a Thursday evening, especially in the first part of the session. If I am to speak tomorrow afternoon—and I will be glad of the adjournment of 24 hours—I will be as short and to the point as I can and will take up no more time than is necessary.

**THE HON. W. F. WILLESEE** (North-East Metropolitan—Leader of the House) [5.00 p.m.]: I appreciate the comments made by the Leader of the Opposition. I draw attention to the fact that, if we are here late tomorrow night, it will not be of my making. I will not stifle any debate on the Supply Bill. Every member is free to speak, as he thinks fit. If democracy, as exercised in this House, ordains that we come back after tea, what does it matter?

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: If, in my research, I can ascertain that either you or your predecessor, The Hon. Frank Wise, asked for an adjournment of the Supply Bill, will you adjourn it until next Tuesday?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE: I can tell the Leader of the Opposition this—

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Will you think about it?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE: —never once in the five years that I sat opposite the present Leader of the Opposition when he was Leader of the House did I delay the Supply Bill beyond Thursday.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: No, you did not.

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE: I see no reason whatever to prevent members debating the issue right through until 5 a.m. on Saturday if they feel they need to do so.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: That would make you happy!

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE: My gout would become infinitely worse, but in the interests of democracy I would do it.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: In the interests of what?

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: In the interests of obtaining money for the Government.

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE: Members opposite have all the answers and I have not yet started the debate. In the interests of democracy, I will now cease.

Question put and passed.

## BILLS (2): INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

### 1. Government Railways Act Amendment Bill.

Bill introduced, on motion by The Hon. J. Dolan (Minister for Railways), and read a first time.

### 2. Transport Commission Act Amendment Bill.

Bill introduced, on motion by The Hon. J. Dolan (Minister for Transport), and read a first time.

## EDUCATION FOR ABORIGINES

*Inquiry by Select Committee: Motion*

**THE HON. W. R. WITHERS** (North)

[5.04 p.m.]: I move—

That a Select Committee be appointed to investigate the requirements of education for the Aborigines of Western Australia and to make such recommendations as are considered necessary to allow them to take full advantage of our education system.

In speaking to this motion, I think it should be made quite clear that the word "education" should be interpreted in its broad sense. To assist members I would like to read to them the respective meanings of "educate" and "education" as given in the shorter edition of the *Oxford Dictionary*. "Educate" means—

To bring from childhood so as to form habits, manners, mental and physical aptitudes. To provide schooling for. To train generally, so as to develop some special aptitude, taste, or disposition.

"Education" means—

The process of nourishing or rearing. The process of bringing up. The manner in which a person has been brought up. The systematic instruction, schooling, or training given to the young (and, by extension, to adults). Hence, culture of development of powers or formation of character.

Let us consider a very old cliché, "education begins in the home." I wish to refer to the definition of "home" which, once again, appears in the shorter edition of the *Oxford Dictionary*. "Home" is classified as—

A village or town. A fixed residence of a family or household. One's own house.

There are other meanings, but I think these are the critical ones.

To return to the cliché, "education begins in the home." We find that very few Aborigines have a home which is suitable as a habitat to develop education for the needs of our society. Most Aborigines in this State live in tents, humpies, whorlies, mia-mias, lean-tos, or some other form of substandard housing. Generally speaking,

when they are supplied with a form of housing which is suitable to the standards we accept, we find they quite often destroy such housing, upon which the people around them become very angry. This is understandable. It is also understandable why they may destroy what has been given to them.

If we look at the tent in the grounds of Parliament House we will find this is a sub-standard form of habitation. It was put up in protest; to stress the lack of housing of suitable standard for Aborigines in this State.

We all know that people in our society generally start off with a simple form of dwelling. However, I would say all members here have come from homes that were set up in houses of a reasonable standard. While I, too, have experienced this, I have also experienced living in a tent in the Kimberley. That was only eight years ago. I lived in a tent because housing was not available. I can assure members that when a family lives in a tent its standards decline. I feel shame now that my standards did decline, but I believe they declined because I was living in a tent. A person reaches the stage of even not bothering to wash or to pick up a piece of paper off the floor. My family and I experienced this for approximately only 12 months in rather harsh climatic conditions. Had I lived under those conditions for more than 12 months of my life—say, for 15 years of my life—it would have been almost impossible for me to recover and live at the standard at which I am lucky to live today. My background training forced me to strive for something better. I went from a tent to a house, because I had previously experienced living in a house, and that is what I preferred.

