

**Legislative Council,***Thursday, 8th December, 1932.*

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

**BILLS (4)—THIRD READINGS.**

- 1, Mining Act Amendment.  
Returned to the Assembly with amendments.
- 2, Rockingham Road District (Loan Rate Exemption).
- 3, Collic Recreation and Park Lands Act Amendment.
- 4, Roads Closure.

*Passed.***BILL—ROAD DISTRICTS ACT AMENDMENT.***Assembly's Request for Conference.*

Message from the Assembly received and read requesting the Council to grant a conference on the amendments insisted upon by the Council.

**BILL—HEALTH ACT AMENDMENT.***Assembly's Message.*

Message from the Assembly received and read notifying that it no longer insisted on amendments Nos. 2 and 4 made by the Assembly.

**BILL—APPROPRIATION.***Second Reading.*

Order of the Day read for the resumption of the debate from the previous day.

On motion by Hon. J. Cornell, debate adjourned.

**BILL—RESERVES.***In Committee.*

Hon. J. Cornell in the Chair, the Chief Secretary in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 to 6—agreed to.

Clause 7—A1720 (King's Park), Excision of Perth Sub. lot 490 at Crawley.

Hon. J. M. DREW: I understand the Government require this land in order to exchange it for some other land they propose to give the Swan Brewery in connection with the road construction on Mount's Bay-road: at any rate, King's Park is to suffer the loss of this land. It is not a very large piece of land, being only 2 acres 3 roods and 39 perches, but it is the principle that is involved, and I am strongly against any portion of King's Park being excised for any purpose whatever. As I said yesterday, in days gone by I have listened in this House to the late Sir Winthrop Hackett who, on several occasions, denounced any attempt on the part of persons or organisations to secure any portion of King's Park. I have made a brief extract from one of his speeches, delivered on the 11th December, 1913. The proposal then was that portion of the park should be utilised for the purposes of the University—and as members know, the University was dear to Sir Winthrop Hackett's heart, in spite of which he strongly resisted the proposal. It was not then before the House, but he uttered a warning in the following terms—

The protecting powers are too strong, I thank Heaven, to allow that park to be invaded in any one corner, for such an invasion would quickly extend to all other corners.

This will be the thin edge of the wedge, for there is afoot an agitation for a public hospital and certain people have already cast designing eyes on King's Park. I remember that in 1928 the late Hon. A. Lovekin, who was chairman of the King's Park Board, introduced a Bill for the purpose of leasing 1 acre, 2 roods along the Mount's Bay-road, land formerly used as a Chinaman's garden. It was only a lease that it was intended to grant, but the Collier Government were strongly opposed to it on principle. They felt if they supported it, some future Government probably would be asked to lease another portion of the park, and so it would go on. The lease was for 25 years, and the Bill was carried in this

House because it was said by a majority of those who spoke that it was simply a lease, not freehold. As it was only to be leased, they gave it their support. On the third reading, however, the measure was withdrawn. Everything has gone on smoothly since, until an agitation arose for a portion of the park to be utilised for hospital purposes. On principle I am opposed to the clause.

Hon. J. NICHOLSON: I have communicated with the secretary of the King's Park Board with the object of getting the views of its members upon this Bill. As he was unable to get into touch with the various members, I have been unable to ascertain what their views are. I hope the Minister will, therefore, agree to postpone consideration of this and the next clause until next week.

Hon. V. Hamersley: Do you suggest the board know nothing about what is being done?

Hon. J. NICHOLSON: I am not aware that the matter has yet come before the board. By Tuesday next I should be able to ascertain the opinions of members of that body.

The CHIEF SECRETARY: I move—

That consideration of Clauses 7 and 8 be postponed.

Motion put and passed.

Clause 9—agreed to.

Progress reported.

## **BILL—FINANCIAL EMERGENCY ACT AMENDMENT.**

*In Committee.*

Resumed from the previous day; Hon. J. Cornell in the Chair; Hon. J. J. Holmes in charge of the Bill.

Clause 2—Amendment of Section 5:

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Holmes has moved an amendment to strike out the words "commencement of Part VI. of the said Act," and to insert other words dating the clause back to the 10th July.

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: I should like to withdraw the amendment I moved yesterday.

Amendment, by *lea-e*, withdrawn.

