

direction of the expenditure that was in excess of his estimate, or the causes of that expenditure. In view of the fact that he has persuaded the Commonwealth Grants Commission to agree to reimburse the State, we can withhold criticism with regard to incurring the deficit. There still remains the question, however, of whether the money has been spent wisely. That remains to be seen. I am more than pleased to find that the suggestion I made a couple of years ago has been found acceptable by the Government. My suggestion to the Government then was "Hang the expense! Needs must come before means. If we cannot find the means to meet the needs, the Commonwealth Government will jolly well have to do it." I congratulate the Government upon at last having appreciated the fact that some wisdom can emanate from the Opposition side of the House.

Mr. J. Hegney: You consider it was wise expenditure.

Mr. LESLIE: I do not say the expenditure was wise; I say it was a wise move.

The Premier: The hon. member flatters himself if he thinks the Government took the hint from him.

On motion by Mr. McLarty, debate adjourned.

*House adjourned at 9.18 p.m.*

## Legislative Council.

*Thursday, 8th August, 1946.*

Address-in-reply, sixth day	....	....	....	....	PAGE 185
-----------------------------	------	------	------	------	-------------

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

### ADDRESS-IN-REPLY.

*Sixth Day.*

Debate resumed from the previous day.

**HON. J. G. HISLOP** (Metropolitan) [4.33]: At the outset of my remarks I desire to say how much I feel personally the loss of Sir John Kirwan from this House. He was always a friend to me. I shall never forget on my first appearance in this House the way he made me feel that I was welcome and offered me all the advice possible. To you, as his successor, Mr. President, I offer my congratulations and hope that you will be spared long to occupy that office.

To the Chief Secretary I offer my congratulations on his appointment as Agent-General. In my opinion, nobody has so well earned a respite from parliamentary toil as has Mr. Kitson. I think it would require a man of herculean mental and physical capabilities indefinitely to carry on the work in the manner in which he has done since I have been a member, and long before that. I would seriously suggest to the Government that when a successor is appointed, considerable thought should be given to the amount of work laid upon the shoulders of any one man.

Unfortunately this policy is being adopted in many other governmental avenues. It strikes me as extraordinary that senior officers of the Public Service—I refer particularly to three men, Mr. R. J. Dumas, Mr. A. J. Reid and Mr. A. E. Clare—should be called upon to take on their shoulders responsibility for so many enterprises of the Government. I do not know how it is possible for these men to carry out all the tasks that are being allotted to them, and I would suggest very seriously that the monumental amount of work they are being asked to undertake is too much. I do not know how many committees and boards each of those three men have been appointed to, but the number is considerable. When one finds that the Director of Public Works has now been appointed to the Rottnest Board of Control, one wonders why there should be a need for one man to be appointed to all these avenues of service.

I often wonder what time Mr. A. J. Reid can devote to his work as Under Treasurer when I realise the number of other tasks that are imposed upon him. I have seen Mr. Reid working long and well on the Perth Hospital Board, which takes a considerable amount of time. If all his other appointments call equally upon his abilities, he is greatly overworked. It is not in the

interests of the State that these multitudinous avenues should be filled by a small number of men, no matter who they are or how capable they may be. I should say that if it were necessary for these men to take extended leave, the State might find it difficult to fill their places.

I see no evidence of any understudies being brought to the high pitch of efficiency which these men have reached, and I consider we should open up the Public Service so that each of these men has under him an efficient person to take his place. It would be enlightening if the Chief Secretary, in his reply, would tell us the number of boards and committees to which these senior officers have been appointed, and let us know whether they are already overdue for leave. If these men are due for considerable leave that they have been unable to take, and if the Government cannot fill their posts by men sufficiently well-trained, then there must have been a considerable lack of foresight and control from a purely governmental point of view.

There have been a number of happenings in our ordinary everyday life that are open to praise or criticism. To me one of the important things is the proposed appointment by the Perth City Council of a half-time medical officer of health. We have laboured in this city of 200,000 persons far too long with a medical officer devoting but a minimum amount of his time to the health affairs of the city. The move to appoint a half-time officer is a good one but it does not meet in any way the requirements of a city of 200,000 persons. There is ample work for a whole-time officer to devote his attention to, because this city still shows a considerable sub-standard in health, particularly, as we have noted here before, in connection with the delivery of such commodities as meat and bread, the standards of cafes, and numbers of other things. I trust that if the Perth City Council cannot see its way clear to appoint an officer on full time, it will be able to induce neighbouring councils to join with it so that a full-time appointment may be made.