We find that an Aboriginal—or any person for that matter—who is forced to live in substandard accommodation and who has experienced nothing else, has no motivation to better himself. He thinks that this is what life is all about.

In conversation both inside and outside of this House I find that people are inclined to think that the Aboriginal they see in the Perth metropolitan area is similar to the Aboriginal in the rest of the State. I can assure those people that this is not the case. Their features may be similar; their background 200 years ago may have been similar; but their generation backgrounds of today are entirely different.

I cannot speak for Aborigines throughout the State, but I can speak from experience of the ways in which Aborigines live in the North Province. I would like to point out that approximately six per cent. of the State's Aboriginal population live in Perth whereas 42 per cent. live in the

North Province. The majority of them live in conditions which most people do not seem to be able to comprehend when thinking of Aborigines. Let us consider an Aboriginal pupil who comes from a reserve. This would include the greater number of the Aboriginal pupils in the North Province. I have already said that 42 per cent. of the State's Aboriginal population live in the North Province. Let us imagine a situation where an Aboriginal child from a reserve attends his first school class. Probably he has never been taught to sit still, to wash his hands, or to use a toilet.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: In other words, he has never been used to being two dimensional?

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: One could put it this way. In some cases he has not seen toilet paper and does not even know its purpose. He has never used a handkerchief and he will probably use his tongue to remove the excess mucus from his nose or mouth. He will not know why he has to brush the flies from his eyes. The boy will have little or no knowledge of the foreign language—English—which is spoken to him in school. Of course, he may delight in using some four letter words which he has heard around the place because he knows it brings reaction from the Caucasian adults with whom he comes into contact. The boy will have accepted communal sharing of property and he will not understand why he cannot use the property of others. The boy will fall asleep during class. There are many reasons for this. It is possible the child will never have been taught a sleep routine; in fact, this is quite certain, because we know he will not have been taught a sleep routine. He will be prone to sleep in class for several other reasons. It is possible the child may be bored. Members may be bored now with this subject, but can they imagine their boredom if I were to speak in the Mirriwun language? I am sure all members would be asleep. This is the kind of thing which a child from a reserve has to face.

A Mirriwun child attending a class which is spoken in English would fall asleep. However, he may not fall asleep through boredom. The most serious cause of sleep or lethargy will be vitamin deficiency, possibly malnutrition, or worse still, hook-worm anaemia. All these cause lethargy and sleep. The child will be considered backward. It would be akin to a miracle if such a child could absorb education at the same rate as the other students around him. He will become a slow learner by our standards. The Aboriginal child from the reserve will probably suffer from trachoma—approximately 70 per cent. of the Kimberley natives do—or hook worm. He may even contract leprosy. The child will progress in age without any



career motivation. It is very important that we teach children career motivation so that they become useful adults.

His childhood friends from town families—and I am again referring to the child from the reserve—will run out of time to play with him because they will be growing up; they become career-motivated and will be doing advanced homework.

The Aboriginal child does not understand this. He runs out of friends to play with. Later when he is past puberty he will be told to go out and earn his living. But he does not know how to work; he sees no reason why he should work. He does not know how to maintain a steady employment and once again, because of his vitamin deficiency, he becomes lazy. He cannot help that, because he is not eating the correct food. No man, be he black or white, can do a full day's work on the food that is eaten by Aborigines. The child's parents have not known any better and have continued to feed him on these vitamin-deficient foods. The Aborigines in the Kimberley—where this applies—constitute 42 per cent. of our State's Aboriginal population.

It will be up to other members to express their views about the Aborigines in their provinces. We will find that the boy whom I have mentioned, when he goes past puberty, will experience emotional release in alcohol and the sweetness of wine. At this stage he will have some contact and experience with prostitution, goal, and, of course, alcohol.