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: We were in some doubt yesterday as to what effect the striking out of those particular words would have upon other sections of the Act. I have gone into the matter with Dr. Stow, who says we can put in any date we like, because we are dealing only with Part VI. of the Act. We must go to the rescue of the trustees of the University to enable them to rectify a mistake they have made. If they became short of funds for educational purposes, it might be found they were personally responsible. I move an amendment—

That the words "commencement of Part VI. of the said Act" be struck out, and the words "and including the tenth day of July, 1932," be inserted in lieu.

Amendment put and passed; the clause as amended, agreed to.

New clause:

Hon. H. SEDDON: I move—

That a new clause be added to stand as Clause 2, as follows:—

2. Section seven of the principal Act is amended—

(1) by adding a proviso to Subsection (1), as follows:—

Provided that in every case where the prevailing basic wage paid to a worker other than an officer (as defined in this Act) employed outside the metropolitan area and within the goldfields area (as defined by the Court of Arbitration) is greater in amount than the rate of wage which an officer would be entitled to receive under this section, then due allowance for such discrepancy shall be made when computing the salary or wage of any officer in accordance with the percentage reductions hereinbefore set out in this subsection;

(2) by inserting the word "also" after the word "provided," in the proviso to Subsection (1).

This amendment applies to the goldfields. The most serious disability civil servants on the goldfields are working under is that the house rents are high, compared with what they are in other places. As these men may be moved at short notice, they cannot get houses of their own. Another disability is in regard to railway passes. Many of those who live in remote places on the fields were allowed biennial railway passes if the district allowance amounted to £30. A district that contained so many disadvantages that it carried an allowance

of £30 was deemed to be so remote that railway passes were justified. As the allowance has now been reduced to £10 a year, these men are prevented from receiving the benefits of a railway pass. That is a concession the Government could grant without much expense.

The CHIEF SECRETARY: I have already explained that the Government are not unmindful of the fact that goldfields employees are suffering great disadvantages as compared with private employees, and consideration is being given to the question. I hope that a decision will be arrived at shortly in the direction of placing the Government servants in distant parts of the State on a footing approaching, if not equal, to that of other employees. Regarding railway passes, I see a difficulty in that if one section of the State employees in the country are granted the concession, other sections will expect similar treatment.

Hon. H. SEDDON: Railway employees enjoy that privilege now.

The CHIEF SECRETARY: There are other Government employees in distant parts of the State to be considered. At any rate what I wish to draw attention to is that I do not consider the amendment comes within the scope of the Bill.

Hon. J. M. DREW: It is out of order; it provides for the expenditure of money.

The CHAIRMAN: In view of recent developments I would welcome a few words of advice from the Chief Secretary.

The CHIEF SECRETARY: I would refer you, Mr. Chairman, to Standing Order 309, which reads—

It is an instruction to all committees . . . to whom Bills may be committed that they have power to make such amendments therein as they shall think fit, provided they be relevant to the subject matter of the Bill, but if any such amendment shall not be within the Title of the Bill they shall amend the Title accordingly and report the same specially to the House.

The Bill before the Committee deals with an amendment to a State instrumentality.

Hon. E. H. HARRIS: The employees on the goldfields are working in State instrumentalities.

The CHIEF SECRETARY: That does not make any difference.

Hon. J. M. DREW: While I am in thorough sympathy with the amendment I

direct the Committee's attention to Section 46, Subsection 3, of the Constitution Act, which reads—

Legislative Council may not amend any Bill so as to increase any proposed charge or burden on the people.

I feel certain that under this section Mr. Seddon's amendment is not in order.

Hon. E. H. HARRIS: Do I understand from Mr. Drew that the amendment is not in order because it would be imposing a burden? Getting away from the basic wage and dealing only with the other feature, that of the railway passes, by restoring those passes there would not be any increased burden excepting the burden imposed on the Railway Department in carrying the officials on the trains.

The CHAIRMAN: Perhaps it would be a better plan if Mr. Seddon withdrew the amendment.

Hon. H. SEDDON: Whilst I am rather inclined to contest the contention of the Chief Secretary, it might be advisable to withdraw the amendment for the reason that it must result in increasing the burden. I have attained my objective by having been given another assurance by the Minister that the Government are considering the position of the Government employees on the goldfields. At the same time I ask the Chief Secretary to bear in mind the further request with regard to railway passes which will not involve any increased expenditure.

