

the then Minister for Agriculture in the Federal Government dated the 10th March, 1975. He said—

I regard it essentially as a matter to be decided by the relevant State Government which should be the nominated port if the Australian Government decides that port entry concessions should be granted.

That is quite definite. I was rather concerned to read in *The Albany Advertiser* last year that the decision as to—

Whether or not Albany will replace Fremantle as the base port in Western Australia for the Japanese tuna boats, when the present agreement with the Commonwealth Government expires in November, is a Federal Government decision. This was emphasised by the Minister for Fisheries and Wildlife...

I hope that does not indicate that a decision has been made to leave it where it was. Perhaps I could be kind and say that the Minister at that stage had not been long in office and may not have fully understood the situation that existed.

It is getting very close to the first anniversary of the date I left the Cabinet, which is the 7th May. I make no bones about saying that I left on a matter of principle and what I believed was in the interests of the electorate. I left without any animosity towards the Premier or his Liberal Ministers, although as far as the final issue was concerned, the Premier subsequently agreed with the point on which the member for Mt. Marshall and I made our stand. However, I emphasise that I left without any animosity. I stood on what I believed and I give other people the same right. However, I find now that I am the subject of a smear campaign by the Liberal members in my area. They regard me as a socialist, but they never elaborate on the statement.

In my opinion, they seem to believe that if one cannot beat a man with sound and reasoned argument one smears him. I thought I would check on the meaning of "socialist", as it appears in the dictionary. The shorter *Oxford Dictionary* says that socialism is—

A theory or policy of social organisation which advocates the ownership and the control of the means of production, capital, land, property by the community as a whole, and their administration or distribution in the interests of all.

I fail to see how under that definition anyone can accuse me of being a socialist. If I am one then I must be a hypocrite. I reject that accusation out of hand. If it is implied from that that I am a socialist then I must be in the good company of the Premier, because of certain remarks he made in an address he gave to the Farmers' Union. He said that the Liberal

Party supported the idea of orderly marketing provided it had the recognised support of the farming community.

I subscribe to the same point of view, but I would depart from the Premier's view in one respect, because in his address he made a qualification. He said—

But the authority would not have total autonomy because that would be an abrogation of our responsibilities to the whole community and to the State's total agricultural development.

In my opinion the last qualification fits in with the excerpt I have just read out in regard to the definition of socialism: and the administration or distribution in the interests of all. So, if I am a socialist I must be in good company because I have the Premier on my side.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr Bateman.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE: SPECIAL

SIR CHARLES COURT (Nedlands—Premier) [11.31 p.m.]: I move—

That the House at its rising adjourn until 10.00 a.m. tomorrow (Thursday).

Question put and passed.

House adjourned at 11.32 p.m.

Legislative Assembly

Thursday, the 15th April, 1976

The SPEAKER, (Mr Hutchinson) took the Chair at 10.00 a.m., and read prayers.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Closing Time

THE SPEAKER (Mr Hutchinson): The closing time for questions for Tuesday, the 4th May, will be Friday, the 30th April, at 12 noon.

QUESTIONS (4): ON NOTICE

1. to 4. These questions were postponed.

BILLS (7): INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

1. Acts Amendment (Port and Marine Regulations) Bill.

Bill introduced, on motion by Sir Charles Court (Premier), and read a first time.

2. Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Bill.

3. Agriculture Protection Board Act Amendment Bill.

Bills introduced, on motions by Mr Old (Minister for Agriculture), and read a first time.

4. Road Traffic Act Amendment Bill.

Bill introduced, on motion by Mr O'Connor (Minister for Traffic), and read a first time.

5. Government Railways Act Amendment Bill.

Bill introduced, on motion by Mr O'Connor (Minister for Transport), and read a first time.

6. Coal Mines Regulation Act Amendment Bill.

Bill introduced, on motion by Mr Mensaros (Minister for Mines), and read a first time.

7. Rural Housing (Assistance) Bill.

Bill introduced, on motion by Mr P. V. Jones (Minister for Housing), and read a first time.

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY: TENTH DAY

Motion

Debate resumed, from the 14th April, on the following motion by Mr Tubby—

That the following Address-in-Reply to His Excellency's Speech be agreed to—

May it please Your Excellency:

We, the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of the State of Western Australia in Parliament assembled, beg to express loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech you have been pleased to address to Parliament.

MR T. D. EVANS (Kalgoorlie) [10.10 a.m.]: Despite the several unsuccessful attempts from this side of the House—which I supported—to amend the motion now before members, I am glad to support the motion moved by the member for Greenough to thank His Excellency for the address he gave when opening this session of Parliament.

This is the first official or public occasion that I have had to welcome the member for Greenough to this Chamber; and I so welcome him. He replaces a man who proved himself to be a great son of Western Australia. I refer to Sir David Brand. I think it is also appropriate that I should tender my congratulations to my colleague, the member for Welshpool who, at one minute after midnight tomorrow, ascends to the leadership of my party by replacing another man who has proved himself to be head and shoulders above most people and whom Western Australians have learnt to love and endear. I refer to the present Leader of the Opposition.

As from Tuesday the 4th May there will be some changes in seating arrangements for the Opposition and this is my last speech for the time being—I emphasise "for the time being"—from the

front bench. Under the new arrangement I shall quite happily join the member for Fremantle, the member for Boulder-Dundas and, I understand, the present Leader of the Opposition on the back bench. Whilst I shall be in very good company there I hope members will not gain the impression that I shall be joining the ranks of the retirers. This is not the case at all. I emphasise that this is my last speech from the front bench for the time being, but it is not my intention to retire at the next election unless people have other ideas.

The Leader of the Opposition has drawn to my attention a complaint which was received by him from an organisation in Queensland. I think I can do no better than read the letter; it is only a foolscap page in length. The heading of the letter is "International Flag Gallery. The World's Most Unique Organisation". That organisation is situated in Gympie, Queensland and the letter is dated the 25th February, 1976. The organisation indicates that it has incorporated an Australian history in flags and a history of the world in flags. The letter is addressed to the Leader of the Opposition and reads as follows—

We are writing to you out of acute disappointment at the high handed attitude of the Premier of your State to a genuine request for the placement of the flag of Western Australia in "Australian History in Flags".

This gallery was founded in 1967 as a private rehabilitation project for the male member of the team after having been rejected for rehab on four occasions by the Department of Social Security.

On May 29 both of our displays—the largest outdoor exhibition of flags in the world—will be officially opened with due pomp and ceremony including a Blessing of the Flags by four different faiths. This will culminate nine years of solid work amid a number of mistakes as we had to learn diplomatic protocol from the ground up.

More than 300 flags are on hand for the official opening and by the end of May that may be more than 400.

The flag of N.S.W. was presented to us by Sir Charles Cutler, former Leader of the Country Party;—

I believe he was also Deputy Premier. To continue—

—two Victorian flags were presented by the Hon. R. J. Hamer; a Tasmanian flag was presented by former Premier Eric Reece; that of South Australia by the Hon. Don Dunstan and a Queensland flag was donated by the

Member for Gympie, the Hon. A. M. Hodges, M.L.A. Even His Royal Highness—

I do not wish people to think that I am according that title to the person concerned. To continue—

Prince Leonard of Hutt has donated two flags of his secessionist Principality—but the Premier of Western Australia says, in effect, if you want one of ours go buy it.

Now this gallery has built up its materials on a budget of SIX DOLLARS per week. Perhaps Sir Charles hates pensioners? Or those who endeavour to do something to help themselves? We do not know. All that we do know is that the Press on this side of the continent is very interested in the matter and the reasons why Sir Charles will not comply. Perhaps, like most Liberals, he is terrified of creating a precedent?

We are enclosing the photo-copy that his Principal Secretary sent to us after our second unsuccessful attempt to have the flag of W.A. represented in this display. This has been forwarded to a newspaper and, apparently, they have also photocopied it and may use it.

Do we fly the Hutt River flag in place of the Western Australian flag?

Need I say any more? The letter which was enclosed with that letter is addressed to a Mr and Mrs Rehardt and was dated the 21st April, 1975. It reads—

In response to your letter of the 17th January, 1975, I regret to advise that it will not be possible to donate a West Australian State Flag for use by you for your International Flag Gallery.

State Flags are, however, readily available from flag makers in Western Australia at a cost of \$25.50 for a 6 ft. x 3 ft. flag complete with clips.

Yours sincerely,

The copy of the letter is unsigned, but the indication is that it was signed by the Premier of Western Australia. Mr Deputy Speaker, things have come to a sorry state of affairs when the Premier, in his mad desire to present a balanced Budget, feels that \$25 might throw that balance out of kilter.

Sir Charles Court: Did you say that the letter is signed?

Mr T. D. EVANS: The copy is not signed.

Sir Charles Court: I would check on that too. Did they not say it was sent by the principal secretary, meaning the under-secretary?

Mr T. D. EVANS: The Premier may have a look at the copy which is enclosed.

Unfortunately the Minister for Transport is not present in the Chamber and, if time permits, I should like to return to a subject when he is present.

I shall pass to another matter. One of the unsuccessful attempts by this side to amend the motion for the Address-in-Reply was to seek to draw to His Excellency's attention the need for, and the very keen desire we have, quite divorced from any electoral prospects that may result therefrom, electoral reform in Western Australia concerning the boundaries for any group of people which may result in their representatives coming to this Parliament. This concept has come to be known as one-vote-one-value. I endorse that principle but in endorsing it I believe one should emphasise that it has a twofold meaning. The obvious one is the equalisation, as far as practicable, of the voting strength of electors as reflected through their respective parliamentary representatives voting in the Parliament, irrespective of where the electors are resident within the State. But there is another meaning. The meaning that I have just rendered is not necessarily the primary meaning and the one that follows is not necessarily the secondary meaning. I believe that they are both part and parcel of the concept.

The second meaning is to make more equal by positive means, again as far as practicable, the accessibility of constituents to their parliamentary representatives and to provide such a state of affairs and conditions as enable the representatives to be able to render the same sort of service to the constituents, again irrespective of where those people are resident. Anything short of that dual meaning, in my view, as reflected in the electoral laws of any body politic which claims to be democratic, falls short of the democratic standard; indeed any such laws which purport to be democratic must be a sham.

The Australian Labor Party embraces this concept as a whole. There are people abroad, and perhaps in this Chamber, who believe for political reasons we embrace only the first part of the concept. In fact, we embrace the whole concept.

Mr Clarko: Your political organisation is not based on that.

Mr T. D. EVANS: There are bodies politic throughout the western countries of the world, both from a national point of view and also a domestic point of view, which in seeking to embrace this concept of electoral reform and having achieved it find that a system of proportional representation best lends itself to this concept being most appropriately manifested.

I am not one who advocates that we in Western Australia, for the purposes of Legislative Assembly elections, should adopt the Hare-Clark system of voting that applies in Tasmania. The late Ben

Chifley once referred to that system as the "March hare" system. I make no comment on that system of voting, except to make the point that it is only one system of proportional representation.

If proportional representation was introduced in the best practical form it would, in fact, test the sincerity of political parties in ensuring that people located in a general state of remoteness were as far as practicable given representation equal to that of constituents living in the more populous areas of the State.

Mr Clarko: In that case Kalgoorlie would have no member. If you had a system of proportional representation all your candidates would come from the metropolitan area.

Mr T. D. EVANS: That is the very point I am making. I am not nominating Kalgoorlie in particular, but any area which is remote from the capital city would be so affected. If political parties believe that the people in those areas should have some direct representation they would endorse persons from those areas.

Mr Clarko: Under a proportional system of representation most members would come from the metropolitan area and in many cases would be unknown to the people of the country areas.

Mr T. D. EVANS: I would like to debate this issue with the honourable member when I have more time. For the present I have more important matters to refer to.

I pass onto greyhound racing. I hope members will not interpret my remarks as coming from someone who has an axe to grind. As the part owner of a greyhound I find that the sport, whilst exhilarating, is not very profitable. However, I stress that I do not have an axe to grind.