On attaining adulthood he will start to cohabit with a girl with a similar background; she will know nothing about diet, birth control, and certainly no more than the boy himself about hygiene; the rough hygiene which he has picked up through his life. These children will not have any knowledge of the requirements of life as we know them.

The horrifying thing is that they will cohabit and propagate and we will then find another six students will be fed into our education system; the same system which bred these pitiful children will breed another six to be fed into the system which at the same time, is not being corrected.

Sincere people, politicians both past and present, and other organisations and individuals, are endeavouring in fractional ways to correct the situation. They are not succeeding or, if they are, they are succeeding too slowly. We are faced with a tremendous problem.

There is little doubt that education is needed in housekeeping, hygiene, diet, budgeting, banking, the use of appliances, gardening, and the responsibilities of a parent in his or her participation in social life. These are only a few things in which education is needed.

The social side understandably helps to develop a knowledge of language and therefore communication and this, of course, will help future children when they attend school.

In mentioning the question of education through housekeeping, I would point out that in 1968 we had a homemaker scheme in this State. The idea was a very good one. Its purpose was for a woman to be appointed by the Native Welfare Department—she was to be a paid servant, of that department—and for her to go into the transitional homes of Aboriginal families and instruct them in the ways of making a home.

The idea was a good one and, as a commissioner, the commissioner did the right thing. He issued a broad directive to his officers in 1968 advising them that homemakers were going to be appointed to teach the natives. I cannot quote the directive verbatim because I have not a copy of the letter, though I have sighted it. The commissioner pointed out that these people would train the Aboriginal families in homemaking. When that letter was received by the regional office it was realised that the instructions had to be carried out. The letter was photostated in the regional office and handed to the district office which appointed a person as a homemaker. So here we have a letter from the commissioner which was photostated by the regional office and the district office then handed to the girl who was told, "There are your instructions." All the girl received was these instructions; a broad directive from the commissioner. There were no specific guidelines, and, what is more amazing, the girl in question was not trained. That is how the scheme continues today.

The homemaker appointed for this purpose has only been given some rough guidelines. I feel that more specific guidelines are required so that these people may get down to promoting those things which we take for granted.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: Are you condemning the homemaker service?

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: I am not; I said it was a good idea.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: How would you begin with the 15-hour principle?

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: For a start I do not believe it should be 15 hours.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: I am going to talk to the Treasurer about this. There is a matter of \$180,000 involved.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: Once appointed the homemaker should be a person who is trained. She does not need to be a social worker with university degrees. All that is required, is that a woman, or a man be appointed. In most cases it will be a woman because she would have had the experience of running a home and

carrying out normal household budgeting, apart from which she will probably have a few children, and therefore be more suitable for the job.

It is not necessary for her to carry out a course of some length and I hope the Select Committee, if appointed, will provide the necessary guidelines in its findings. The person concerned could, perhaps, do a course of one week's duration, and then go out with a specific list of instructions to work in a home where she could point out the difference between toilet soap, household soap, and detergents. She could also explain what happens when a toilet or a sink gets blocked and how it can be corrected. She could also instruct on diets and the importance of eating fruit and vegetables occasionally. She could indicate that it is bad to eat bread and lolly-water and nothing else. These are the things that must be taught to the Aborigines and the only way this can be done is by means of a reasonable home-maker service of a good design.

As the Leader of the House pointed out, the scheme allows only 15 hours a week for the woman concerned to go around to the various homes to instruct these disadvantaged people. Fifteen hours a week is really quite laughable because the girl in question will not only get involved with the training of the mother in household matters or in teaching her how to cook, etc., but she will also get involved in the attendant personal problems.

I do not know what the position is like now, but I do know that in the past if the Department of Native Welfare found they had a homemaker with a big heart they would get the woman concerned to do other duties which involved red tape as a result of investigations that might need to be made. She may be asked to meet planes or requested to find Sam Jones who was supposed to turn up on a particular day.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: You helped me offset that with the Community Welfare Bill last session.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: I appreciate that. I would now like to return to the specific questions of hygiene and health. We have public health sisters operating in some of these isolated areas and they are certainly to be applauded for the work they are carrying out. I can honestly say that every such woman I have met is doing a wonderful job. These people really have their hearts in their work and the time they give to the work they carry out is really beyond reward.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: I am endeavouring to treble the staff for that work.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: I am glad to hear that, because I think the number of people engaged in this work should be increased in order that the work they do may be made easier.