Members must realise that once a medical man has taken his diploma of public health and interested himself in public health matters, he has more or less divorced himself from medical practice; and to ask a man to spend half his time building a general prac-

tice and the other half to the health affairs of a city, will not lead to efficiency. I have never been able to view calmly the fact that a medical officer is at one stage called upon to treat the sick and at the next stage asked to be a guardian of law and order under the Health Act of that particular community. I would go further and say I trust that the time is not far distant when the State will be divided into health areas and when these part-time medical officers of health in the suburbs and the city and in country districts will no longer exist.

I would suggest it is extremely difficult for a medical practitioner in a country town to treat his patients one morning and the next be called upon to administer a warning that the house or the shop or the premises of that person do not conform to the requirements of the Health Act. Certainly where two men are in competition with each other, it would be extremely difficult for one man to be at all militant under the Health Act. I suggest that these health officers be appointed full-time; that they be given a wide enough district to warrant their full-time appointment; and that they be responsible to the Commissioner of Public Health and not to the local governing authorities. It is extremely difficult for the most honest individuals appointed to road boards or municipal councils to regard with equanimity the orders from their local medical officer in regard to the requirements of the Health Act; but if the notices came through the Commissioner of Health, the system would be much more expeditious and effective.

Hon. W. R. Hall: How would that apply to local authorities several hundred miles from the metropolitan area?

Hon. J. G. HISLOP: The local man would act as the representative not of the local governing authority, but of the Minister for Health, through the Commissioner. He would not necessarily have to refer everything he did to the Commissioner but he would be a deputy of the Commissioner and of the Minister for Health. One other movement that has been lately taken up in our city is worth mentioning and praising and that is the drive for the prevention and control of tuberculosis. The present exhibition is a good one, well staged and effectively telling in its propaganda to the public. I do not, however, consider that a grant by the

Commonwealth Government of £250,000 is sufficient to meet the needs of the various States in their anti-tuberculosis efforts. On proportion, we should probably obtain one-fourteenth of the amount, and that would not meet our requirements at all.

Let me diverge a moment from the question of the treatment of tuberculosis to point out that prevention is really economic. So many times have I seen breadwinners refuse to undergo treatment until it was far too late because of the insecurity it would bring to their families. So often have they had the feeling that if they isolated themselves in a sanatorium their families would be in want. It has been suggested that a paternal Government might grant to those persons the basic wage or its equivalent whilst they were in confinement and undergoing treatment. But that is only part of the story. That only meets the conditions of one particular section of the community.

The fear of insecurity must be a relative one to all persons. To the man who earns the basic wage, the loss of the basic wage means insecurity. To the man on 20 times the basic wage the loss of that wage still means insecurity. I should say that no-one could ask any Government to say to a person on £1,000 a year, "Very well, if you get tuberculosis we will see that your family lives under the same conditions as they would have if you had continued to work." But with a proper contributory scheme for the whole nation—in other words, a security scheme based on contributions—it would be possible for a breadwinner to protect his family against the time when he fell ill. He could, in the same way as is now done with regard to superannuation, guard himself by taking the number of units necessary to permit his family to continue in the way they had been accustomed to live.

There are individuals whose whole future in life depends upon their father remaining well. Should he fall ill their whole chance goes. Not a few times have I seen seen individuals who have told me, as their physician, that their dreams of entering a certain occupation was rudely shattered by the fact that the illness of their father meant the loss of security for the family and necessarily changed the viewpoint of the individual members of the family. If such a scheme as I have suggested were put into operation, we could ask individuals suf-

fering from tuberculosis to submit themselves to treatment at the earliest possible date. We could ask individuals suffering from all other communicable diseases to do the same.

In passing, I again ask the Chief Secretary whether he can assure me that if the Government is in earnest in regard to the prevention of tuberculosis, it will take all measures necessary to ensure that the nursing staffs do not contract tuberculosis. I have repeatedly asked for, and have only now been able to obtain, at the Perth Hospital, the condition that all nurses shall be x-rayed and submitted to a test before commencing nursing. I would like to feel assured that a Government that is going to accept a Commonwealth subsidy for the control of tuberculosis will make every effort to see that nurses undertaking the treatment of tubercular patients at Woorloo are provided with every protection that modern science can give them.