The CHAIRMAN: I have no desire to avoid giving a ruling, but Mr. Seddon has stated that he has achieved the object he had in view and has asked leave to withdraw the amendment.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Hon. E. H. HARRIS: I should like a ruling as to whether an amendment would be in order to provide for railway passes to be granted to goldfields Government employees since that would not involve any cash consideration.

The CHAIRMAN: At this juncture such an amendment would not be in order. The hon. member can take action on the report stage at the next sitting.

Hon. E. H. HARRIS: I shall not do that because we are skating on thin ice. All the same I hope the Chief Secretary will give due consideration to the matter.

Title—agreed to.

Bill reported with amendments. \*

*Sitting suspended from 5.15 to 5.50 p.m.*

# **BILL—LOAN, £2,176,000.**

## *Second Reading.*

Debate resumed from the previous day.

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY** (Hon. C. F. Baxter—East—in reply) [5.55]: In the discussion on the Bill, Mr. Thomson referred to the Collie irrigation scheme, but the figures he quoted are not quite correct. In the first place the total estimated cost of the scheme is £330,000, not £200,000 as stated by the hon. member. The estimated cost of the reservoir is £137,000; of the diversion weir £5,000; main supply channels £60,000; irrigation channels and works £64,000, and drainage £64,000. The hon. member doubted whether the expenditure would be of material benefit to the State. The Irrigation and Drainage Acts provide that no work shall be put in hand until the Minister has received favourable detailed recommendations from the irrigation commissioners. After exhaustive inquiry by experts, extending over a period of years, the commissioners were able to advise the Government that this particular work and other works which are now in hand would be of benefit to the State, and would be reproductive in the broad sense that a direct return would be made to the treasury, and that the land in the Collie irrigation district would become far more reproductive than could ever be the case without irrigation, and without drains to take away the excess water which spreads over the flats during the winter months. In reference to the Bunbury harbour, the hon. member said he had been listening to the opinions of laymen. Would he be prepared to accept the opinion of an untrained man in a matter like this? If the Government consented to do so, I venture to say that the hon. member would be one of the first to censure their action. As a matter of fact, the late C. Y. O'Connor forecast that the breakwater, as constructed, would not prevent silting, and he advised that ultimately additional work would be necessary. In the light of experience and subsequent investigation, it has now been decided to carry out the additional work outlined in the reports made by the Engineer for Harbours

and Rivers and the Director of Works. The general trend of the hon. member's remarks was that we should close down the harbour of Bunbury against deepwater ships and utilise Albany as the port for the whole of the South-West. By suggesting this, he is advocating centralisation. Yet for many years past I have heard the hon. member express himself in no uncertain language as an advocate for de-centralisation. Surely his suggestion is a departure from such advocacy. Has he considered the fact that it would mean increasing the mileage over which produce would have to be hauled on the railway system, thus causing additional wear and tear of rails and rolling stock, with consequent increased freights and loss of time? One of the main considerations of the Government has been the reduction of all charges possible, in order to enable our produce to be exported and placed on the world's markets at the lowest possible cost, thus placing our exports on a profitable basis.

Hon. G. W. Miles: I think you put a wrong interpretation on Mr. Thomson's views.

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY**: I do not think any other interpretation could have been placed on them.

Hon. G. W. Miles: I think you are wrong.

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY**: How could we do this if the hon. member's suggestions were carried out? Take as an illustration the export of timber: the increase for the last financial year in the export of timber from Bunbury was £118,000 above that of the previous year, and I state emphatically that a very substantial increase in the export of timber would result if further reductions could be made in railage and other charges. That would not be possible if we had to send it to Albany to be shipped.

Hon. G. W. Miles: Large quantities of timber were formerly exported from Albany.

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY**: Of course. That was because there was so much timber country adjacent to Albany, but how could we use Albany now as a port to ship timber from?

Hon. G. W. Miles: Mr. Thomson did not advocate that.

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY**: Excuse me, the hon. member said that the people at Bridgetown, which is right in the centre of the timber area, were asking for a railway line to send their products to Albany.

Hon. E. Rose: How much would the line cost?