A member in another place and myself once visited a native camp to which a sister had just been. She had attended a woman who was ill. When we got there we found these starving people were keeping 22 dogs, and I can assure members it is rather a frightening experience to have 22 thin starving dogs rush out at one. I have been brought up with dogs and I must admit that the experience we had on that occasion was quite frightening.

The Hon. R. Thompson: This is all very interesting but it is hardly within the ambit of your motion.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: Was the honourable member in the House when I read out the definition of education?

The Hon. R. Thompson: I was.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: I suggest that the honourable member ask *Hansard* for a copy of that definition or alternatively I can supply him with another copy. I was pointing out that we do need more health sisters in our education service.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: Do not get the idea that you only have to wave a wand to get more public health sisters.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: I think the remark is pertinent to a grave situation. Your motion is not being taken lightly, but I appreciate what the ex-Minister for Health has just said.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: We do have enthusiastic people who issue directives and advice about health and hygiene. Several years ago I was horrified to find that the Health Education Council—perhaps I should not use the word horrified because it apparently brings headlines, but I was horrified at the time—issued a publication on the corner of which was stamped, "Special Edition for the Kimberley."

Part of the publication was good. It dealt with the question of the instruction and education of Aboriginal families who were living in transitional homes. The publication sought to help these families in their knowledge of hygiene and health. It gave a hypothetical story of a young married Aboriginal couple. I cannot remember their names but we will call the man Marbuck and the girl, Gnarla. Gnarla was a girl living in a transitional home with her husband Marbuck. Gnarla wanted to buy a refrigerator but she could not afford one, though she was saving up each week. In the meantime, however, she had to do something which would enable her to store her meat supply for the week.

The advice given to Gnarla by the Education Health Council—which was given in all good faith—instructed her to go to the local store and buy a plastic bucket. Having bought the bucket she was to bring it home and say to Marbuck that night, "I want you to heat your knife in the fire and when it is red hot I want you to plunge it into the sides of the bucket." Gnarla was then to take a piece

of mosquito netting sufficient to cover the entire bucket in which she had placed her meat. She would then hang the bucket out in the shade to keep her week's meat supply away from the flies and the dogs—she was told that if she did this the flies and the dogs would not get at her meat.

I would like to point out that this was the advice given to natives in the Kimberley—in the tropics. It was given with good intent, but of course meat placed in a bucket with a few holes in it and covered with mosquito netting would go rotten within an hour in the tropics. They were absolutely right when they said the flies and the dogs would keep away, because no self-respecting fly or dog would go near that meat after a couple of hours. In addition to Gnarla being told how to destroy her week's supply of meat, she was also taught how to ruin a plastic bucket. Marbuck was taught how to take the temper out of a good knife, and they were both taught to build a fire outside rather than within the house. Certainly if Gnarla were fortunate enough to have some mosquito netting she would cover the baby with it and not the plastic bucket.

I contacted the people from the Health Education Council and they could not understand my attitude when I told them they were doing the wrong thing. In fact, they were most upset. I pointed out to them verbally that some of the things mentioned in their article were of value, and that I appreciated their feelings and what they were trying to do. However, I pointed out that they were acting foolishly by telling natives what to do concerning matters about which they knew absolutely nothing. The woman I spoke to commented, "Oh, well, I cannot understand that because the Native Welfare Department told us that it was a wonderful document." All I can say about that is that the officer in the Native Welfare Department who made that decision did not know very much about the area.

Earlier I mentioned dietary education, and it is most important that these people be taught what is a balanced form of diet.

I turn now to budgeting. We have a situation in which Aborigines with money in their pockets often will spend it on a taxi fare to the next town to see their brothers. They will do this for no specific reason and at a time when their children require food. We find that when an Aboriginal has \$2 he will spend \$1 on going to the pictures and the other \$1 will go towards lolly water. This is not an exaggeration; it is a fact. So the Aborigines must be taught how to budget. They must be educated regarding priorities and how to spend their money. For the same reason they must also be taught about banking.