In introducing the legislation to establish greyhound racing in Western Australia, the party to which I belong and the Government of which I was a Minister responded to a legitimate demand that had been made by a substantial portion of the population. I make no apology for that legislation being introduced.

Now that the legislation has been passed and greyhound racing has been introduced, it has become manifest that our Government made two errors. I believe that the greyhound racing club itself was also a little over-ambitious in the provision of capital appointments. I say this with no criticism of the club. I believe the club was like a young married couple, commencing married life by acquiring all the chattels and furniture which their parents had acquired after many years of married life.

It is only natural that the greyhound racing club tried to match the horse racing and trotting clubs in the provision of appointments. In doing so it appears the club ran into bad times in meeting capital repayments and interest charges. For that

reason the club has not been able to provide the necessary prize money to attract a greater interest in the sport. I think that is regrettable.

To that end the present Government saw the need in 1975 to assist the club by giving it some relief from the tax that had been imposed. Looking back in retrospect, our Government was perhaps a little harsh in imposing that rate of tax; we did so because we did not want to discriminate between greyhound racing, and horse racing, and trotting. I believe that was an error on our part.

The other error to which I will refer briefly is that our legislation provided for tote betting only. At the time it was believed that if we had sought the approval of Parliament to introduce bookmakers the Bill would not have passed through the portals of another place. From the start I was in favour of permitting bookmakers to operate, because prior to the passage of that legislation I had visited New Zealand and seen the operation of all tote betting on horse racing, trotting, and dog racing.

Mr O'Connor: I do not think the club has made application for bookmakers.

Mr T. D. EVANS: There is a submission from the Greyhound Racing Control Board. I am sure the Minister for Police is aware of the point I am making. I say there is a glaring need for the introduction of bookmakers to give the club some form of stability and enable it to attract other types of patrons. Until the club is permitted to introduce bookmakers I cannot see the ills of the greyhound racing industry being cured.

I believe the present Government has also made an error of judgment. On the 10th February I wrote to the Premier on behalf of a group of people in Kalgoorlie who wished to introduce greyhound racing in that centre. A committee was elected in 1975, and land has been acquired on excellent terms from the Town of Kalgoorlie. It will be serviced, and water for reticulation will be provided from sewage effluent, the plant being only a short distance from that land. The land will be made available to the club to be shared by another group of bodies, so there will be common facilities such as a car park area, toilets, washrooms, etc. The land will be provided free of rental, and no rates will be imposed.

We in Kalgoorlie are in an excellent position to get cracking on the establishment of greyhound racing, but of course we need finance. Having been in close liaison with the Greyhound Racing Control Board, I wrote to the Premier pointing out that it had been estimated that \$120 000 would be required to establish the sport in Kalgoorlie. I asked him whether he would approve of one or more of his Treasury officers conferring with the Greyhound Racing Control Board. If that

was approved I had in mind the board would naturally request one or more Kalgoorlie representatives to sit in on the conferences and examine closely the viability of this sport in Kalgoorlie to enable racing to take place on a fortnightly basis throughout the year.

I also asked the Premier whether, if it was the considered opinion of these round-table conferences, he would consider granting the club in Kalgoorlie a Government guarantee to enable the club to obtain money to provide the capital appointments.

I was disappointed to receive the letter from the Premier in which he referred to the Government assistance that had been granted to the Canning Greyhound Racing Association in mid-1975. Having made the point the Premier went on to say in his letter—

Even in that case the decision was a difficult one to make but we felt that, the industry having been established by legislation, there was at least an implicit obligation on the Government to help the main body through its initial problems.

I agree with that wholeheartedly.

This is not part of the Premier's letter, but if the parent body is to be assisted there is an urgent need for back-up tracks to be established in the country areas.

I believe there is an urgent need for at least three country tracks. This would be a practical way to help the main body to assist itself, apart from providing for the introduction of bookmakers.

Mr O'Connor: If the main body in the metropolitan area had such a big loss, it would be very difficult to get a viable operation going in the country.

Mr T. D. EVANS: Yes, for obvious reasons. Bookmakers and back-up tracks are required. I do not have the time to go into details, but I would like to discuss the matter with the Minister at some time.

I want to refer to the point the Premier makes in his letter. He said—

However, we are not in a position to provide similar assistance for the establishment or operation of country tracks.

As far as my request to the Premier is concerned, I did not ask for such assistance. I did not ask for anything to do with tax; no income is involved. All I asked for was a round-table conference to examine closely the viability of the project. If we were duly represented at such a conference—we would have every confidence in the board and the Treasury officers—and it were proved it would not be a viable proposition, that would have been the end of it, at least for the time being. However, the Premier did not answer the point.

He merely said that no assistance similar to that given to Cannington could be given to country tracks.

Sir Charles Court: Surely you do not expect me to put Treasury officers on to work out whether country tracks should be established? If the body which is most competent to do it cannot come forward with a proposition, I will not divert Treasury officers to the task. I have other critical work for them to do.

Mr T. D. EVANS: I would like to know what money would be at the disposal of the board for the purpose of promoting at least three country tracks.

Sir Charles Court: We have treated them very generously. This is criticism of what we have done already.

Mr T. D. EVANS: I pass now to a question I asked last week of the Premier. I think it was a week ago today that I asked a question without notice referring to the *Kalgoorlie Miner* being scaled down. That was the word used in the heading to an article, but when I read the article I realised that the proposal was that the paper and its operations be transferred to Perth where the publication would be printed and then distributed in Kalgoorlie. It was hardly a scaling down.

However, I was not intending to criticise the heading. A meeting was held in Kalgoorlie last Monday between representatives of West Australian Newspapers Ltd. and the Town of Kalgoorlie. I now ask the Premier or the Minister for Industrial Development who was not present last Thursday when I asked the question, whether, in fact, an officer of the Department of Industrial Development was in Kalgoorlie for those discussions. I asked that an officer be made available to liaise with the Town of Kalgoorlie at that meeting on Monday of this week.

Sir Charles Court: I could not say off-hand.

Mr Mensaros: I could not answer off the cuff. If I remember correctly we were quite prepared to discuss the situation in Kalgoorlie.

Mr T. D. EVANS: When I went to Kalgoorlie last weekend I made certain inquiries to the best of my ability, having regard to the answer the premier had given me that the scaling down—I use that term reservedly—of the operations in Kalgoorlie was not so much a question of economics, but was due to the failure of the company to attract certain skilled personnel.

This information was rather perplexing so I used it as the basis of my interrogation and scrutiny, and I discovered that the question of economics is involved and is lurking in the shadows. It is the real nigger in the woodpile.

However, I was told that with the goodwill of West Australian Newspapers Ltd. the problem could have been overcome. I

was told that the linotype machines which have been in Kalgoorlie for many years have reached the end of their economic life. I discovered that the skilled personnel to whom the Premier referred were about three linotype operators required for the publication of the newspaper. When the *Kalgoorlie Miner* advertised for operators it was able to attract these personnel on more than one occasion and had in fact taken them to Kalgoorlie. However, each applicant has taken one look at the machines and decided not to accept the job. That is the problem.

I am also advised that due to different techniques being followed by West Australian Newspapers for its own publications in Perth—I do not understand the process—a great deal of use is now made of a computer and consequently certain linotype machines which were used in Perth in the past and which still have some good economic life left in them have become redundant. If three of these could be moved to Kalgoorlie the problem of the obsolete machinery would be solved. As a result and based on past experience when linotype operators were attracted to the town, they would no doubt have taken the positions.

According to the Press, the meeting was held in Kalgoorlie on Monday, but it seems that the decision already made is beyond review. This is really disappointing and I hope, with the goodwill of the company, it is still not too late—if what I have been told is correct—to overcome the situation. If I have time I intend to return to this matter briefly at a later stage.

I come now to the subject on which I wish to dwell for the balance of my time. I refer to the Partridge report on post-secondary education. This report was commissioned by the Government last year and was handed to the Minister for Education in January of this year.

This is the second report of its type—I use those words deliberately—within the last 10 years. The earlier one is known as the Jackson report submitted by a committee of inquiry in 1967. It was headed by the present Chief Justice of Western Australia (Sir Lawrence Jackson). Other members were the then Vice Chancellor of the University of Western Australia and the then Under-Treasurer of Western Australia who retired only last year. The community was directly represented by a Mr Colin Pearce.

The Jackson report did not deal with quite as wide a field as that encompassed by the Partridge report. It dealt with tertiary education which, of course, in the definition given to tertiary education in that report covers higher education excluding education at technical level. The Partridge report deals with all post-secondary education inclusive of both technical and tertiary education.

The Partridge report reminds me of that little legendary girl who, when she was good was very, very good, but when she was bad she was horrid. Parts of this report I like very much, but one portion I reject completely.

I like the title referring to post-secondary education, and I do not say that disparagingly. I endorse that part of the report referring to technical education having come of age. The report indicates and recommends that technical education should be cut adrift from management by the Education Department and its management made autonomous. I believe the time is ripe for this step to be taken.

A few details will have to be ironed out—practical details—one of which would be to provide promotional scope within the new management body. I believe that is a good part of the report and I would be glad to see it implemented.

Provision is made also for the setting up of a new body to replace the Western Australian Tertiary Education Commission. The objective of the new body would be to co-ordinate all the various tertiary institutions in Western Australia.

The Governor's Speech indicates that already—and I emphasise "already"—the Government intends to bring down legislation to create a body to be known as the Western Australian post secondary education commission. That would be in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report. Whilst we are unaware of the contents of the legislation we do know that the report advocates the need for co-ordination of the various wings of tertiary education, and the report makes that point quite clear.

The final recommendation in the report advocates that the new co-ordinating body should not have jurisdiction over the universities. I believe that to be a very serious shortcoming. If the need exists for a co-ordinating body that body should be able to take a global view and embrace all educational institutions. That is one part of the report which I do not like and whilst I accept the principle that there is a need for a co-ordinating body I hope the legislation, when it is introduced, will provide for that body to have full power to co-ordinate all limbs of tertiary education, and that universities will not be excluded. The report is contradictory in its content as against its ultimate recommendation in this area.

It is my intention to dwell upon the recommendation in the Partridge committee report concerning the School of Mines of Western Australia which is situated at Kalgoorlie. Before I come to the point I would like to reflect that in 1967 the Jackson committee, to which I referred earlier, dwelt heavily on the Kalgoorlie School of Mines—now known as

the School of Mines of Western Australia—and made a forecast. The committee made a forecast with regard to student input and student output of the School of Mines for the following 10 years, and when one examines the actual input and output of the student numbers one finds that the forecast was very close to the mark. In 1967 the Jackson committee report contained the following comment—

We believe that the time has come to bring the School of Mines into the integrated pattern of tertiary education in Western Australia.

The report goes on to say that the committee sees the School of Mines becoming the future college of advanced education in Kalgoorlie, specially distinguished for its courses in mining, though carrying other subjects and some university courses.

It was the view of the committee that the School of Mines should continue under its present title, but become more truly a college of advanced education. The report recommended that the School of Mines should become an independent institution governed by a council comprising local interests and other relevant bodies.

I leave the Jackson report with the comment that it is optimistic, and it should be considered by the Government when consideration is given to the Partridge report. The Partridge report recommends the transfer from the School of Mines to the Western Australian Institute of Technology at Bentley of all degree courses, which would leave the School of Mines of Western Australia completely debilitated. That is a damaging and pessimistic recommendation.

I believe some people might see the Domino theory to be operating in Kalgoorlie. The Federal Government has already struck a serious blow to Kalgoorlie. We have seen the demise of the *Kalgoorlie Miner*, to which I referred earlier. There are also fears abroad—perhaps mistaken, but nevertheless they are there—that with the transfer of the Swan Brewery to Canning Vale, and the downturn of the economy in Kalgoorlie, the Kalgoorlie Brewery could also cease to exist.

I am not pessimistic and I think those views are held mistakenly but, nevertheless, the views have been expressed. I have already referred to the fact that steps should be taken in an attempt to inject some enthusiasm into the Kalgoorlie community to show that something positive is being done to build up the town rather than tearing it down, but once again we received another knock back. So whilst it is true that success breeds success, it is also true that failure often creates failure. I want to see a halt put to the belief that the Domino theory is starting to operate in Kalgoorlie.