I come now to a problem that has been exercising my mind for some considerable time. The remarks I am about to make will be presented as by a person who has, for the last 15 years, been associated with the Perth Hospital as an in-patient physician, and before that in other capacities at the same institution. For the last seven or eight years, apart from two years during the war, I have represented the honorary staff at meetings of the Perth Hospital Board of Management. The result is that I do know something—in fact, a considerable amount—of the working and the needs of the Perth Hospital. I say, advisedly, that I am worried because, when this towering structure is completed in its present form we will be unable to use it, as we will not have accommodation for our nursing staff.

The whole planning of the Perth Hospital has been sad and sorry. In my opinion there was, in the first place, no true concept of what was needed in a modern hospital. It was probably considered that a hospital was a place in which to lay people down when they were sick, but there was no concept of what one might call the adjuncts of that hospital. It is necessary to have quarters in which nurses can reside, and in a modern hospital there will be, roughly, one nurse per patient. I am doubtful whether authority exists at present to

erect the nurses quarters. Before we can open the present new wing of the hospital it will be necessary to have about 140 additional nursing staff, but we have nowhere to house them. At present the nurses are living scattered about in buildings round the Perth Hospital. The number now working there is greater than we can house in the present nursing quarters. Years have elapsed and the board has known all along that nurses' quarters were necessary, but there has never been anyone with the authority to say to the board, "Build the quarters."

Yesterday we heard new members speak in this House and I would like to welcome them and congratulate them on what they said. They will both add considerable weight to the debating talent of this House, but it does throw my mind back to the day when I came here first and asked that a hospitals commission similar to the Charities Board of Victoria should control hospital affairs. Never has it been more sadly necessary than today to appoint someone with authority to control the hospital problems of this State. During the time I have been at the Perth Hospital I have also acted as a member of the hospital building committee, a matter of about five years now. I was not an original member but Colonel Clark, when he left to go to the war, asked me to take over that position. Therefore I have been at the meetings that planned the interior of the present wing. I had the opportunity of going over the wing yesterday morning and I say it will stand as a monument to the work of Mr. Clare and his assistants. It will be a hospital to be proud of and as modern as any in Australia, and equally as efficient. The work that has been done there, despite all the difficulties and the shortage of material, is nothing less than wonderful.

Work has been done at the Perth Hospital in the way of investigation regarding the use of building materials that will be to the good of future hospitals in Australia, but the concept and planning of what is necessary in this hospital is completely missing in somebody's mind. As far as I can see, it is nobody's business to control the lay-out of the surroundings and the necessary ancillary buildings that go to make up a hospital centre. When we met on the hospital planning committee, if the interior work was discussed it was discussed with Mr. Clare and

before long it would be found that it was put in motion, but as to the requirements beyond those of the present wing, who orders the work or what happens to it most of us have failed to find out.

It seems to me the procedure is that the planning committee sends its findings to the Perth Hospital Board of Management, and that board has no power and no money. That board then writes to the Minister for Health and he transfers his minute on to either the Director of Public Works or to the Standing Works Committee. Then somehow or other it goes back through that channel to someone. It may be that the Perth Hospital Board will receive advice, but up to date we have been waiting for most of the advice, until now we are in a really difficult position. The recent adoption of the 44-hour award has added another burden to our problems, because we require more nurses within the next three months, but have nowhere to house them. Surely there must be someone—or there should be someone—with authority to say that certain things shall be done that are necessary for the hospital centre. It is one of the biggest projects of the State, but we have muddled until today no-one knows exactly where we are muddling to. One can go further and say that had there been a true concept in the first place the hospital would probably not be where it is today.

Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. J. G. HISLOP: The site was selected on what was apparently sound advice at that time, and I think there are many features that justify the erection of the hospital on the present site, but, whether it was right or wrong, we are now in a position where we must do all we can to make that site an effective one. For months, and possibly for years, the Perth Hospital Board has been impressed with the need for the resumption of Macfarlane's property next door, and that property was available for sale. The letters went to someone round that chain of committees, but nothing much was done until, when members were getting more and more restless and were wondering what was happening, we were suddenly told that the Commonwealth had resumed Macfarlane's property. We have lost our opportunity. What is more, the possibility of expanding that area into a proper site is lost because it is believed by the members of the Perth Hospital

Board that it is no use trying to get back from the Commonwealth anything it has once taken from the State.