[Resolved: That motions be continued.]

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: Thank you, Mr. Deputy President, and members. Aborigines must also be taught about appliances. We find that some Aborigines have a natural aptitude for mechanical appliances. I do not know why that should be so, but often we see them maintaining cars—or things on four wheels with something in the front that makes a lot of noise. How these things ever stay on the road I will never know, but without any mechanical training the Aborigines manage to keep them going.

They should also be taught about electrical and other appliances in the home. One sees record players, etc., full of dirt and dust. In some cases these people may spend up to \$200 on a good record player or radio and then destroy it within a few months as a result of their lack of knowledge.

I have already mentioned the homemaker system and the need for simple training. Aborigines need to have specific instructions and guidelines; but before they can apply these instructions the family must live in a reasonable living unit. When we look at past mistakes—and I am not going back 50 years now; I am referring to recent mistakes, and in some cases very recent mistakes—we find that homes called transitional houses have been built in the tropics for Aborigines. Members will appreciate that in the tropics the temperature in wintertime may still remain in the 90's and in the summertime the shade temperature may reach 116 or 117 degrees. The ground temperature may reach 125 degrees. It is very hot in the tropics.

However, we find that some learned gentleman sitting at a drawing board here in Perth has designed a home for Aborigines in the tropics. He said, and possibly rightly so, "They cannot afford gas or electricity, so we will give them a fuel stove. How can we best utilise a fuel stove that provides warmth? We must keep these people warm so we will put the fuel stove in the centre of the house." Transitional homes such as that have been constructed in the tropics.

Let us consider an even more recent mistake. We find that luxury units costing \$30,000-odd have been built in the Kimberley for single Aboriginal families. I have mentioned this matter before in this House. These homes have been built with Commonwealth assistance in towns in which nobody other than the Aboriginal families concerned has a house of this standard. In other words, it is the best house in the whole town—better than that of the local senior engineer, the local bank manager, or the local storekeeper. It is equipped with more facilities than the other houses. Yet this political sop has been built in a town where the local reserve and the surrounding bush is full of wurlies and humpies. There are people living in humpies made of bits of bark, tin, iron,

and canvas. This makes one wonder just who needs the education. We need education for Aborigines, but my proposed inquiry will also provide us with education.

We must establish a reasonable sort of living unit; we must establish a home-maker system that works; and we must establish a pre-school system, which is so important. If members will allow my lapse in English, I would say we must also create a pre-pre-school situation, because we consider "pre-school" to mean a kindergarten.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: I think I can answer you fully on that point.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: I thank the Minister. We need to go further than the pre-school situation as we know it; we need a pre-pre-school situation where there is education of the child and the parent.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: I have convinced the Commonwealth to come in on this.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: We also need teachers who are trained to teach in integrated classes, which is not the case at the moment. The teachers must be trained to teach at two or more levels in the one class. At present we do have in-service training, but I feel we should provide compulsory training for these teachers. We should also provide post-graduate and refresher courses so that teachers with basic training may receive further training before they are sent to an area where the pupils are predominantly Aboriginal. We must also teach the teachers a little about Aboriginal history. In fact, I think Aboriginal history should be taught in some schools because it would create pride with respect to the Aboriginal ancestors. This would also make the Caucasian pupils and their parents a little more aware of the fantastic culture the Aborigines enjoyed prior to the advent of the white man. This culture is interesting, unusual, and far more sophisticated than many people think.

I think it is most important to incorporate career motivation in the education of our Aborigines. It is important that adequate technical schools be established. I hope these things will be brought forward in the deliberations of my proposed Select Committee, to which I hope members will agree.

I would like to refer to another matter which requires streamlining; and possibly the Minister for Community Welfare may have the answer to this. We find that the Native Welfare Department was required to look after the employment of Aborigines who wished to register in the Commonwealth Employment Bureau. Now that the Native Welfare Department has gone I do not know how this facility will be replaced. I certainly hope the replacement does not operate on the same basis as the

Native Welfare Department operated because the facility applied only to Aborigines. I hope that Commonwealth Employment Bureau agencies will be set up in towns the population of which is predominantly Aboriginal, and that these agencies will be a contact centre for employers and employees, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: You are talking about the Commonwealth service at the moment?