The SPEAKER: The member has 10 minutes.

Mr T. D. EVANS: I mentioned that the Partridge committee report was drawn to the attention of the Minister for Education in January but as yet there has been little opportunity for public dialogue and for public scrutiny of the report. I know that the various institutions which have a real interest in the subject have had the report, and their staff members have studied it. However, opportunity should be given for those people to be invited to air their views in public, and so obtain true community involvement in the scrutiny and the dialogue which should develop in analysing the Partridge committee report.

The Government appears to be taking its time in making up its mind as to what parts of the report, if any, it will adopt—with one exception. The report was handed down in January and we have now been told that legislation will be introduced in this part of the present session of Parliament to create the co-ordinating body. The Government has not decided completely that it will take a global view of the Partridge report. Indeed, it has decided to deal with the report in a piecemeal fashion, so far as the setting up of the new co-ordinating body is concerned.

Sir Charles Court: That is what it is for.

Mr T. D. EVANS: I am not criticising the Government. I am asking the Government to put in train immediately an *ad hoc* examination of the situation with regard to the School of Mines of Western Australia, while not forgetting the recommendations of the Jackson committee report and its forecast—to which I have referred—the recommendations of the Partridge committee, and giving consideration to the low morale which exists not only in the School of Mines but also in the town of Kalgoorlie. I ask the Government to give immediate attention and consideration to an announcement that the Government rejects that part of the report to which I have referred.

I am not criticising the Government for not taking the global view and for deciding to act immediately in one area. I am asking the Government also to act immediately in another area and tell the people of Kalgoorlie that that part of the report on the School of Mines has been rejected out of hand.

I would like to emphasise the recommendation in the Jackson report that other disciplines should be injected into the School of Mines. The Whitlam Federal Government instituted the practice, which I trust the Fraser Government will continue, of making moneys available for the specific purpose of training teachers who will devote their careers and energies to teaching Aboriginal children. Since these funds became available, I believe such a scheme has been commenced at the Mt. Lawley Teachers' College.

What an ideal situation Kalgoorlie would be for such training, and what an ideal host the Agricola College of the School of Mines would be for this purpose, in fulfilling one of the recommendations made in the report of the Jackson committee.

Mr Sodeman: What do you mean by the term *ad hoc*?

Mr T. D. EVANS: For a specific purpose.

I appeal to the Premier to make an early announcement that he has rejected out of hand the recommendations in the Partridge report relating to the School of Mines at Kalgoorlie.

MR BATEMAN (Canning) [10.52 a.m.]: First of all I would like to congratulate the member for Greenough on his address to the House. As other speakers have said, he walks in the footsteps of a very formidable predecessor who has the utmost respect of everyone in Western Australia; namely, Sir David Brand.

I would also like to congratulate the Leader of the Opposition on having completed 43 years' service in this Parliament. I think it will be many decades before another member equals his record. When I first came into this Parliament the Leader of the Opposition called me into his office and explained to me the pitfalls of parliamentary life and the duties involved in one's electorate. He has been a tower of strength to me and a person I have looked up to and respected. I convey my best wishes to him and his wife, and I trust they will enjoy good health in their retirement.

With respect to last night's debate on the "Clanger Molloy" comic, it is reported in this morning's Press that—

Mr T. H. Bateman (Lab. Canning) said that cats had reached epidemic proportions in WA.

I have here a copy of my speech. I have read it and nowhere in it have I made any reference to cats reaching epidemic proportions. If that is the best the Press can do, the journalists had better go back and study journalism or the editor should give the paper away. I do not come into Parliament and make outlandish statements as some other members do, but if the newspapers are going to print our statements they should accurately report the words of the members concerned.

I would now like to mention electoral reform—a subject which has already been beaten to death in this Parliament. The member for Ascot gave a very detailed account of what we on this side of the House think about electoral reforms, and it was good to see another member on the other side of the House coming over our way. If we keep hammering the subject long enough, perhaps some of what we say will stick and eventually we will have some reforms.

I wish to read a letter from H. E. Dymond of Scarborough which was published in *The West Australian* on the 7th April—

It was refreshing to read your editorial "Electorates and equity" (March 29). However, I fear that it will take many editorials before there is even modification in the existing system.

Why is it necessary that the Legislative Council be based on an electorate system? The people are already represented by their local member in the Assembly—that is the House which determines the government.

Why not have the Legislative Council elected on a proportional representation basis over the State as a whole?

For instance, half the members could be elected every three years for a six-year term. This would not only allow equality of representation by the existing parties but also give the chance for minor groups to at least get varying opinions heard.

You also commented on the State Parliament needing double-dissolution machinery to handle deadlock situations between the Houses of Parliament, your main concern being that the Upper House is immune from any consequences at present.

How about Western Australia setting an example to the other States and the Federal Government by instituting machinery for holding a joint sitting first after the occurrence of a deadlock?

A double dissolution could then be held as a last resort only if the deadlock was not resolved by such a joint sitting.

I wholeheartedly agree with those comments.

Much has been said about electoral reform, the inequalities in the voting system, malapportionment, and so on. I have brought along to show members the respective electoral rolls for my electorate and the electorate of Murchison-Eyre. If I had the same number of people on my roll as the member for Murchison-Eyre has, not only would I know how many gold teeth each elector had but I would also know the christian names and maiden names of all the electors. The Leader of the Opposition said in this House many years ago that when the electoral boundaries were drawn up members used to service their electorates on horseback. That is not so today, when members have every modern facility to enable them to visit their electorates.

The two electoral rolls I have shown members demonstrate inequality in any man's language. I do not object to the

member for Murchison-Eyre having an electoral allowance twice or three times greater than mine, but I have so many more people in my electorate whom I have to contact one way or another.

Mr Sodeman: Mr Bickerton did not travel around on horseback, and he disagreed with you when he was the member for Pilbara.

Mr McIver: I do not think he could ride a horse.

Mr BATEMAN: The member for Kalgoorlie, when he was the Minister, introduced a Bill to implement electoral reform and it was thrown out. It will be a long time before we see such legislation again.

I now come to my hardy annual; that is, the Road Traffic Authority. I am pleased to see the Minister in the Chamber, because I do not like making statements when the appropriate Minister is not present.

I am still very concerned at the number of deaths on the road, as the Minister is. I make that point clear. But I am also concerned at the fact that officers of the Road Traffic Authority are hiding behind trees more than ever. I was staggered to hear the Minister say that this weekend there will be two aeroplanes, helicopters, and God knows what else operating. We will soon have the fleet and everything else out.

This is an absolute squandering of the taxpayers' money. It was not so long ago that we saw a report in *The Sunday Times* that the Road Traffic Authority was to get some super radar machine. The patrolmen themselves do not like flying in the helicopter for fear that it will crash before long and kill one of them. This is one of the main problems. Truthfully, I do not know what we should do. We are all grasping at straws at the moment, but patrolmen hiding behind trees will do no good at all; they must be out on the roads.

It was mentioned to me this morning that a road traffic patrolman caught a man who was exceeding the speed limit by two kilometres per hour coming down the Greenmount Hill. That is ridiculous.

Mr O'Connor: Was he given an infringement notice?

Mr BATEMAN: I will find out and let the Minister know.

Mr O'Connor: I'll bet he didn't get one.

Mr BATEMAN: Even if this man was cautioned—

Mr O'Connor: What's the matter with that?

Mr BATEMAN: Surely the Minister for Police has travelled at speeds slightly over the limit many times? I am honest enough to admit that I have—in fact, it would be irresponsible to keep watching the speedometer.

Mr O'Connor: There may have been other reasons for pulling him up.

Mr McIver: Quite a few people are being given infringement notices for speeds of just a few kilometres per hour over the limit.

Mr O'Connor: That is not so.

Mr McIver: I can bring you some tangible evidence.

Sir Charles Court: We would be very interested to see it.

Mr O'Connor: You would not be given an infringement notice for anything less than a speed of 10 kilometres per hour over the limit.

Sir Charles Court: They should be thankful to be cautioned—someone may have stopped them breaking their necks.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr BATEMAN: The amount of money being spent by the Road Traffic Authority runs into millions of dollars. I am led to believe that there is a queue of men lined up waiting to join the authority because of the amounts the officers are earning. A great deal of overtime is being worked, and Sundays and holidays are paid for at time and a half or double time.

Mr O'Connor: Aren't they the problem periods?

Mr BATEMAN: The problems are there all the time.

Mr O'Connor: But weekends and holiday periods are the worst, if you look at the statistics.

Mr BATEMAN: I am wondering what type of road traffic patrolmen we are employing. At a later stage I will show the Minister a photostat copy of an infringement notice. This notice is not even dated; it has the patrolman's number on it, but it looks as though he was drunk when he wrote it out. The person who was given this infringement notice took the number of the patrolman and when he compared them later, he found out that the patrolman had left off one number. Some of these patrolmen can hardly sign their own names.

Sir Charles Court: I will be very interested to hear about that.

Mr BATEMAN: It is staggering.

Mr McIver: Unbelievable!

Mr O'Connor: Would this be one of the fellows we took over from the local authorities to make sure they were all employed?

Mr BATEMAN: I will check it out.

Sir Charles Court: We certainly will check it out.

Mr BATEMAN: As I was saying a short time ago, in an article in *The Sunday Times* of the 4th April, we saw the following headline, "New road blitz to cut carnage".

The article commences—

Road users beware! Drivers, carry your licences today!

If you drive badly and fail to carry your licence, you could be trapped in one of the biggest road blitzes mounted in WA.

Statements like this immediately put people's backs up and they feel antagonistic towards the Road Traffic Authority. The article continues—

The attack on erring motorists and motor cyclists follows one of the worst periods for accidents—for both vehicles—in WA history.

The Minister for Police, Mr O'Connor, has ordered the massive crack-down as part of a new campaign to slash the state's rising road toll which last night stood at 82.

Mr Clarko: And he has done it very effectively, too.

Mr BATEMAN: I do not know whether the Minister for Police has done this very effectively, but in my opinion if we put another \$50 billion into the Road Traffic Authority, we would not stop any of the deaths on the roads. I defy the member for Karrinyup, or any other member in the House, to show that sending out road traffic patrolmen to hide behind trees will bring down the road toll.

Mr O'Connor: If we had accepted a defeatist attitude, we would not have the figure down to where it is now.

Mr BATEMAN: We do not have a defeatist attitude; we say the patrolmen should be out on the roads and not hiding behind trees.

In regard to the drunk drivers, we should catch the horse before it bolts from the stable. It is no good catching the drunk driver when he is out on the road and then slapping a breathalyser bag on him. We must get these people before they drive their vehicles onto the road. I believe the public would accept amendments to the road traffic legislation so that drivers could be checked with a breathalyser bag in the car park area of hotels before they get into their vehicles to drive on the roads. If it were found that a driver had consumed too much alcohol, he could catch a taxi home. This would prevent spot checking, and it would assist to bring the Police Force into favour with the public. Obviously some people will buck the system, but this applies to any system used.

Mr Hartrey: Prevention is better than cure.

Mr BATEMAN: It is quite true, as the member for Boulder-Dundas said, that prevention is better than cure. If we listen to suggestions, we may gain some benefit. One suggestion may trigger off another idea. However, we must have positive

action. It is no good catching the drunk driver after an accident—the damage has been done.

I agree also with the comment that the number of accidents is increasing all the time. I remember a comment made by a friend of mine who is a dairyman. He had 600 or 700 herd of cattle, and his seven children worked in the dairy.

One of his sons was filling up his car at their petrol bowser one day and the pump fell, hitting the boy on the head, and giving him a nasty injury. I said to my friend, "That is bad luck." My friend replied, "The bigger the herd the more problems you have." This man accepted the fact that with a large family one runs more risks. To follow this analogy through, the more vehicles there are on the road, the more fatalities we will have. That is a fact of life.