This is one more piece of evidence that the State Government has not had the courage to stand up to a Commonwealth department and say, "We need that land." I am assured that if we obtain Macfarlane's property, it is possible that many of our difficulties would ease—our urgent ones would not—but they would not have been present at all if in the first concept Macfarlane's property had been purchased. If we feel that the purchase of that property by the Commonwealth is in the interests of the biggest project in the metropolitan area, surely the State Government has only to wait on the Commonwealth department concerned and say, "We want that land," for us to get it. All that it is required for by the Commonwealth is to house a branch of the telephone works so that those works may be confined within a certain area of communication. It is quite possible they could go on the other side of Murray-street.

I understand that the Fire Brigades' Board is not happy in its present quarters and desires to move at an early date. The Perth Hospital Board, because it lost the Macfarlane site, is talking about the resumption of two blocks of land higher up Murray-street. The Commonwealth department could have that land and there is no reason why it should not. With a proper concept of the plan, we could then make headway. I wonder, too, whether anyone has any conception of what the maintenance of the new hospital will cost, and whether that was ever taken into consideration at the time it was said, "Let us build a hospital." The present hospital costs, I think, £153,000 a year to run. I venture to say that we will not get away with under double that amount in the running of the new hospital. That institution will represent a tremendous portion of our city life, and we must see that it is put into proper surroundings so that it can effectively carry out its functions. Although some members may think otherwise, I feel there is a lot of merit in the position where it now is. If a broad vision is adopted, I think we can make the site a suitable centre.

Some eight or nine months ago I suggested to the Perth Hospital Board—I was successful in having the motion adopted—that we should write to the Premier asking him to form a committee to which he would appoint individuals with power to act; that we should invite to the committee members of the Perth City Council, the Town Planning Commission, the Roman Catholic authorities, and all others interested in the site, to discuss the proper layout of the future medical centre of Perth. Month after month went by and I asked at almost every board meeting what had happened in connection with that matter. Eventually—it must have been after at least eight months—we learned that the matter was being taken up and that the City Council would be approached. Instead of the committee having a real plan upon which to act, all that happened was that the Under Secretary put to the Perth City Council the desirability of taking over a block of 11 acres. When the plan was presented to the Perth City Council, there was no scheme disclosed of what was to be put on the land. I trust the City Council does not hand over the land until it is given a plan with a vision for the future of Perth.

I consider that the first step in the matter is to say to the Commonwealth, "We desire to get the Macfarlane property," and then review the question whether we could not take Irwin-street straight through from Murray-street into Wellington-street. That would make a new facade for the nurses' home which could be continued round in a letter "L," the present home remaining, and a big block put up on the new frontage. I would rather see that than see the nurses' home erected across the road so that the nurses would have to cross the traffic when going on duty. I am sure it will end up in a tunnel having to be built under the road so that the nursing staff could go to and fro between the hospital and their home. That would be a colossal expense which would not be justified merely for the reason that the Commonwealth must have its will when it took over land which is in the way of the progress of the city.

At the back of the Macfarlane property there is an electricity sub-station which would have to be moved if the street were put straight through. That would be a negligible expense compared with the cost of a tunnel under Wellington-street to give

access to the nurses' home. I am sure the Perth City Council would more willingly hand over its land to us if it were merely regarded as a "lung" and not a piece of land to be cluttered up with buildings. We are faced at present with additional requests for buildings around the hospital. There seems to be a piecemeal idea of putting these buildings on the 11 acres. I think the Perth City Council is closely watching its interests. Many of us feel that the station must come down that way, or that end of the city, and that there must be a wide open space around the railway terminus. One would not desire the whole area from Wellington-street to Lord-street to be taken up with buildings when we should be having an open space there.

There is a suggestion at present that blocks "B" and "C," which are old blocks of wards, should be remodelled to take an extra number of beds. That block of land is 120 ft. by 180 ft. on which could be erected a building of the same size as the present wing of the hospital. It could contain everything required in the way of what is necessary for a T.B. hospital. It is suggested that the surgical side be brought to the city. We could also have a medical school in the block. Reserve the 11 acres as an open space! If we said to the Perth City Council, "We will see that on the block is not added anything but the buildings which might come in the future with scientific progress, buildings that were reserved for research or experimental purposes, and therefore buildings which would not be cumbersome to any extent, in the general scheme," I think we would gain its support.