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: Well, something similar to it. The Commonwealth Employment Bureau is a good bureau with good working principles. I understand that the Native Welfare Department was an agency for that bureau.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: Unfortunately, no. I tried to get that agency established. Furthermore, to help you with your cause, I would say I am with you all the way. I hope that we get the Commonwealth more involved in this issue. At the moment the Commonwealth is only playing with it.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: I am pointing out that I would like a similar facility—not necessarily one operated by the Commonwealth, but at least some agency. I am not trying to back out politically now.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: Nor am I; this is not a political issue.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: To continue: We read many articles about this problem—here I am talking about education for Aborigines in the broad sense—and we hear experts speaking on the subject, and we find even they become confused. I would like to comment on an article which appeared in the *Northern Times* of Thursday, the 27th July, 1972, under the heading of, "Minister impressed with Aboriginal education." The article states—

The Minister for Education, Mr. T. D. Evans, said this week he had been favourably impressed by much of what he had observed in provisions for educating Aboriginal children during his recent week-long tour of the Kimberley and other areas of the North-West.

Later the article continues—

"During my 9½ months as Minister for Education, I have become aware of criticism of provisions for the educational needs of Aboriginal children," Mr. Evans said.

"It is with this criticism in mind that I now express surprise and delight at much of what I saw in this regard while in the North-West.

"There are undoubtedly factors in the home backgrounds and educational experience of the children which needs attention, but there is no doubt either that in many schools progress is being made in meeting those needs."

When I read that article I got the impression that everything was hunky-dory and that things were progressing smoothly. However, I can assure you, Mr. Deputy President, that they are not progressing smoothly, regardless of what the Minister for Education said. I think it is obvious that an investigation is needed into the education of our Aboriginal people. The investigation should cover housing, finance, health, motivation, social acceptance, and also teacher training, academic education, and vocational training.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: You have almost the basis for a Royal Commission.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: Well, let us start with a Select Committee. I ask members to support the motion. I also ask that if the Select Committee is appointed by this House the departments concerned be requested to supply such documents and evidence to the committee as may be required. I hope the Select Committee, if appointed, will be able to present its findings to Parliament and in so doing assist the Government and its departments to correct the inequalities in our society through the broad education of the Aborigines of Western Australia.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. W. F. Willesee (Leader of the House).

## SUPPLY BILL

### *Receipt and First Reading*

Bill received from the Assembly; and, on motion by the Hon. W. F. Willesee (Leader of the House), read a first time.

### *Second Reading*

**THE HON. W. F. WILLESEE** (North-East Metropolitan—Leader of the House) [5.47 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This Bill seeks an issue of \$200,000,000 from the Consolidated Revenue Fund; \$30,000,000 from monies to the credit of the General Loan Fund; and an issue of \$5,000,000 from the Public Account to enable the Treasurer to make such temporary advances as may be necessary.

The issue of these funds is essential for carrying out State services, pending the passing of the respective Appropriation Bills to be introduced later in the session consequent upon the presentation of the Revenue Budget and the Loan Estimates to Parliament for this financial year. These are presently being framed.

In introducing this measure proposing the granting of supply to Her Majesty of an amount of \$235,000,000 for the services of the State at the commencement of the current financial year, I mention that the proposed issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund is greater by \$25,000,000

than that sought in last year's Supply Bill. Amounts proposed to be drawn from the General Loan Fund and the Public Account correspond with last year's figures.

The increased issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund is required to meet a continued growth in Government expenditure as a result of expanding services and increased costs.

Expenditure from the Revenue Fund last financial year exceeded collections by \$891,000—a much better result than expected when last year's Budget was framed. This is particularly pleasing when, in fact, at one stage during the year it appeared that the budgeted deficit of \$3,525,000 would be exceeded, as a consequence mainly of mining revenue falling short of the estimate.

The advent of increased Commonwealth payments to the State, and also Budget savings arising from delayed judgment on the national wage and State basic wage cases, resulted in the final deficit for 1971-72 being held to less than \$1,000,000.