On Wednesday, the 31st March, 1976, we saw a headline in the *Daily News*, "Grim WA crime report". Our problems in regard to crime are increasing at a tremendous rate. The area I represent, and in which I live, is developing very rapidly, particularly in regard to houses, but with many other buildings as well. One contractor recently lost a tonne of cement and two panel doors from the site of the house he was building. He telephoned the police and he was told that although the Police Force was sorry about it, it could do nothing. This article in the *Daily News* commenced as follows—

A major crime was committed every 10 minutes in WA last year, according to the latest police report.

There was a serious assault or robbery every 24 hours, a breaking and entry every 35 minutes, a theft every 14 minutes and a motor vehicle was stolen every 1½ hours.

Surely a report such as this points out that the Road Traffic Authority personnel and the Police Force must work together. These must not be two separate bodies because the present situation is frustrating the Police Force.

Mr O'Connor: You are wrong there—they do work together in many ways.

Mr McIver: What about the friction between them?

Mr BATEMAN: Yes, there has been a great deal of friction.

Mr O'Connor: There is not a great deal of friction.

Mr McIver: Rubbish!

Mr Davies: Did you read the last *Police News*?

Mr McIver: The Minister should talk to some of the policemen out on the road.

Sir Charles Court: You people are doing your best to stir up trouble, and you are not getting very far.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr BATEMAN: In the *Daily News* of Thursday, the 1st April, under the heading, "Help fight crime", we find the following comment—

The Minister for Police, Mr O'Connor, today appealed to the public to help curb WA's mounting crime rate.

He wants the public to immediately report any suspected criminal activity.

We have this confrontation between the public and the Road Traffic Authority, and as the patrolmen look like members of the Police Force, the end result is that the Police Force does not get any help from the public. After all, it is only with the help of the public that many offenders are caught. We realise that the policemen themselves apprehend some offenders, but in the main crimes are solved because of information given to the police by the public.

Mr O'Connor: It is a big help.

Mr BATEMAN: Yes, and we do not want to lose that public support for the Police Force, which is a good exercise in effective public relations. That is why I say again: with better public relations, the Road Traffic Authority will receive more support and co-operation.

I have often thought—and this was brought home to me very vividly in London—that it would not do any harm to send our policemen to London to see how the English bobby looks after crowds when things get a little rough in Hyde Park. The member for Avon and I experienced this, and we saw the bobbies avert trouble. We also witnessed a strike by high school students in Trafalgar Square, and the bobbies created no friction. They just moved in and spoke firmly and kindly to the kids and eventually the crowd dispersed without any violence. I have always said that violence begets violence and I do become concerned when I see policemen getting rough.

Referring back to the squandering of money by the Road Traffic Authority, I read an article in the *Daily News* or *The West Australian* recently which was below a photograph of a policeman taking the registration number of Rob Cowles' car in the Hay Street Mall. Surely to goodness booking cars in the Mall is the responsibility of the Perth City Council inspectors. Just how many people have we got going around and checking up on drivers in the city? This is the responsibility of the Perth City Council, and that policeman should have been watching traffic on the Causeway or somewhere else.

Mr Thompson: Or, better still, Cowles should not have parked his car there.

Mr BATEMAN: That is not the point.

Sir Charles Court: Of course it is the point.

Mr BATEMAN: Is the Road Traffic Authority responsible for looking after the Mall?

Mr McIver: Of course not.

Mr BATEMAN: It is the responsibility of the Perth City Council.

Sir Charles Court: It has the overall responsibility for traffic. Why are you so friendly with Cowles now?

Mr Jamieson: The RTA does not have responsibility in the Mall; you want to read the regulations.

Mr BATEMAN: I am not friendly with Cowles; I do not even know the man.

Sir Charles Court: Of course you are.

Mr BATEMAN: It is typical of the Premier to make statements that are not correct. I do not know the man.

Sir Charles Court: Do you want him to have immunity?

Mr BATEMAN: I do not want him to be more immune than anyone else; however, it is the responsibility of the Perth City Council to apprehend him and give him a brief; it is not the responsibility of the Road Traffic Authority.

Sir Charles Court: Haven't you read the explanation from the RTA that was in the Press?

Mr BATEMAN: That is not the point.

Sir Charles Court: It is the point.

Mr BATEMAN: The point is that the RTA patrolman could have been doing a far better job out on the roads where accidents are happening. That is where he should have been; this is the crux of the matter.

Sir Charles Court: The explanation was perfectly logical.

Mr BATEMAN: I say to the Minister that I hope something will be done to try to improve the image of the Road Traffic Authority so that it has a better relationship with the public. I am sure an amendment will have to be made to the Act to bring the police and the Road Traffic Authority under the one head somewhere along the line, because at the moment they are poles apart, even though Ministers opposite do not agree that they are.

I believe there are to be a couple of other speakers in this debate, and as time is getting away and we must adjourn early for a special reason, I would like to read a letter to the Editor of *The West Australian* which summarises my feelings on this matter. It was written by A. W. Ferguson. I regret I have not the date of the letter. However, it is as follows—

One constantly reads newspaper interviews with the Minister of Police and road traffic authorities who invariably express their "horror at the

appalling number of road deaths which occur despite the efforts of traffic and vigilance to apprehend drunk drivers."

What a laugh. Since when have the road patrols being used at the present time been designed for anything else but producing revenue?

I travel frequently between Perth and the South-West and continually observe traffic patrols hiding behind advertising hoardings and in the bush, parking on the edge of the road without lights burning (which in itself is an offence), sitting just inside speed-change signs (thereby allowing motorists no time at all to reduce their speeds after meeting the changed speed area) and sitting just inside road-under-repair signs—even on weekends when no roadworks are under progress.

How much more beneficial would these traffic patrols become if they were to be seen patrolling the roads to apprehend or correct the dozens and dozens of instances of dangerous driving which one encounters in a single journey.

Mr O'Connor: Do you know the gentleman who wrote that letter?

Mr BATEMAN: Yes, I do.

Mr O'Connor: I thought you might. Did you write the letter?

Mr BATEMAN: No, I did not. It continues—

Examples are cars passing on bends, overtaking on bridges, passing a long stream of traffic without adequate room and consequently having to squeeze itself back into the traffic to avoid an oncoming car.

If the Minister is really genuine in his desire to cut down the road toll let him direct his patrols away from trying to catch minor offenders—to increase revenue—and towards educating erring dangerous drivers. Then we may see some practical results.

I am sure that one day the Minister and the department will get the message and that something will be done to get these patrolmen on the road and out from behind bushes and hoardings. To refer back to the comment made by the Minister, I did not write that letter, although I know the person concerned. He wrote the letter better than I could have done, and I congratulate him on his effort.

Finally, I think all things are relative; this is a fact of life which we must accept. Upon reading through the annual report of the Commissioner of Police for the year 1974-75, one finds that the rate of crime has increased over the years. On page 18 there is an appendix which

gives the number of charges for drug offences, and it is sad to see that the numbers are increasing. They are as follows—

1968-69	....	....	....	....	121
1969-70	....	....	....	....	104
1970-71	....	....	....	....	167
1971-72	....	....	....	....	274
1972-73	....	....	....	....	479
1973-74	....	....	....	....	527
1974-75	....	....	....	....	810

This is a matter we must watch very closely.

Mr O'Connor: The most disturbing point is that the harder drugs are coming in.

Mr BATEMAN: Yes, that is a very disturbing point.

Mr Jamleson: There is another shipment due so you had better get them busy; you can tell by the bashings of chemists.

Mr O'Connor: I think we all agree on this.

Mr BATEMAN: That is the point I make. This is something which should be tightened up. As the Deputy Leader of the Opposition said, the bashings occurring in chemists' shops are brought about by the fact that drug pushers are operating. As far as I am concerned we should deal with drug pushers as they do in Taiwan—put them against the wall and shoot them. I feel sorry for people who are hooked on drugs, but I have no time for pushers.

Mr O'Connor: I am with you 100 per cent.

Mr BATEMAN: I do hope the Minister will do something to ensure the drug squad is expanded so that it can do something about this ever-increasing problem.

MR T. J. BURKE (Perth) [11.19 a.m.]: I would like to join with other members in congratulating the member for Greenough on joining us in this place. I hope he enjoys his stay in the Parliament. He succeeds a most interesting and impressive man in Sir David Brand, whom I am, sure we all like. We wish the new member well in his parliamentary career.

I would also like to comment on your role as Speaker, Sir. I believe there is a possibility, remote as it may be, that we may not have another opportunity to thank you for the way in which you have conducted the proceedings of this Chamber. Although from time to time we have clashed we have to admit that you have dealt most fairly with us to the best of your ability.

Mr Young: Is this the only speech you are going to make in the rest of this Parliament?

Mr Jamleson: I hope you are not wishing the Speaker to higher orders; that is pretty rough.

Mr T. J. BURKE: I will congratulate the member for Scarborough towards the end of my speech, so I hope he will be a little patient.

Mr B. T. Burke: He is upset because he knows it is his last term and you haven't mentioned it.

Mr T. J. BURKE: We have been advised that the Speaker will retire at the next election, and as there is a possibility of an election—endorsed, I feel, by the fact that the member for Scarborough in the northern supplement of the newspaper last Wednesday advised his constituents that he exists—it is possible we may not have another opportunity to thank you, Sir, for the way in which you have conducted the proceedings of this House.

I want to pay public tribute to the Leader of the Opposition (Mr J. T. Tonkin) on the occasion of his retirement. It has been a privilege and pleasure to serve under him for the eight years I have been here. This evening, of course, he retires as Leader of the Opposition and the member for Welshpool will assume the leadership of my party.

All members would agree that, as with Sir David Brand, John Tonkin has done a great deal in the 43 long years he has served the State of Western Australia and its people; I believe he deserves the accolades which he has received and will receive today. I wish him continued good health in his retirement.

As Mr Tonkin mentioned during a recent television interview, one of the achievements of the Hawke Government was the construction of the Narrows Bridge, which at that time was the longest pre-stressed concrete structure in the world. A great deal of objection has been and still is being expressed at the resumption of areas of river for roadway development. In particular, I objected to the routing of a bypass road so near the city which in effect has built a barrier at the western end of Perth.

However, I should like the Minister for Works to convey my compliments to those responsible for the landscaping which has been undertaken around the Narrows interchange and the Mitchell Freeway; I believe all members would concede that a very good job has been done. I congratulate John Oldham, the landscape architect, and the ordinary working men who were involved in implementing his plans for landscaping the area.

Perhaps the Press could publicise the walkways which have been provided because this represents another area of recreation of which the people could take advantage. I have visited the area and found it to be a very pleasant spot.

In addition, work is proceeding on the development of Heirisson Island; it is to be undertaken by the Perth City Council,

with some financial assistance from the State Government. This work was initiated by Dr Beard of the King's Park Board, and is essential to provide recreation for a rapidly increasing population.

It is extremely important that we do not allow residential development to take place at Bold Park. An increasing metropolitan population will place additional demands on recreational areas, and I am completely opposed to any suggestion that part of Bold Park should be used for building blocks. Very few blocks would be provided and would cost in excess of \$25 000 each; in other words, we would be catering for an elite.

The \$2 million that such development would raise could easily be raised over a period of years from ratepayers' and taxpayers' funds. I believe that this generation and those to come, for whom the Bold Park area will provide recreation, would have no objection to the levying of an additional rate to raise the \$2 million. The population of Western Australia is about one million, so the levy would amount to only \$1 a year for two years on each member of our population.

I reiterate that if a proposal comes before Parliament to develop any part of Bold Park for residential housing we should oppose it, because there is no justification in spoiling this area merely to provide building blocks for a wealthy few.

I am also concerned that we should retain as much of our beach lands as possible to provide recreation areas for the people of Perth and its environs. We all know the effect industrial development in Cockburn Sound has had on the sound and on Rockingham and Palm Beach. Although in latter years, grave concern is being expressed, and people are hopeful that some recovery can be achieved in these areas so that recreation areas will be retained, I am very concerned that the causeway development to the naval dockyard on Garden Island will make it almost impossible for Rockingham and adjacent areas to recover from the damage already inflicted upon them.