The CHIEF SECRETARY: That is beside the question. While on this matter, I would like to say I appreciate Mr. Rose's references to the efforts made by me while on my visit to South Africa to increase the export of our timber. He is quite correct in stating that prior to my advocacy of the use of Western Australian timbers in South African mines, the timbers from other countries were used exclusively for mining purposes, and that, too, notwithstanding the fact that our timbers are far more suitable to their requirements. As a result of that activity a good trade has been built up in this particular line by which this State has benefited. Mr. Thomson also desires the extension of Workers' Homes Board activities to the goldfields. The trouble is that there is such uncertainty with regard to the permanency of a period of prosperity on a goldfield that the board does not feel prepared to recommend approval for loans in goldfields towns. The experience of the board has been that where houses fell vacant or had come into the board's possession it was impossible to sell or arrange a rental except at a most unprofitable figure, and the board's dealings generally have been of such a nature as to render it inadvisable to contemplate the building of additional cottages in goldfields towns.

Mr. Cornell drew attention to the necessity for a water supply for the Noongar-Moorine Rock district. Moorine Rock could be supplied from the goldfields water supply main, but the cost would amount to £88,000 the bulk of which would be required for the purchase of pipes. The present policy of the Government is to expend loan money so that the bulk of it can be paid out as wages. The Government regret the fact that they are unable to provide water supplies for all settlers in the agricultural areas, but at the present juncture cannot see any possibility of arranging the necessary finance. In reference to the hon. member's remarks regarding the survey of the railway line south from Southern Cross to Holleaton, the extension of the survey will be considered, but there does not appear to be any possibility of proceeding with the construction of new lines. There are already a number of lines authorised by Parliament, but for obvious reasons they cannot be proceeded with at present. I admit

the disabilities in connection with the port of Esperance, but at the same time I claim with regret that the progress made within the hinterland served by this port would not justify the Government's expending a large sum of money in providing a harbour when there are so many more urgent works to be considered.

Mr. Fraser took exception to the item "Pine planting, purchase of land and forest regeneration." The amount set out under this heading is £100,000. I can assure him that none of this money is to be spent on the purchase of land. The whole of it is to be expended on unemployment relief works, on which, at the present time, there are about 1,400 men on part time work. About 150 of these men are employed in connection with pine plantation, the main centres of the work being in the Mundaring, Harvey, Ludlow, Kirup, Margaret River and the metropolitan districts, and on land which has all been permanently dedicated, and on which all capital cost in connection with the establishment of nurseries, building houses for resident overseers, etc., has already been incurred. About 1,200 men are employed in connection with jarrah reforestation; the activities they are engaged in being the opening up of lines of access, clearing scraper tracks as a basis for controlled burning operations, thinning and improvement of existing regrowths and the restocking of areas carrying useless and malformed re-growths. This work if continued with will mean the assurance of a permanent saw milling industry, and the volume of timber which it is possible to allow to be cut while adhering to a sustained yield basis will be increased.

About 20 men are employed in the karri forests, a heavy crop of seedlings is expected next summer and it is proposed to treat the best of the forest cut over since 1929, with a view to securing a new crop of seedling karri by natural means. Thirty men are employed in connection with mallet reforestation. This is a name applied to a group of eucalypts occurring along the Great Southern line and to the east, the bark of which is remarkably rich in tannin. Heavy and unrestricted exploitation before the war seriously depleted supplies on accessible country with the result that the trade has languished during recent years, owing to shortage of supplies. There are five resident overseers, each in the centre of extensive areas of otherwise useless Crown

lands, carrying many patches of mallet and other land suitable for sowing. Sowing methods have been studied and tested and the results have been most satisfactory. Despite the low rainfall, 100 per cent. of "sown spots" have germinated and practically 100 per cent. of plants survived the summer. The growth is very rapid, and under plantation methods shows every indication of yielding a useful timber as well as a valuable bark.

Mr. Holmes also drew attention to the item in regard to pine planting and purchase of land. This heading is certainly misleading since, as I explained previously, there is no intention of purchasing any land this year, the whole sum of £100,000 being earmarked for unemployment relief works in connection with forest regeneration and reforestation activities. The hon. member also stated that there was only £3,500 on the Estimates for provision of State batteries and treatment works. I would like to point out that the amount is £6,500 and will be utilised for the purpose of providing renewals to existing mills and a new plant if required. The hon. member also quoted an amount of £20,000 in connection with Fremantle harbour. Although Fremantle harbour operations showed a profit, such profits have always been taken into revenue, and capital expenditure has been provided from loan funds.