While the cost in the last financial year of wage and salary rises was less than expected, the recent increases will have a full year impact on the 1972-73 Budget. A further drop in mining revenue will also present a problem to the Government in framing this year's Budget.

The Government's financial resources are under continuing stress in our efforts to meet demands for expanding social services, particularly in the fields of education, hospitals, police, and community welfare; and although additional financial assistance to be provided by the Commonwealth in 1972-73 will help to meet these demands, it will be difficult to satisfy them all. But the prospects for this financial year will be set out in much greater detail by the Premier when presenting the Budget. I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Leader of the Opposition).

## SALES BY AUCTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL

### *Second Reading*

Debate resumed from the 3rd May.

**THE HON. R. THOMPSON** (South Metropolitan [5.51 p.m.]): I am sure that members who have been in this House for a number of years will not want to listen to a long discourse on the history of the Sales by Auction Act, because to the best of my knowledge Mr. Jack Thomson has made three attempts to introduce legislation to tidy up the anomalies that are inherent in the present Act.

On one occasion the Government sponsored a similar Bill to achieve the same objective. On several occasions it was pointed out that because of the dangers which arose in the drafting of the legislation the particular Bill would not be proceeded with. However, with the spirit of co-operation prevailing over the past couple of years Mr. Jack Thomson has now brought a Bill forward in a form which I consider to be acceptable.

Even when the Government sponsored and introduced a similar Bill there was not complete co-operation from the Department of Agriculture; and so some criticism should be made against that department. However, on another occasion when Mr. Jack Thomson introduced a similar Bill the department made some recommendations and a spirit of co-operation existed. Mr. Jack Thomson was invited to discuss the matter with the senior officer of the department, and I understand he did this.

As a result we have the Bill before us, and although the department still raises several points at issue we can accept it. If the department considers the Bill does not meet with its requirements then, when the Bill is transmitted to another place, amendments can be made. The benefit of the doubt should be given to Mr. Jack Thomson, and the department should bear the responsibility for bringing the Bill into a form which will make it workable.

The major difference between the previous Bill the honourable member introduced and the one before us is in respect of the interpretations. The penalties in both are virtually the same, and under the Bill before us it is proposed that the auctioneer shall keep a register of cattle sold. That has always been a principle contained in the Bills introduced by the honourable member.

In the Bill before us the power to inspect the register of cattle sold has been broadened, so that not only will the police and stock inspectors be authorised to inspect the register but the consignor of cattle will also be so authorised.

The main reason for the introduction of the Bill arose from an incident which took place in the great southern about six or seven years ago when an auctioneer sold cattle and made fictitious entries in the books. As a result prosecutions were made and the case was dealt with in court. That was the reason which prompted Mr. Jack Thomson to introduce the measure.

I support the Bill, but before I sit down I would like to quote the comments of the Department of Agriculture on the Bill. Its comments are as follows:—

The amendments proposed under the Bill will make the Act more effective, and should in turn protect both

the seller and buyer of livestock by preventing a recurrence of the abuses which came to light during prosecutions for offences which occurred in the South-West in 1968 and 1969.

I think the reference should be to the great southern and not to the south-west. To continue with the department's comments—

Concerning clause 3 (b) it would appear that the only type of horse which would require to be entered in the register, as proposed under the new Section 3A (clause 5), would be "colts". The exclusion of the other kinds of horses mentioned in the Act, i.e. "horses, mares, foals, fillies and geldings" is difficult to understand.

However, in relation to the use of the term "cattle" in the broad sense specified under the Act, it is considered that the term "stock" would be preferable. This latter term is in wide use and is clearly understood to have a wider connotation than the term "cattle". It would therefore be logical to use the term "stock" in lieu of "cattle" wherever it appears throughout the Act.

Use of this term gains further support by the proposal under the draft Bill that stock inspectors be given the authority to inspect the register required under clause 5. This is a sound procedure, since stock inspectors are present at all sales, and can be approached by a farmer who is concerned at an irregularity.

The penalties which are provided under clause 4 have been increased and are considered to be adequate at the present point of time.