I am concerned that the Premier seems determined to establish a jumbo steel mill on the coast within 30 or 40 miles to the north of the city. Although from recent newspaper reports his attempts are likely to be frustrated, I am concerned that he would even consider such a move, with the miles of beachfront already taken up by industrial development to the south of Perth.

We should be working hard to retain as much as possible of the beach land to the north of the metropolitan area. I am disgusted that land developers have been permitted to fence large tracts of coastal land to the north of Sorrento, and I should like the Government to move as quickly as possible to remedy this situation. In co-operation with the local authorities involved, the Government should secure at the

earliest possible date an arrangement under which these companies will release the land involved for the use of the people.

Mr Nanovich: This is already in process.

Mr T. J. BURKE: I am glad to hear that; it is something which needs to be done.

Mr Skidmore: At a cost!

Mr T. J. BURKE: I am concerned about the cost, naturally; obviously the developers will hit the ratepayers when negotiations for compensation take place.

I am also concerned at the intrusion of speculators and land developers in the Canning Valley area. As members know, this is a very beautiful spot which takes in Araluen and other desirable areas. I am greatly concerned that intensive development is going on in this region. The Government should pay closer attention to retaining as much as possible of the Canning Valley for the people's use because it provides for another form of recreation. It is in an ideal position, being in close proximity to the city.

One recent exercise in capitalism which I must compliment is the development of the Entertainment Centre on railway land in Wellington Street. As the Minister for Transport knows, initially I was very much opposed to the transfer of this land to overseas developers. I believe the original proposal was to permit multi-storey hotel and commercial development to take place. However, pressure of public opinion forced the Government to change its mind in 1970. The alternative proposal which was particularly appealing, was to turn the area over to parkland.

When my Government decided it would allow the development of an entertainment centre, I was quite opposed to the idea. However, I am glad to admit that the culture and entertainment this centre has attracted to Perth have been most beneficial and I am now prepared to congratulate the promoters of this development, even to the extent of endorsing the support the Government has seen necessary to provide, because of financial difficulties encountered by the developers in the early period.

I should like the developers to make this facility available to all the people of Perth, because there are some in our community who cannot afford to meet the cost of the entertainment that is provided. Perhaps the developers, Channel 7 and Edgley, could give consideration from time to time to making entertainment available there by way of concessions or free tickets to pensioner groups or other needy groups in our society.

I should like the Government, the local authority and all other interested bodies to proceed as quickly as possible with the further development of the railway land. There is still much to be done. About 30

acres are left to be developed and to turn that land into parkland and parks, gardens, open space and recreation areas would not cost too much.

Because of the area I represent I am concerned and aware of the need for an efficient public transport system. In introducing the free commuter system and busways the Tonkin Government did much to improve transport services. Also, we have seen the introduction of more modern air-conditioned buses and better public relations on the part of the Metropolitan Transport Trust to encourage the use of public transport. This is excellent and has my full support.

Of course, there are some detrimental effects, one of which concerns me greatly. That is the effect of the busway on the people who reside in Carr Street, in West Perth.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Sibson): Order! There is too much audible noise in the Chamber and the *Hansard* reporters are having a hard job to record the speech. I ask members to keep the level down.

Sir Charles Court: Ask him to speak up. We cannot hear him from here.

Mr Skidmore: Keep the audible noise down.

Mr Clarko: We can hear you.

Mr T. J. BURKE: Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker. I thought my voice was too loud. With the introduction of the busway my constituents in Carr Street have been subjected to noise and pollution which I believe is excessive. I am sure that any test would reveal that these people are being subjected to more pollution than is healthy. I have asked the Chairman of the MTT (Mr Shea) to give consideration to alternating the routes. I should like further consideration to be given to the proposition of outgoing buses using Aberdeen Street. I do not see any reason that they should not use this route onto the freeway, with incoming buses using Carr Street. That would simply share the load, which in my opinion is much too excessive, for people in Carr Street. It is very easy to observe that the pollution is excessive. I think the Minister will probably agree that it is excessive. Very few people live in Aberdeen Street and I believe the use of that street would be an ideal solution which would be acceptable to my constituents.

Mr O'Connor: This is the matter you raised last year?

Mr T. J. BURKE: It was earlier this year. I believe it is a good compromise. I should like further consideration given to it. In fact I visited the MTT recently and spoke to a Mr McDonald about this matter and I intend to pursue it further. I should like the Minister's co-operation.

I believe further encouragement must be given to the development of our public transport system. I am told that requests

from the MTT for further buses have been declined, so only the buses that are on order at present will be supplied, and no more. Whilst we had hoped to replace some of the older buses, some of which are up to 20 years old, this will now be impossible. Although the Minister has been quoted in the Press recently as encouraging the use of public transport and giving indications that the system would continue to be upgraded, it seems that fiscal problems will prevent this.

Mr O'Connor: Where did you get the information from that the requests have been declined?

Mr T. J. BURKE: From someone at the MTT.

Mr O'Connor: I have not been given that information.

Mr T. J. BURKE: There are buses on order. The MTT wishes to order more and the Government has said that there is no chance. Once the ones on order have been supplied, no further buses will be purchased.

Mr Young: It sounds like one of those stories that is often put around by bus drivers. A rumour starts every week.

Mr T. J. BURKE: It could be a rumour and I would appreciate an assurance from the Minister for Transport or the secretary to the Cabinet that it is not true. The Minister may be able to give that assurance when we meet after the Easter break.

A concern of mine which affects my constituents is the fare system.

Mr O'Connor: The flat fare.

Mr T. J. BURKE: It affects my constituents detrimentally because anyone who lives on this side of Walcott Street, which is the boundary of my electorate to the north, and catches a bus into town has to pay the flat fare, which I believe is more than he should pay for the distance he travels, which is less than a mile; and inevitably he does not get a seat because the buses are crowded.

Mr Davies: And children will not stand up.

Mr T. J. BURKE: I have suggested in the past—I should like consideration to be given to this possibility—an extension of the commuter services. Why cannot the commuter services extend through Beaufort Street, along Walcott Street, and into William Street and St. George's Terrace. I suggest this as the ideal solution. It would prevent buses having to stop between Second Avenue, Walcott Street and the city.

Mr Davies: I would not mind one around Victoria Park.

Mr T. J. BURKE: I suggest this is a practical proposition; I believe serious consideration should be given to it. I do not think people living as close as this to the city should be encouraged to bring

cars into the city. If this service were provided at little cost it would provide the service which is warranted.

I should also like more regular control or monitoring of MTT bus exhaust emissions. Every member knows that when one pulls up beside a bus at traffic lights one must close the passenger window because of the exhaust fumes.

Mr O'Connor: Most of them are quite well maintained.

Mr T. J. BURKE: I have asked questions about this matter in the past and the Minister has indicated that exhaust emissions are not monitored.

Mr O'Connor: The vehicles are well maintained.

Mr T. J. BURKE: I am not suggesting they are not; I am merely suggesting that more consideration be given to monitoring exhaust emissions.

To return to the subject of Carr Street, the buses climb slowly out of Fitzgerald Street into Carr Street and the exhaust emissions are quite offensive. I should like some consideration given to this matter.

I wish to comment also on the migrant content in my electorate. As most members are aware, the migrant population in the inner city areas is much greater than in outlying areas; and the concentration of the different ethnic groups is also greater. We all welcome migrants into our community. In fact, statistics reveal that 25 per cent of our population of 13½ million is either foreign-born or first generation Australians.

We welcome them. As far as they are able to, I am sure all members assist these people—as do the Government and voluntary organisations, such as the Good Neighbour Council which is doing an excellent job.

Migration must be a traumatic experience, particularly to those who have a language difficulty. Many of these people from Europe do not speak English, so it is incumbent on people who have been in this country for many years or who were born here to assist in the assimilation of the newcomers. I urge members to give such assistance wherever possible.

I am particularly concerned about the plight of the children of migrants. No doubt members will agree that the general attitude of migrant parents is that they migrate to Australia to give their children a better future. Such an attitude is to be admired. Often it is very difficult for adult migrants, who formerly held very good positions in their own countries to settle into a new way of life, to uproot themselves and their families to start all over again in Australia.

There are some schools which cater for migrant children, and two of them are located in my electorate. They are North Perth Primary School, and Highgate

Primary School which has been known for many years as a little league of nations. The member for Scarborough might have attended that school.

Mr Young: No. I lived at East Perth and attended Baylands School.

Mr T. J. BURKE: These schools have a very high proportion of migrant children. I think Highgate Primary School has between 600 and 700 children of 30 nationalities. In my view special consideration should be given to such schools. The children require specialised tuition. Often they do not speak any English, and unless the gap is bridged in their formative years I am afraid they will be disadvantaged throughout their schooling and in later years.

Last year the Minister for Education was good enough to visit both of the schools I have mentioned, and he was able to see the problems at first hand. In fact, he lives next to Highgate Primary School so he must be aware of the problems confronting the children.

The impression gained from his visit was that much would be done for the children attending these schools. I do not want to be critical, but I should point out that up to date little has been done. I hope the children will not be penalised because I happen to be of a different political complexion from that of the Minister for Education.

I repeat my request that some special consideration be given to the children of migrant parents. If they are to compete successfully in the world they will have to be provided with facilities to enable them to understand the lessons which are taught in English.

In conclusion I want to compliment the member for Scarborough on his praise of the people of Scarborough who have supported the hostel for profoundly retarded children in his electorate. In this regard I refer to a report which appeared in the north suburban section of *The West Australian* of the 31st March, 1976. The report indicated that the member for Scarborough paid a tribute to the people of Scarborough who had supported the hostel. It further stated—

After a visit to the hostel he said the people of Scarborough had shown "true humanity" in their care and concern for the children there.

I cannot agree more with that comment. I am quite sure that given the same opportunity the people of Nedlands would show the same "true humanity". The Premier is damned in his attitude towards the children at Tresillian Hostel, by the comments of his Cabinet Secretary.

MR JAMIESON (Welshpool—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) [11.45 a.m.]: At this late stage in the debate on the

motion for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply I would like to make a few comments. First of all, I want to thank the members on the Government side for their good wishes on my election to the position of Leader of the Opposition, which I will be taking over as from midnight tonight. However, I was not very impressed with the addendum to their remarks—that they hoped I would remain as Leader of the Opposition for a long time! I do appreciate their earlier remarks.

Mr O'Connor: You might get a few phone calls after midnight.

Mr JAMIESON: Where I will be at midnight tonight there is not a phone. I will be going "overseas". I would like to touch on several matters in this debate. Firstly I shall deal with the Minister for Traffic who in recent times made some comments about hotels which provide loud music and entertainment, and about the great deal of trouble resulting therefrom.

I hasten to remind the Minister that hotels which provide loud musical entertainment are the ones which draw the crowds. We could patronise other hotels which do not provide such entertainment or similar forms of attraction, fire a double-barrel shotgun, and not hit many customers.

The provision of entertainment at hotels is not new. In previous years when there were the one-hour sessions I remember visiting the Burlington Hotel at Bunbury and enjoying the extremely loud music and the jokes told by the entertainers.

The trouble seems to arise because of the large number of people who are drawn to these hotels. This is a feature which the Licensing Court should look into, to make sure that the licence limits his patronage. I have visited the tavern in respect of which recently some complaints were made about the Government providing a champagne breakfast.

Mr O'Connor: There was no champagne or other alcohol provided.

Mr JAMIESON: In that case I did not miss anything, but I am sure the Minister knows the reason that I could not attend. Recently I went to that tavern at night in the company of some young people. I suppose normally these premises would be able to cope with 500 customers at the outside, but on this occasion there were probably three times that number of patrons. The person who was managing this establishment did it no end of damage in not curtailing the patronage at the bar. On that occasion it was difficult for the crowd to get into the bar to obtain a drink, and if the people did get a drink they found it was difficult to get out of the bar. The manager would have done much more trade with fewer customers.