Mr. Seddon referred to the provision for short term advances being in excess of the estimated deficit for the current year. This difference is due to the fact that the authority obtained last year was insufficient for the purpose. The amount asked for was £1,250,000, but the actual amount required was £1,558,000, thus leaving a shortage of £308,000, for which additional authority is required. Although the present deficit is above the amount authorised by the Loan Council, it is not anticipated that an application for additional funds will be necessary, as the receipts from the financial emergency tax have not yet commenced to come in and assessments under the land and income tax are only just being issued. In regard to the sinking fund provision under the Financial Agreement Act, action dealing with the funding of deficits will come into operation when a loan is raised for that purpose. The provisions of the Act are not being ignored, but at present only short term bills are being issued and ultimately these will be covered by a long term loan. All States are in

exactly the same position and the matter is entirely in the hands of the Loan Council.

The £8,000,000 loan referred to was partly for redeeming Treasury bills and partly for new works. The proportion of the bills so redeemed which represent advances to meet deficits will be a matter for the Loan Council to decide, and I can assure the hon. member that the point has not been overlooked. The provisions in our own Acts regarding this matter are over-ridden by the Financial Agreement Act. The expenditure of loan money has been greatly reduced during the last two years. It cannot be dispensed with altogether, for there are certain necessary works such as water supplies and railway construction which cannot be financed from revenue. Members must recognise that numbers of men who were previously engaged on loan works have lost their employment and private enterprise is utterly unable to absorb them. Therefore the Government are morally bound to do something to relieve the position. It is impossible to do so wholly from taxation, which has now reached a point where it commences to stifle industry and fails to produce revenue. Therefore the only way out is for the Government to employ those men, as far as possible, on reproductive works. Australia is not the only place that is faced with these conditions, for the trouble is world wide and will remain so until markets settle and production is once more established on a profitable basis.

Water supplies and sewerage work must be carried on in the metropolitan area to cope with the growing demand. The hon. member also referred to the forestry expenditure. There is no possible doubt that this work was necessary and will ultimately be reproductive. Prior to the passing of the Forests Act there was no power to control the falling of timber and the clearing away of debris. The result was that fierce bush fires so damaged growing timber that the percentage of marketable timber was substantially reduced. The opportunity is now being taken to clear up the forests in order to give young growth a chance and to cut fire breaks and so minimise the chance of fires causing wholesale destruction.

It is necessary continually to increase the accommodation at the Fremantle Harbour, and will be so for many years to come. This is capital expenditure and increased accom-

modation will mean increased revenue, so it is a legitimate charge to Loan funds. In reference to reappropriation I would like to point out that when a work is contemplated the amount necessary to carry it out is estimated and provision is made for that amount in a Loan Bill. In some cases the actual expenditure does not amount to the sum authorised, and parliamentary approval is then sought for the transfer of this amount to some other work. Surely the hon. member would not wish to see it lying idle when we are in need of it for other urgent works. The item shown against the Kulja railway was of this nature: the remaining items are due to a change of procedure brought about by the transfer of railway construction from the Public Works Department to the Railway Department. Under the Works Department funds were raised separately for construction, rails and fastenings, water supply and resumption; under the railway system the whole cost is charged at once to construction. The balances left under those authorities are therefore being transferred.

With regard to the figures quoted on Table 11, I have explained before that it is not possible to reconcile those figures, for the simple reason that the amounts vary from year to year from varying causes. Each year the total Loan expenditure is increased by the amount of the Loan money expended during that year, and the total is then credited with the amount of sinking fund payments made during the year, with the result that the figures shown are the net totals; but if the hon. member will refer to table No. 7, he will find that the total agrees with the total shown in Table 11. In conclusion I would like to say that I was very sorry to hear certain members express their intention to oppose the Bill. Surely they must realise the serious consequences of the rejection of a Loan Bill. I ask them to consider that in this Bill there is included an amount of £500,000 for agricultural water supplies; an amount of £90,000 for the reconditioning of the goldfields water main; £23,000 for the development of mining and erection of State batteries; £25,000 for water supply for country towns, in addition to other smaller items that affect the industries of the State, matters of vital importance and that must be carried on. There is also the question of providing employment.

I draw members' attention to the fact that, with the exception of a very small portion, the whole of this amount will be expended within the State. Those members who intend to oppose the Bill are really opposing the continuance of all these services, and their attitude means that money must not be found to carry on the vital industries and works of the State. As far as certain members are concerned the goldfields water main can collapse and thereby cut off the water supply to the goldfields and agricultural areas.