Clause 7 seeks to ensure that neither the auctioneer nor his employee shall purchase any stock placed in his hands for sale by auction without having the authority in writing of the vendor. These proposals should eliminate any tendency towards malpractice which might otherwise be possible.

In the main the department has given the green light to this legislation.

I suggest, rather than have this Bill re-drafted, hacked about, and transmitted to another place where further amendments may be made, that when the Bill is dealt with in Committee we permit it to be passed without amendment so that it may be transmitted in its present form. If amendments are suggested by the department they can be made by the Minister, if he so desires, in another place.

I have not discussed this point with the Minister, but I think that is the logical and the right thing to do, seeing the legislation will come under the control of the Minister. The departmental inspectors are the people who will police this legislation.

If Mr. Jack Thomson agrees to this course of action I see no reason why the Bill should not get a quick passage through this House. Some people who have a vested interest in this matter have contacted me, and they are not very happy with the Bill. However, I am not concerned about the vested interests being happy, but I am concerned about justice being meted out to people who consign cattle for sale by auction. I trust that as a result of this Bill they will receive the auction rate or the ruling rate for the cattle and stock they consign.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. S. T. J. Thompson.

*House adjourned at 6.00 p.m.*

## Legislative Assembly

Wednesday, the 2nd August, 1972

The SPEAKER (Mr. Norton) took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

### QUESTIONS (43): ON NOTICE

1. *This question was postponed.*

2. **ABORIGINES**

#### *Housing and Welfare: Expenditure*

Mr. RUSHTON, to the Treasurer:

- (1) What was the amount spent—
  - (a) by the Hawke Government in 1958-59;
  - (b) by the Brand Government in 1968-69;
  - (c) by the Tonkin Government in 1971-72,
 on
  - (i) Aboriginal welfare; and
  - (ii) housing?
- (2) What amount was spent by his Government for Aboriginal housing from its special programmes outside normal State Housing Commission allocations?
- (3) What has the Commonwealth Government, year by year, since it had the constitutional authority to do so, spent in, or granted to, Western Australia for—
  - (a) Aboriginal welfare; and
  - (b) Aboriginal housing?

Mr. J. T. TONKIN replied:

- (1) (a) (i) \$1,178,678.  
(ii) Nil.
- (b) (i) \$2,380,793.  
(ii) \$756,099.
- (c) (i) \$3,044,368.  
(ii) \$814,327.
- (2) \$814,327.

- (3) (a) 1968-69—\$278,361.  
1969-70—\$265,000.  
1970-71—\$600,000.  
1971-72—\$1,255,000.
- (b) 1968-69—\$546,639.  
1969-70—\$990,000.  
1970-71—\$1,080,000.  
1971-72—\$1,245,000.

3.

### BP REFINERY

#### *Initial Contact and Negotiations*

Mr. RUSHTON, to the Minister for Development and Decentralisation:

- (1) Will he advise the House the name of the Minister for Works and the director of works responsible for the initial contact and negotiations and commitment with British Petroleum to have the company establish an oil refinery at Kwinana?
- (2) When and where did this event take place?

Mr. GRAHAM replied:

- (1) The Minister for Works at the time was Hon. David Brand, M.L.A., the Director of Works being Mr. R. J. Dumas.

The notes from which the Minister for Labour was reading on my behalf were unfortunately an uncorrected copy and referred to the oil refinery at Kwinana as having been initiated by the Labor Government under the premiership of the Hon. A. R. G. Hawke.

This, of course, is not so and I apologise to the House for this error having been made. The responsibility is mine and can in no way be attributed to the Minister for Labour.

- (2) Initial contacts were made in Melbourne in 1951 and final negotiations were held in Perth with an Anglo Iranian Oil Company team headed by Mr. Blake and including Messrs. Hackford-Jones and Barker.

The agreement was signed on 3rd March, 1952, and subsequently ratified in a special session of Parliament.

4.

### HEALTH

#### *Cigarette Smoking: Effect on Pregnancies*

Mr. A. R. TONKIN, to the Minister for Health:

What action is being taken to make prospective parents aware of the high positive correlation between cigarette smoking by pregnant women and the number of miscarriages and still-births?