In some way or other we have to find ways to limit the number of customers. When the crowd is large the customers

have to elbow their way through. Sometimes they unintentionally knock over jugs of beer, and as a result skirmishes start. This is like what takes place on the football field when the East Perth players rough it up with their opponents! One player starts this and the others join in.

We should not blame publicans who provide musical entertainment. Personally I am not keen on very loud music, and after listening to it for a while my head feels as though it has gone through a mincer, but many people like this loud music. If there is a public demand for such music then I am sure it will be provided. In my view the problem is that the crowds that attend these sessions are too big, and that is how the trouble starts. It is not the music which is responsible. They say music soothes the most savage of beasts, and I think it would do so in this case if the patrons were able to enjoy it in reasonable comfort. Some way will have to be found to overcome the problem.

A short time ago the member for Canning dealt with road traffic control. Members know my attitude to this subject. The present set-up is just too silly for words and the control of traffic should be under a proper Police Force.

The Minister was asked how it was possible to distinguish between RTA officers and police officers and the Minister stated that this was possible by recognising the vehicles involved. He was also asked how the officers were identified when they were out of the vehicles and he indicated that it was not possible because they all wore the same uniform. This situation would be all right if there was no strife as the Minister suggested. However, I have talked to some of these fellows on the job and they have told me they are getting into no end of strife because they apprehend some of these bright ruffians for speeding offences and then see something in their cars which requires investigation. However, the ruffians quickly indicate that the RTA officer has no authority to carry out such investigation because he is only an RTA officer and not a policeman. Before very long there is a confrontation which usually results in the driver being charged with resisting arrest. This is all because the public are not sure of the position.

The policemen and the RTA officers know exactly where they stand. They know they are policemen and they know their own rights. However, unfortunately, many of the public think they know their rights, but very often they are wrong and this leads to confusion which creates problems.

I am a little critical of the method used to judge the speed of cars. Recently I had laid on the Table of the House some papers dealing with the regulations concerning the various electronic devices used by the RTA in the course of its work.

I have no objection to the regulations covering the breathalyser. They are good as they set out the procedure stage by stage and the steps which must be taken to ascertain that the implement is correctly used.

I have no particular objection to the rules covering the amphotometer because they, too, are drafted fairly elaborately, although not in regulation form. In my opinion they should be the subject of regulations because people are inclined to get lazy when they know there are no regulations, and they take the easy way out. This might react to the detriment of the citizen who happens to be apprehended by a lazy policeman. There are lazy policemen the same as there are lazy politicians and lazy people in other walks of life. Regulations are required to establish the correct procedure from start to finish.

What I am not happy with is the radar gun. I was involved in a little infringement myself involving the radar gun when I had had no infringements at all for many years. I was rather amazed when I was pulled up and neither my wife nor I believed the car was travelling at the speed the officer alleged. It was no great infringement, but I then became interested in how such a case could be defended at law and I found that when a radar gun is involved the case is indefensible. The officers might just as well point the Mace or a piece of wood at a driver and tell him he is travelling at an excessive speed because there is no way to check whether the officer has taken the reading correctly. True, there are some instructions covering the device, but they have not been tabled. The only information we received in the tabled papers were the maker's instructions as to how to check and use the device.

Mr O'Connor: By the way, if there is any information I have not provided, let me know and I will endeavour to do so.

Mr JAMIESON: I do not think there is. I understand the police have instructions on how to use the device, but they are of no use if a person wants to defend his case. It is not possible for a person apprehended to charge an officer with not having carried out the instructions. If an officer fails to carry out the regulations covering the breathalyser, such a case can be defended at law. However, with a radar gun all the officer has to do is to point it at a vehicle and state that the vehicle was travelling at a certain speed and that is all there is to it. The driver must accept his word.

Mr O'Connor: Have you seen them in operation?

Mr JAMIESON: Yes. Because of my experience, I have taken a particular interest in them, and when I have seen them operating in certain areas I have stopped to observe them.

Mr Coyne: They are the most fool-proof device of all.

Mr JAMIESON: One of the times I observed the use of a radar gun was on a Saturday morning. A bridge was being constructed and a 30 kilometre sign had been erected in place of the normal 60 kilometre sign. Motorists were coming down the nearby hill at quite a speed and the sergeant in charge was standing on the corner with his police "Stop" sign and his radar gun. His baseball team was lined up just behind. He had the radar gun in his hand and called out the various speeds as the cars approached. He called "51", "48", "49", "52", "47", and so on. As he did so the officers came out and apprehended the offenders. No-one was verifying the speeds. The apprehensions were made purely on his judgment. Probably he was reading the gun correctly; I do not know, but in my opinion the situation is just not good enough.

Mr Coyne: Don't they have a button to press in order to lock the gun on the recorded speed?

Mr JAMIESON: How can that be done when the cars are travelling one after another? Under the instructions that is what is supposed to be done.

Mr May: You would get one and 10 would get away.

Mr JAMIESON: A driver has no opportunity to check himself unless he happens to be apprehended on a lonely stretch of road and the officer has used that switch and locked the gun on the recorded speed. I think this is rather peculiar. It simply means that a driver must take the say-so of the officer concerned. On that occasion I was not impressed because two or three commercial vehicles went through at quite a speed and those drivers were not apprehended.

Another night, after leaving Parliament House I was driving along Oats Street when I saw a radar trap under a tree. I circled the block and returned to the spot and took out a notebook and made a few notes. The sergeant wandered over and asked whether he could help me and I told him what I was doing. He indicated that he had recognised the number plate because he had been in the game for a long time and knew who I was.

Mr Thompson: We do not recognise you by the number of the car.

Mr JAMIESON: We started talking about the procedures adopted and he told me how difficult the job was because of the circumstances. Two constables were with the gun, one operating it. The other would run out in front of an offender to stop him. I asked him whether the officer should have been using a police "Stop" sign and he told me that he was supposed to be. I asked him what would happen

if the officer was knocked down because the driver did not stop, and he informed me that the driver would not be charged because a "Stop" sign had not been used.

We talked generally for a while and then a young fellow with fairly active reflexes approached in a car. The same thing occurred; that is, the officer ran out in front of him to stop him. The driver was going at a fair bat, too, but he applied his brakes and was able to stop in time. I then asked the sergeant why the officers were not using the police "Stop" sign and he said it was because they did not have one. This actually occurred, because I was there.

Mr O'Connor: I do not know why they did not have one, because there is a big stack of them in the storeroom.

Mr JAMIESON: I do not think the officer who apprehended me had one, either, although he vows and declares he did.

When travelling down to Bunbury the other day for the opening of the harbour I passed several traffic control vehicles on a long stretch of road. I am not complaining about this because that stretch does have to be watched. However, I did find fault with one particular radar trap. I do not know whether the Premier noticed it, although he may have done. The officer was in a fairly deep parking recess and he was some distance off the road with his radar gun pointing at the cars coming down the road.

The laws governing triangular measurements indicate that a patrolman using a gun at a considerable angle would not get a correct reading. There are no regulations in this regard and nothing can be done about the matter if the patrolman has an incorrect reading.

Mr O'Connor: The speed shown would actually be slower than that at which the vehicle was travelling.

Mr JAMIESON: It could be, but the patrolman has to make a judgment of just how much slower. The regulations which have been tabled indicate certain things, such as that the gun will be out of balance if it is left in excessive heat. That is not good enough. The RTA should be required to follow certain lines of action. If instructions were set out in the form of regulations the patrolmen would be obliged to follow them. They would be obliged to be not more than a certain distance off the road in order that the gun should be pointed as straight as possible in order to get a correct reading. The patrolmen at present have to estimate that sort of thing and it is not good enough. We have to have a better situation.

It should be possible to attach to the gun a device similar to that which is attached to the ticket-issuing machines of the MTT. That device gives the time at

which the ticket is issued, and a similar device on the gun used by the patrolmen could show the time and the speed at which the vehicle is travelling. A sample slip is provided in the case of a breathalyser test.

Mr Watt: That is the best idea I have ever heard.

Mr JAMIESON: After that interjection I ought to sit down, but that would embarrass us so I will keep on going.

I do not think it would be beyond the capabilities of our local engineers to adapt some device which could be locked onto the gun.

Mr O'Connor: The point you make is very good and it is worth looking into.

Mr JAMIESON: It seems that sometimes I make a good point! I will get away from that subject and now discuss the north-west. I am indebted to members who represent the north-west. It is always difficult to get onto something and keep it going for some time in the local Press. It is not always easy to keep one's finger on a matter in a remote area. However, in the case of the north-west I indicate that when I move into the chair now occupied by our leader I intend to keep the shadow Ministry for that region because it is most important.

I have endeavoured to cope with many problems which have been referred to me, and in doing so, and as a result of writing articles which have appeared in the Press in the north-west, I have involved myself with the local members. They have become somewhat resentful and one was reported in the "News of the North" on the 18th February, 1976, as follows—

If Mr Jamieson has an electorate which requires so little servicing that he can afford time to constructively work towards the betterment of conditions for northern people, then he will be welcome to join us in our efforts.

Those remarks were in reply to some comments I made, and suggested that I had no on-the-spot knowledge of what was going on. However, organisations such as the school parents and citizens' association at Karratha had been writing to me. Because of those communications, and the action I took on behalf of those people, I was able to make those statements which were replied to in the Press. The matter was followed up for a few weeks in the Press and I received some publicity. Most people in the north will now know I am about, even if the people around West Perth do not know that I am about. As I said I am indebted to those members representing the north-west for their efforts on my behalf.

Those members fell for the publicity they gave me as a result of my visit to the north-west last May. I made certain Press releases as I went along and at the time

I thought that would be it and I could do no more. However, the criticism started to come in and continued for several months, which was very good for me. I hope it is kept up for some time.

Mr Laurance: It was quite a saga of the north.

Mr Sodeman: Only some members representing the north do not like you; personally, I do not mind at all.

Mr JAMIESON: I must agree I have not noticed any complaints from the member for Pilbara, but his Legislative Council acquaintances, and others, have been vociferous in their comments about what I said.

Mr Thompson: We only wish there were more ways by which we could spread you right around the State!

Mr Sodeman: Although I do not have a copy of the article quoted, I am sure the Deputy Leader of the Opposition is not quite accurate.

Mr JAMIESON: That is one of the usual comments from the member for Pilbara; very often his statements are inaccurate. I will rely on my source of information. I use information which I receive from the Minister for Education, and from other Ministers, and I would like to think that those Ministers are giving me reasonable and truthful information.

Mr Sodeman: You have a habit of distorting statements, and taking them out of proper context.

Mr JAMIESON: I do not know about that. I am aware that many people make statements as I have done myself, and after further consideration wished they had not made them. Perhaps it would be similar to saying that the education system in the Pilbara was near perfect. I have never said that but I think those words are close to what somebody else said here. If members opposite do not expect that attitude to be taken to task I do not know what they do expect.

Mr Sodeman: You have a habit of quoting the paragraph before and the paragraph after which distorts the true picture.

Mr JAMIESON: Which the member for Pilbara does, to a greater extent.

Mr Sodeman: The principals were amazed that you were prepared to dispute my comments.

Mr JAMIESON: I do not know where all those principals were. The shadow Minister for Education, the member for Ascot, had a considerable amount of information sent to him in respect of a certain region.

The SPEAKER: Order! The Deputy Leader of the Opposition.

Mr JAMIESON: I am trying to get away from the subject.

I turn now to the matter of the statement regarding Commonwealth-State financial arrangements which was made by the Premier recently. I read it three or four times in an endeavour to get something out of it. I thought I had missed something because it was supposed to be a most important statement but when I found the Press coverage appeared at page 39 I realised that perhaps it was not so important after all.

Sir Charles Court: The full text is on your table by now, I should imagine.

Mr JAMIESON: I have the text of the discourse with me. When I started to read it I realised why it did not receive much publicity. The statement reads, in part—

The officers also isolated the key issues on which ministerial decisions were required before finality could be reached.

A little further, it states—

However, it is also pleasing to record that the Prime Minister gave every consideration to the views expressed by the Premiers and deferred to the wishes of the States on almost every key point.