There is no reason otherwise why we should not extend the area from the medical centre east of the Perth Hospital. I feel sure that the Roman Catholic authorities would assist us by considering the possibility of moving St. Patrick's School to another and more suitable site. The school is now opposite a growing industrial area. There must be areas on which the Roman Catholic authorities could build a school to much greater advantage. There is then eastwards only a block of warehouses and next door is the Dental School. If necessary the medical centre could be extended along Murray-street east where there is ample room for such extension. That

is a long-term programme for the building but it does not overcome the present difficulties in regard to the nursing staff. It brings evidence of the necessity for some sort of hospital commission, with authority to plan and to build.

What we are faced with is this: There are minimum requirements that will be wanted and these will comprise new buildings for the housing of 63 nurses. Even that means that we must convert the old quarters at the moment to hold another 40 nurses. Our requirements are for 100 or more beds for nurses, and if the work were done in the cheapest way, it would take six months to complete. All that we would be saving ourselves would be 18 months because, if we started a new block on the site for nurses' homes, these would not be ready inside two years. The expenditure will range from £20,000 to £40,000 for temporary accommodation for nurses. At the last meeting of the Perth Hospital Board we closely considered the question of whether such beds could be provided in something more than a temporary form, and whether, after the Perth Hospital Board had finished with them as a temporary measure, they could be used to the advantage of some other hospital. It will take time to choose a site and then to build a future convalescent or old age home.

Whilst the Perth Hospital Board is planning in this way in order to conserve expenditure that is necessary to meet a temporary difficulty, we find that the Lotteries Commission has another scheme for looking after the aged. Are these going to clash? Would it not be better to have some organisation responsible for the whole set-up and control of the hospital units, if not of the whole country then of the metropolitan area? We will be told that we have a hospital planning committee, but it has no authority. What we want is a body that has authority to act, and that has money behind it. We want a commission or charities board to which all moneys for hospitals would be sent, including moneys distributed by the Lotteries Commission, a commission whose life's work would be to watch and plan for all hospital expenditure.

There are other avenues of worry and anxiety concerning the hospital needs of the State. I am not at all certain that it is wise

for the returned soldiers and returned Servicewomen to be treated separately at the Hollywood Hospital. We shall find in a small community such as ours—200,000 is small—that our senior medical officers will be running between their private consulting rooms, the Repatriation Department, the Perth Hospital and the Hollywood Hospital, thus wasting a considerable amount of time, while a centralisation of the treatment would prove more effective to all concerned. I never had any thought other than that the Servicemen should get all that we can afford to give them—but I believe they would get more by being concentrated, when ill, in the Perth Hospital, and by being sent later, as necessary, to such places as may be set aside for them as a convalescent home, such as at Hollywood or elsewhere.

The other aspect that must give us cause for anxiety is this; If we decide to have a medical school here, the present Perth Hospital—which will cost £1,500,000 by the time it is completed, and the present wing we know cost nearly as much as the Melbourne Hospital completed—will be reserved for the older people of the community, because the younger element will be treated for the majority of their illnesses in the Hollywood Hospital. It is not good for nursing training, nor is it good for medical training, that at the Perth Hospital at the present moment in the wards where I have just recently resumed work—I am now resigning after 15 years—the average number of patients is about 60. If one or two cases of persons of young age are taken into account, that would bring the total down, but in bed after bed in those wards the patients are 70 years of age and over and they do not require the full services of a hospital of that character; and obviously their illnesses cannot be looked upon as training for the medical student.

It is a very exacting business for nurses to find that practically all of their patients are of that age. Nurses look to the recovery of a considerable number of their patients to give them the psychological uplift that should come from their work. I feel that I have said enough on this matter to make members realise that all is not well with the medical services of the city, that we need someone with authority to say what shall be done, whose lifetime work it is to watch the planning of the medical services at least of our city and it maybe of our State. There

is the possibility of building within our city something that could be an outstanding monument to efficiency; but as we are proceeding at present we run the very grave risk of not being able to allow that institution to carry out its functions, and eventually of regretting the whole layout of the scheme. I would seriously suggest that the Government give careful consideration to an immediate inquiry into the whole needs of the Perth Hospital, its set-out, the provisions of a nurses' home, the layout of the environs and arrange the meeting of all the bodies interested, so that we might eventually have something that would be a credit to the whole of Western Australia. I have pleasure in supporting the motion.