Hon. G. W. Miles: That is intimidation.

The CHIEF SECRETARY: There will be no assistance to mining or State batteries. Members must realise that they are taking a serious and retrograde step, and I sincerely hope that they will consider the danger that such a step would create. To cut off the service of the Loan Bill would mean cutting off service to those various works and industries. I do not know how the goldfields water supply could continue any longer without the repairs now being effected.

Question put and a division taken with the following result:—

Ayes	..	..	..	..	16
Noes	..	..	..	..	4
					—
Majority for	..	..	..	..	12
					—

#### AYES.

Hon. C. F. Baxter	Hon. J. M. Macfarlane
Hon. L. B. Bolton	Hon. R. G. Moore
Hon. J. Cornell	Hon. Sir C. Nathan
Hon. J. M. Drew	Hon. J. Nicholson
Hon. J. T. Franklyn	Hon. H. V. Piesse
Hon. G. Fraser	Hon. E. Rose
Hon. E. H. Gray	Hon. H. J. Yelland
Hon. W. H. Kitson	Hon. T. Moore

(Teller.)

#### NOES.

Hon. V. Hamersley	Hon. G. W. Miles
Hon. J. J. Holmes	Hon. H. Seddon

(Teller.)

Question thus passed.

Bill read a second time.

*Sitting suspended from 6.24 to 7.30 p.m.*

#### *In Committee.*

Hon. J. Cornell in the Chair: the Chief Secretary in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 to 6—agreed to.

First Schedule:

Hon. G. W. MILES: Under "Development of Agriculture" appears an item "Pine Planting—purchase of land, forests

regeneration, £100,000." In the past the Government have taken money from forests revenue and paid it into general revenue, and now they wish to borrow money to finance work that should be financed out of general revenue. For two years we gave way on the question of sandalwood royalties, and now we are asked to adopt the pernicious principle of borrowing to finance pine planting and forest regeneration. That system of financing is wrong. If the Bill be passed, it will mean an additional burden of £5 per head. The burden in the last three years has been increased by £18 16s. per head. To indicate my opposition to this continual borrowing, I move an amendment—

That "£100,000" be struck out and "£95,000" inserted in lieu.

The CHIEF SECRETARY: I hope the amendment will not be agreed to. The £100,000 includes £80,000 for the current year and £20,000 with which to carry on until another Loan Bill be passed, which would be about this time next year. If any reduction is made, it will upset the Government's programme. The money is to be spent on productive work. The State cannot continue to denude its forests without making provision for the future. Too long has that policy been adopted, and that has been recognised by making provision out of sandalwood royalties and in other ways to carry on the forestry policy.

Hon. G. W. Miles: How much of the amount will be used for the purchase of land?

The CHIEF SECRETARY: I assure the Committee that not a penny will be used for the purchase of land, for the simple reason that we have all the land we need. The words "purchase of land" have been retained following the usual practice.

Hon. G. FRASER: I cannot support the amendment to reduce the item. If it were carried, I suppose it would produce a political sensation.

Hon. G. W. Miles: That is what we want.

Hon. G. FRASER: Then probably we would find opponents rushing to the rescue of the Government. The amendment is too drastic. If the hon. member moved to delete the words "purchase of land," I would support him. The item permits of the employment of many young men who otherwise would be out of work.

Hon. H. SEDDON: This Bill will simply authorise the Government to raise money. They have already in hand authorisations amounting to £1,800,000, so that a reduction of the authorisation by £5,000 would still leave them a balance to reappropriate, as they are reappropriating other moneys under the second schedule. As a matter of principle, I intend to support the amendment, because it is unsound that money derived from sandalwood royalties should be taken into revenue and then that money should be borrowed for reforestation work.

Hon. J. M. DREW: I do not agree with Mr. Seddon. If there is one thing more than another on which loan money can be wisely expended, it is on pine plantations. Pine planting has advanced beyond the experimental stage and there is every reason to believe it will be successful. If it will be successful, the Government are justified in using loan money to finance it. The present generation will derive no benefit from the pine planting authorised by this measure; future generations will gain, and they should bear portion of the burden. I commend the Government for utilising loan money for the purpose. Had they provided £50,000 on revenue estimates for the purpose, I would have opposed it strongly.