It goes on—

... our right to a share of current personal income tax receipts. Although a lot of work remains to be done on machinery matters, I am confident that the scheme will now operate successfully and to the advantage of the States.

I do not know how the Premier would know that it will operate successfully and to the advantage of the States until all the features have been finally worked out. The statement further reads—

The aggregate amount so obtained will then be divided between the States initially in proportion to their existing shares of the Financial Assistance Grants payable this year. Subsequently, the distribution will be according to a formula which maintains the present *per capita* relativities but also takes account of the different rates of population growth in each State.

With variability of growth rates in each State, I do not think we are as yet very clear what will happen there. Let us look at further features of it.

Sir Charles Court: The growth factor is already in the formula at the moment.

Mr JAMIESON: That may be so but the statement is not very clear. To continue—

There are two important guarantee provisions. Firstly, that the States will not receive in any year—I emphasise "in any year"—less than they received in the previous year. Secondly, for the interim period until the time of the first review of the arrangements, each

State will not receive less than it would have received under the present Financial Assistance Grant formula.

If that is the case, we have not received a very great favour, but at least we are no worse off than we were previously. I imagine that is what the Premier is trying to tell us. He says further—

The arrangements will be subject to review within five years. Treasury officials have been asked to consider and report on the appropriate form that the review might take.

In other words, it is no panacea for the future. It is a trial piece of mechanism; we will see how it goes and it might not go very well. The Premier goes on to say—

There is also the question of the amounts likely to be made available under the various specific purpose grant programmes which are currently being reviewed by the Commonwealth. Possible reductions under this heading could offset, in part, gains from the new general revenue arrangements.

That is another imponderable. We are not sure where we will finish up if that continues. He says further—

Payment in the first category are to be on a weighted *per capita* basis to ensure that all authorities participate in the arrangements while having regard to the particular problems of more remote shires many of which are required to serve large areas with a small ratable population.

I do not know whether that is desirable. Giving *per capita* assistance to some areas will improve the lot of people who already derive considerable advantage from living in an area which has most of the facilities required for the betterment of life. I do not see that that will be a very great achievement.

I am not overimpressed with the situation at present and I am sure *The West Australian* newspaper was not impressed because it pointed out on the 14th April—

The Premier, Sir Charles Court, yesterday warned against any assumption that the State Government would have more to spend next year because of the Commonwealth-State tax-sharing proposals.

If we do not receive more money to spend next year than we receive this year, we will not be able to do so much because inflation is still with us.

The member for Scarborough dealt at length with inflation and the morality of the community. Since he made his speech I have been trying to figure out where he got some of his ideas from. He made some very clear statements and it is very hard to find support for some of them. He said the inflationary trend was caused

by the country and the people spending what they had not yet earned. He said—

Over the last few years, we have heard the boffins and the eggheads putting forward such reasons as cost push, demand pull—

Further on he said—

... the basic reason for inflation is that individuals and nations spend what they have not yet earned.

All the chronicles I have been able to get hold of say there have never been greater savings in all forms in the Australian community.

The graph in the annual report for 1974-75 of the Chairman of the Australian Finance Conference shows that savings deposited in all financial institutions—trading banks, savings banks, the Reserve Bank, life offices, pension funds, finance companies, building societies, merchant banks, and credit unions—are escalating as fast as they can go. Only the short-term money market has taken a turn for the worse, for some reason. In other words, the savings deposited by people in these fields are greater than ever before; so people cannot be spending beyond their earning capacity.

In the graph relating to consumer credit debt, savings bank deposits, and permanent building society deposits per head, Western Australia is not so far ahead in consumer credit debt but it is well up in savings bank deposits and higher than any other State in permanent building society deposits.

Mr Sodeman: That is due to good government.

Mr JAMIESON: People save for the necessities of life.

Table 13 in the *Quarterly Statistical Abstract*, No. 438 of March, 1976, relates to the financial operations of permanent building societies and shows a very large increase in paid-up share capital, which was running at \$357.167 million at the end of December, 1974, and \$453.969 million at the end of September, 1975, which is the latest figure available. I do not know where the member for Scarborough found evidence for saying we are spending ahead of our earnings.

I did not get very far in chasing up one example he gave; namely, that productivity in the building industry had dropped and whereas 10 years ago building tradesmen were erecting 2.5 dwelling units per head—presumably per year—the figure is now 1.6 units for each man employed in the industry. When I tried to check up on that I was told it is very difficult to do so because in boom periods, when towns are being constructed in the north-west, in the main new residential units are built, while in periods of recession more people are employed in the maintenance side of the industry and the figures would show that they were building fewer units.

In other words, at times when there is excessive demand for housing units, the ratio could be one to one but at times when no houses are being built building tradesmen would be employed on maintenance and so on and the figures might show a ratio of hundreds of tradesmen to each unit built. So the building industry does not give a very good comparison. I could not find any justification for the attitude of the member for Scarborough in this respect.

I have never had much faith in accountants except for putting little purple ticks on the left-hand side of columns of figures. The only other useful purpose they serve to my knowledge is that when a firm goes broke they are able to make a coroner's report and state why it went broke. Otherwise, there are many difficulties associated with using accountants to settle the problems of the community. Either they worry too much about what goes on in the community and are not anxious to do what they should do for business management, or they race ahead much too fast.

There are a few other matters I would like to mention, but they can wait for another day because we have other matters to attend to today.

I would like to take the opportunity, as other members did, to congratulate the new member for Greenough. He made his maiden speech during this session. I hope he has a very pleasant time while he is here. I have been very happy during my term as a member of this House; I have had some battles, but very often they arise from a difference of personalities. We find this type of thing whether we are members of a football team or members of Parliament. I suggest to the honourable member that if he pulls his weight in his district and joins others in this Parliament in carrying out the duties for which he was elected, his life will be a pleasant one. I hope to be associated with him in this regard.

Mr Hartrey: Hear, hear!

Question put and passed; the Address-in-Reply thus adopted.

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: RETIREMENT

Televising of Proceedings

THE SPEAKER (Mr Hutchinson): I do not have to inform members, as it will be obvious, that I have given permission to the television cameramen to televise proceedings from the floor of the House and from the gallery on this unusual and extraordinary occasion. Mr Premier, I understand you wish to have the attention of the House for the purpose of making some complimentary remarks.

Complimentary Remarks

SIR CHARLES COURT (Nedlands—Premier) [12.22 p.m.]: I appreciate this opportunity to say a few words on what is an extraordinary occasion. I believe it is very important that we should, in the life of our Parliament, record in its annals, and more particularly in *Hansard*, when any person who has made a special contribution retires or some other event happens.

It was my pleasure to express my congratulations to John Trezise Tonkin when he set a record for parliamentary service. I believe that record will never be broken because the duration of the service, the nature of the service, and the attitude of the people towards retirement and public life is so different today from what it was that I doubt whether anyone will have a term of service of over 43 years. For that, of course, we congratulate him, not only because of his great fortune in being able to satisfy his electors for that long, but also for having good health.

I want to say at the outset that John Trezise Tonkin is a stayer rather than a sprinter. To discover this one need only look at his record. He came into this Parliament in April, 1933, under the premiership of a very notable man of the Labor movement and of this State in Mr Philip Collier, and he just did not rise to fame overnight. We had some fairly redoubtable people in the Labor party in those days, and when we consider the record we see Mr McCallum, Mr Millington, Mr Keneally, Mr Munsie, Mr Willcock and many others. These men were a strong team in their representation of the Labor Party.

It was not until 1943, some 10 years later, that Mr Tonkin became a Minister in the Willcock Government. The competition was fairly tough, and when we consider the names in the Labor Party at the time, there was always someone knocking at the door. However, we can well imagine that at that time Mr Tonkin was making his contribution with the thoroughness for which he has become quite renowned in this House. Subsequently he held a number of portfolios, most of which are well known to members—education, social services, agriculture, works, and water supplies. Eventually he became Leader of the Opposition, subsequently Premier, and then Leader of the Opposition again. A very notable record.

I want to say quite frankly that the former Premier and Leader of the Opposition enjoyed—amongst the Public Service of this State and members of Parliament including those of us who had occasion to take deputations to him when we were in Opposition—a reputation of being a very good administrator. He always handled matters in his department with great courtesy and thoroughness and I for one appreciated, as a member of the

Opposition at the time, the fairness and exactitude with which he considered any representations made to him and his attention to detail. He set a great example, of course, within his own party through his loyalty to his cause. When one is a leader of a political party, things do not always go smoothly, and it is when things get tough that we sort out the sheep from the goats and the boys from the men. John Trezise Tonkin has always, through thick and thin, been a very loyal member of his party. I admired his loyalty to his leader whenever he was a member of a Government or when he was in Opposition under people such as the Hon. A. R. G. Hawke and others. He was always one who set a great example to others, at least in public—I cannot vouch for what he did in Caucus or in other places! However, in public he set an example of solidarity and loyalty, and after all, that is what it is all about.

Mr Tonkin has been very loyal also to the parliamentary institution, and we need more of this loyalty. He has endeavoured always to preserve the dignity of this place and Parliament generally, whether it is this Parliament, the Parliament of other States, the Parliament of the Commonwealth, or for that matter, the Parliament of any other country. I believe we need people who are prepared to identify with the institution as such. For all these reasons we express to the Leader of the Opposition, as he retires from that very responsible position, the gratitude of the Parliament. I believe I would not be going too far, nor assuming too much, if I expressed also the gratitude of the people of this State.

In a very personal way I know him to be a very tenacious person. When he gets his fangs into some particular issue, he goes on, sometimes one almost thinks, *ad nauseam*. However, that is what it is all about, and in this regard again he has set an example. Quite often he has raised an issue which has not been very popular and one which has not had much success even within his own ranks. However, with persistence, and like the drop of water gradually wearing away a stone, eventually he has been able to make his point, and quite often with considerable success.

Just in conclusion, might I make this comment: Here we have a man with tremendous experience retiring from the Parliament. He came here in the darkest days of the depression; a very worrying time for the community as a whole, and members can imagine the problems of government and the problems of members of Parliament who had people knocking on their doors day and night; it was a time of great adversity. Then there was the period of the war years with their tremendous problems, and the rehabilitation period after it which was not much less worrying. Then there have been times of

prosperity, and I want to assure some of the younger members that during each of these periods, whether they were periods of depression, war, rehabilitation, or prosperity, each one brought its pressures on Governments of all persuasions. Certain techniques are developed from experience, and one of the sad things about life is that if we are not careful, when a man such as the Leader of the Opposition retires, we lose all his experience which is very hard to express in a few words. Mr Tonkin is aware of the techniques of government, and in this regard I am thinking also of our loss of this quality with the retirement of Sir David Brand. It seems a pity that the respective parties and the Parliament as a whole cannot in some way gain the benefit of this great experience, to the advantage of our State.

I think the Leader of the Opposition would be the first one to agree with me that there are always tensions, always problems, and always the unpredictable in government, and while it comes down substantially to a matter of judgment, we can gain great strength and wisdom out of the past.

I would like to feel that the Leader of the Opposition will be able to give to his party and to the Parliament also the benefit of his experience so that it is not lost as he retires from his very responsible position. I say to him that he carries the goodwill of those for whom I speak and we wish that both he and Mrs Tonkin enjoy good health. Knowing him as I do, I should imagine he will be very careful not to intrude upon the preserves of his successor—I think that is the nature of the man—so that his successor can develop his own particular ability and his own personality. Nevertheless, knowing Mr Tonkin as we do, I am sure he will be available to his successor for advice and counsel if it is requested, and that is how it should be.

I conclude by taking this opportunity to convey to the new Leader of the Opposition my best wishes when he takes over at one minute past midnight—which will be the magical time when the responsibilities fall on his shoulders. If his experience is the same as mine, someone will knock on his door at five minutes past midnight! But he will accept these responsibilities and we wish him well. It is an important position to hold in any party, and the role of Leader of the Opposition is an important role in the Parliament.