**HON. F. R. WELSH** (North) [5.19]: May I congratulate you, Sir, on your appointment as President of this House? I am sure that your 20 years' service as Chairman of Committees will thoroughly fit you for the position. I also desire to congratulate Mr. Seddon on his appointment to the position of Chairman of Committees; and I feel, with other members, very sorry to hear of his indisposition. I hope he will soon recover. I would also offer my congratulations to the Chief Secretary on his appointment to the position of Agent General for Western Australia, a post which he is well qualified to fill. His knowledge of Western Australia, as well as his knowledge of English conditions—he was born in England—peculiarly fit him for the position. In common with other members, I agree that he will be difficult to replace in this Chamber. I hope he will have happy associations as Agent General.

There are one or two matters in the Speech dealing with the North-West upon which I wish to comment. The first is the provision of cool stores at each northern port. This decision will give great satisfaction to the people in that part of the State. The second is the acquisition of a new freighter by the State Shipping Service. As members are aware, one of the major problems of the North-West is an adequate passenger and cargo service. I very much regret that the new vessel has no passenger accommodation. At present we have the "Koolinda" and the "Kybra" running to the North-West, and both of these vessels have accommodation for passengers.

The "Koolinda," being the larger vessel, has much more passenger accommodation than has the "Kybra." The latter, in my opinion, is an excellent little vessel, well fitted to maintain the trade on the coast as far as cargo is concerned. But, as I said, it has very limited passenger accommodation. The passenger accommodation on the "Koolinda" is, however, also taxed by reason of the tourist trade, very often to the detriment of the residents of the North, who are unable to obtain a passage at times. This question is very serious for the people of the North. During the war period it was very difficult to secure a passage by air.

Some of the ports in the North are tidal ports—two of them are particularly bad—and arrangements should be made so that vessels will reach the ports at such times as will permit of their getting alongside the wharf. Frequent delays have occurred owing to the overcarriage of passengers and cargo, as the vessels have had to pass the ports on the up-trips and land the passengers and goods on the return trips. I am aware that this cannot be avoided and I am not complaining about it; but now that we have the new vessel on the run it should be easy to overcome that difficulty by arranging a schedule to fit in with the tides. At Port Hedland and Broome the vessels must run to a schedule in order to secure berths at the wharves. That is not so in the case of the other ports, as the vessels can get alongside there. I expect that in time to come this shipping service will extend as far as Darwin and that will have the effect of aggravating the difficulty which the residents of the North now experience in securing passages.

I desire to point out this aspect to the Government. The cooling chambers to be erected along the coast will be a distinct advantage to firms dealing in perishable goods, but there are other classes of cargo that do not require refrigeration. The non-arrival of the vessels because of tidal difficulties makes it much harder to carry on business, as the goods are essential to the successful carrying on of the various ventures in the North. The losses to business firms on account of the delays in the delivery of cargoes have been a serious handicap to them. We have an excellent plane service operating in the North-West at present, except at Roebourne and Onslow.

At those two ports there is a plane service one day a week, owing largely to the fact that the landing grounds are considered to be too small to allow the larger plane to land. That plane practically passes over those two towns four days a week each way.

Surely it is not too much to ask that the landing grounds should be lengthened, or that longer landing grounds should be constructed at some other point. It is hardly fair to the residents of those ports, indeed it must be exasperating to them, to have planes flying over the towns four days a week without being able to make use of them. The two towns in questions are situated in a very extensive pastoral and mining district. I hope the Government will do something in this matter. Could not the Government get into touch with the proper authorities and have the present landing grounds lengthened? Possibly the matter is one for the Civil Aviation Department to deal with. It may even be an advantage to the aviation company itself to improve the landing grounds. Certainly the two towns are entitled to a better air service. Some years ago they enjoyed the same air service as did the other towns in the North-West, but at that time smaller planes were in use. I hope the Government will see fit to adopt my suggestion as to making representations for lengthening the landing grounds.

On motion by Hon. A. Thomson, debate adjourned.

*House adjourned at 5.30 p.m.*

---