The CHAIRMAN: Clause 2 agreed to by the Committee authorises the Government to borrow £2,176,000. The first schedule merely apportions the amount. The authority to borrow the full amount would remain if the amendment were passed.

Hon. G. W. Miles: We could recommit the Bill and alter that.

Hon. Sir EDWARD WITTENOOM: I support the amendment. Had I been present before tea, I would have opposed the Bill. We owe £80,000,000, and this is not the time to borrow more money. Including municipal loans, the amount of money owing by the State must be enormous, considering the small population.

Hon. J. M. MACFARLANE: I oppose the amendment. An hour and a half ago a division was taken which showed a majority in support of the Government's policy indicated by the Loan Bill. It was sufficient to demonstrate that members desired the Government to proceed on the lines indicated in the Bill. Therefore it is waste of time to take another vote on what amounts to the same question. I am in accord with



the proposal to use sandalwood royalties for reforestation work. All attempts to reforest sandalwood have failed, but it is good policy to plant pines and native timber. If the money cannot be used for sandalwood, it should be used for other reforestation work.

Hon. H. Seddon: The sandalwood royalties are taken into Consolidated Revenue.

The CHAIRMAN: The question before the Chair is the amendment moved by Mr. Miles.

Hon. J. M. MACFARLANE: The amendment impresses me as being merely a continuance of the previous opposition to the Bill.

Hon. G. FRASER: Mr. Miles was rather unfortunate in selecting this particular item for his amendment. Posterity will gain from the expenditure and I agree with Mr. Drew that as posterity will benefit, they should be prepared to take some share of the burden.

Hon. G. W. MILES: There may be some argument for the expenditure from the standpoint of posterity, but I wish to enter a protest against the continuance of the borrowing policy. I would just as soon have £5,000 taken off the vote for the Fremantle Harbour Trust because the Government take the revenue from the harbour into Consolidated Revenue, and borrow for new works. I missed my opportunity of speaking at the second reading stage—

The Chief Secretary: I wish you would take your opportunity when available.

Hon. G. W. MILES: Yes, but I will have an opportunity on the Appropriation Bill to deal further with this matter. I shall quote a few extracts from the report of the Auditor General, in case members have not had the opportunity to peruse that document. I hope the Committee will support me as a protest against the Government continuing to borrow money. It must stop, and we should give them an indication of our opposition to the continuance of that policy.

Amendment put and a division taken with the following result—

Ayes	..	..	..	4
Noes	..	..	..	10

Majority against .. .. 6

AYES

Hon. G. W. Miles  
Hon. H. Seddon

Hon. Sir E. Wittenoom  
Hon. V. Hamerley  
(Teller.)

NOES.

Hon. C. F. Baxter	Hon. G. W. Miles
Hon. L. B. Bolton	Hon. R. G. Moore
Hon. J. Ewing	Hon. H. V. Piesse
Hon. G. Fraser	Hon. E. Rose
Hon. J. M. Macfarlane	Hon. J. T. Franklin (Teller.)

Amendment thus negatived.

Schedule put and passed.

Second and Third Schedules, Preamble, Title—agreed to.

Bill reported without amendment, and the report adopted.

## BILL—WHEAT POOL.

*Third Reading.*

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY** (Hon. C. F. Baxter—East) [7.51] in moving the third reading said: The third reading of the Bill was delayed owing to some doubts that were raised regarding Clause 15. Two or three members were concerned. After going thoroughly into the matter, those members who approached me, were thoroughly satisfied that it is all right. I move—

That the Bill be now read a third time.

**HON. G. W. MILES** (North) [7.52]: Is the Minister sure that the members he referred to are really satisfied?

The Chief Secretary: Yes.

Hon. G. W. MILES: I would like to know something more about it. Therefore I propose to move to recommit the Bill for the purpose of further considering Clause 15.

The PRESIDENT: I draw the hon. member's attention to a new Standing Order, the effect of which is that if a member desires to move for the recommitment of a Bill, he must give notice of his intention and set out the amendments he desires to move. If the hon. member wishes to have the Bill re-committed, his better course will be to move the adjournment of the debate and then to give the necessary notice.

Hon. G. W. MILES: I will adopt that course, and move—

That the debate be adjourned.

Motion put and passed.

*Sitting suspended from 7.25 to 8.25 p.m.*

*House adjourned at 8.25 p.m.*