He has had a lot of experience. I understand he is a few minutes older than I am in parliamentary life, having been sworn in just before I was. He has served his party well. Whatever our political differences might be, I would like to say that I admire a person who stands up for his cause and is prepared to speak up for his party through thick and thin. This is what Colin Jamieson has done.

We wish him well as he takes over his great responsibility. I know that when one is in Opposition—having been there twice myself—one wins all the arguments but loses the votes! But that is part of the sharpening process, and sooner or later one's efforts are rewarded.

Mr Speaker, I also wish you and your family, and all members and their families, a happy and safe Easter.

[Applause.]

MR JAMIESON (Welshpool—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) [12.31 p.m.]: I would like to be associated with the Premier in bidding farewell to my leader as he retires from his present position. He is going to that higher order rank as the member for Kalgoorlie indicated earlier this morning, and no doubt we can expect fireworks from the back bench at various times.

John Tonkin has served for a long time in the Parliament of Western Australia; not many throughout Australia have served longer than he has. Some in the Federal Parliament, such as Billy Hughes, served for something like 50 years; but I would not know how they do that. They must have had superb temperaments and have lived in days when the tempo was not as hectic as it is today. It is amazing that John has been able to live through these more hectic days and still retain his health and his attitude to the Parliament of this State.

Mr Premier, you mentioned the fact that he entered the parliament when Philip Collier was Premier. It is only a few days ago that you mentioned in this place that he broke the record of service held until that time by Philip Collier. I agree with you in that I doubt whether this Parliament will again see the day when a member serves as long as John Tonkin has served. Due to changing circumstances in a changing world it is most unlikely that this will occur, and therefore John's record will probably stand for a considerable time. As a matter of fact, I doubt whether anybody in this Parliament has made a start yet on the way to achieving the length of service he has achieved. In fact, probably one would have to enter Parliament at 18 years of age to achieve that length of service, and that is not likely.

As the Premier indicated, John has served this State well. He has been one of the State's outstanding citizens and has always been willing to champion the cause of those principles he considers worthy of championing. As the Premier indicated, John's attitude to certain principles is such that I sometimes think he was bred of a British bulldog. Once he gets his teeth into something he hangs on until he is able to convince one that his point of view has good reasoning.

I have been associated with a number of farewell functions in recent days, and it gets a little like the Dame Melba farewells. However, I believe that every facet of his association with politics is entitled to wish him well and to pay tribute to him before he retires. Just as Dame Melba was a great singer, John Tonkin has been great in the art of politics. His art of handling things in Parliament, an art he has passed on to others, will long live with us. We have all benefited by our association with him, whether we sit on the Government side or the Opposition side of the House. We have all appreciated his friendship, and we join in wishing him and his wife a happy retirement. John, although you are not retiring from Parliament yet, and you still have some time with us, we hope you and your wife will enjoy the best of health and that you are able to carry on as an adviser, even be it in the background. The Australian Labor Party will be with us for a very long time; and, personally, I look forward to your counsel on matters that trouble me as I take over your mantle. I hope the mantle will not be as big as some Press cartoonists are apt to depict it, otherwise I will not be seen very much in this Parliament. However, I am sure that will not be the case.

On behalf of the members of the ALP and Labor members in this House and another place, I wish you all the best.

[Applause.]

MR OLD (Katanning—Minister for Agriculture) [12.37 p.m.]: It is my privilege to speak on behalf of the members of the Country Party in this Parliament, and while my remarks will be fairly brief they are very sincere. As has been stated, John Tonkin has been in this Parliament for 43 years, and he is not only a State figure but also a well known national figure. He is well known throughout the State and well respected and loved irrespective of the political colour of the people with whom he associates. Whilst I do not say the majority of people follow his political thinking, I still reiterate the great respect and esteem in which he is held.

He has been admired in the past in his parliamentary career as an administrator during his term as Premier, and in various ministerial portfolios. It is certainly an example to newer politicians in the Parliament to see a man who has such a wide range of experience in respect of the administration and the government of this State. He has also set a great example to the newer members of Parliament and to other members in this House in demonstrating the way in which one should conduct oneself. His great knowledge of parliamentary procedure is an example to all.

On behalf of members of the National Country Party in this Parliament I wish you a very happy and long retirement, and I hope you retain your excellent health. I have been associated with you on several occasions and the vigour with which you are able to undertake your duties has always amazed me and is a great example to me and to others. I know you have plans to go abroad and that upon your return you will devote most of your time to horticulture which is one of your great loves. On behalf of members of the National Country Party I wish you a very happy, long, and healthy retirement.

[Applause.]

MR J. T. TONKIN (Melville—Leader of the Opposition) [12.40 p.m.]: One cannot remain unmoved when one has been listening to such encomiums that have been uttered by the Premier, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the National Country Party. If I am somewhat hesitant in what I should like to say, I hope members will forbear with me.

I came into the Parliament under conditions which are very similar to today. There was massive unemployment throughout Australia, and all the primary producers were in trouble because they could not dispose of their products; that is the situation now. Over those 43 years, we have been endeavouring to improve conditions so that we would not have a repetition of those very troublesome times which existed in the 1930s. But it is no fault of the members of Parliament who are required from time to time to give their attention to the necessary legislation which is designed to improve conditions and regulate our method of living and operation.

My enthusiasm for the job has never wavered. I came in as a young man with plenty of ideas, expecting like most young men to turn the place upside down in a few minutes, but soon realising that there was a pace at which one should proceed. I have learned to take my reverses as well as my successes, and I have had plenty of both.

One thing I have learned, to which the Premier referred, is that it pays to be persistent. One does not always succeed at the first attempt, or even at the second attempt. History is full of examples of initial failures which, subsequently, were turned into successes.

One matter I can mention by way of illustration is the fact that chiropractors are now registered in Western Australia; in fact, Western Australia is the first State in the Commonwealth to so register these people. I made a number of attempts by means of motions and Bills to have chiropractors registered. Mr Speaker, you

would know this quite well, because if my memory serves me correctly, you were Minister for Health at the time a Select Committee was appointed for the purpose of giving consideration to a Bill I had introduced aimed at registering chiropractors.

That Select Committee finally came back with a unanimous recommendation that chiropractors should be registered, and they are so registered in this State today. Now, other States are giving consideration to following that lead.

Members will recall that I was very keen to have an ombudsman appointed in Western Australia, and that for a number of years I did not meet with very much success. Finally, however, we had an ombudsman appointed in Western Australia, and other States have followed suit.

I mention those illustrations to show the younger members that they should not give up. They have first to satisfy themselves that their cause is just and they should then go for it, and not retreat. They will not succeed in every case, but they will gain some successes.

I want to say to the Premier that I greatly appreciate the words which he uttered here this afternoon; he was more than generous. I do not know that I could claim to deserve what he said but it pleased me to hear him say it.

Likewise, to my deputy leader who has always been a loyal supporter, and who will take over from me very shortly, I express my appreciation.

I have enjoyed the friendship of almost every member of the Parliament since I have been a member. We have had our differences in the Chamber, but I am pleased to say that from the expressions of friendship which have been given to me personally, and by actions, I believe I have few, if any, enemies in the Parliament.

That reminds me that when I was speaking on the Address-in-Reply, which I had the privilege in July, 1933, of moving. I was somewhat critical—which I suppose is not unusual for me—of the parties opposed to my party. I was elated at the fact that on that occasion we came back with a record majority, and the members of the parties opposed to us were defeated in large numbers. I think I was rather too truculent, really; but still, that is a long time ago and I did not then have the experience I have since had.

You would know, Mr Speaker, that it is a tradition in this Parliament that interjections are not customary during a member's maiden speech; nor is it customary to criticise a member's maiden speech, or take him to task for it.

Although I was not subjected to any interjections, Sir Norbert Keenan, who became the Leader of the National Party following the defeat of Sir James Mitchell, was upset at what I had said, and felt he had to remind me that I did not know what I was talking about.

Naturally enough, that brought retribution, because the Hon. Philip Collier as my leader felt obliged to stand and defend me, which he did, to the very great satisfaction of my own party and the discomfiture of the Opposition.

I mention that to show I have always been one to say what I think, and I still do so; I am always prepared to argue my point of view, but I hope I have been able to demonstrate that if the argument opposing my point of view is strong enough I will acknowledge that what I believed was not correct.

To return to Sir Norbert Keenan, who started off by criticising me, I should like to say that subsequently I enjoyed his friendship. In fact, I treasure two letters he wrote to me in subsequent years complimenting me upon my attitude in relation to certain matters, and upon my thoughts in connection with them. When he retired from Parliament I used frequently to go down and spend an hour with him in very pleasant circumstances.

I have greatly enjoyed the comradeship which has been made available to me from members of this Parliament not only in the Assembly but in the Legislative Council as well. One of the things from which I derive considerable satisfaction is that I am the father of the superannuation scheme which is now of great benefit to members of Parliament. It fell to me to design this scheme and to sell it to the members of Parliament so that they would ultimately adopt it.

I can remember trying to convince the late Joe Holmes—a man very large in stature—as one of the opponents of the scheme that it was a good scheme. He did not know I had in my pocket a certificate from the Government actuary to say that it would work! Joe Holmes said to me, "Tonkin, you cannot take more out of a pint pot than you put in it." I said, "That is true enough, Mr Holmes, but what you have forgotten is that the tap is turned on and it is never turned off. When one member dies, or resigns his seat, another member takes his place and becomes a new contributor." Of course, the scheme is now very different from when it was initially introduced, but I take the credit for having designed the scheme which all members accepted.

At the time of my retirement from this office, which I have enjoyed, I wish to say that I have no regrets whatsoever. I have had a very good innings. I have been a most fortunate individual in practically every respect.

To retire from a position with the goodwill and esteem which has been made evident this afternoon is a greater reward than I would ever have expected when I entered the Parliament 43 years ago. I thank the Premier, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, and the Hon. R. C. Old for what they have said on behalf of their parties and the people of this State. I can only trust that I am really worthy of the words which have been spoken.

[Applause.]

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE: SPECIAL

SIR CHARLES COURT (Nedlands—Premier) [12.52 p.m.]: I move—

That the House at its rising adjourn until 4.30 p.m. on Tuesday, the 4th May.

Question put and passed.

House adjourned at 12.53 p.m.

Legislative Council

Tuesday, the 4th May, 1976

The PRESIDENT (the Hon. A. P. Griffith) took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTIONS (5): ON NOTICE

1. UNITED NATIONS "Habitat" Conference

The Hon. GRACE VAUGHAN, to the Minister for Justice representing the Premier:

(1) Is the Government prepared to support the four main objectives of "Habitat", the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements to be held in Vancouver, Canada, from the 31st May to the 11th June, 1976—which objectives read—

(a) To proclaim and ask all nations to subscribe to a commitment pledging that the future human settlements of the world will be places of human dignity and well-being;

(b) To build among the peoples of the world a better understanding of human settlement problems and the challenge they will pose in the years to come;

(c) To demonstrate that the most pressing problems of human settlements can be solved with existing technology and systems if the political will can be marshalled to use them;

(d) To formulate a programme of international activities in support of human settlement improvements which will give priority to the strengthening of financial mechanisms and management institutions dealing with these problems in developing countries?

(2) (a) Has the Government appointed sufficient representatives at "Habitat" to efficiently contribute to the discussions and recommendations and to assist in problem solving in the areas of physical requirements for housing, work, energy supply, transport, communications, water and sanitation; services for education, health and welfare; systems of government, law and economic management and cultural facilities for art, recreation and leisure;

(b) will any such representatives be academically and experientially equipped to offer technical, financial, political and social knowledge including ways of bringing about essential citizen participation in the processes of problem identification and problem solving;

(3) (a) If such representatives have been appointed, did the Premier discuss this appointment with the Australian "Habitat" Advisory Committee composed of prominent and knowledgeable Australians which has been convened to ensure that our contribution to the Conference is highly informed and represents the best thinking of the nation, from Government and non-Government organisations, as well as individuals;

(b) If the Premier did not have such discussions, would he now consult the Committee regarding possible changes or further appointments;

(c) If representatives have not been appointed, will he ensure that the Advisory Committee is consulted before such appointments are made?