

words he has indicated, and it is later desired to include poultry farmers, bee farmers, or others, it could not be done. We should retain the provision enabling the Government to extend the operation of the Bill to industries, as may be required.

Hon. W. D. JOHNSON: Since speaking on this matter, I have secured a copy of the Commonwealth legislation, and it is definite and distinct. It does not leave these matters to the discretion of a Government. It prescribes how the money shall be distributed. Why does the Minister look for trouble? Why does he not adopt the Commonwealth direction? If he were to do that, he could later say, "This is how the Commonwealth Act declares the money must be distributed; it is not what I would like to do." If he were to do that, he would not have to shoulder the responsibility with regard to any limitation. The responsibility would rest with the Commonwealth.

The Minister for Lands: Why not leave the clause as it is?

Hon. W. D. JOHNSON: No one knows to what it may apply. The Commonwealth Act provides a definite limitation. Against that we would have no argument; it would merely be a matter of direction under the Commonwealth law. The Bill contains an invitation to persons to make application because the State will have the right to add to the list in order to meet any circumstances that may arise.

The Minister for Lands: What could arise?

Hon. W. D. JOHNSON: I do not know, but why extend that invitation. The State should not be asked to carry that responsibility. I claim that where there is a definite direction from the Commonwealth in this regard, we should accept that direction and embody the provision in our Bill, leaving the Commonwealth to accept full responsibility.

Progress reported.

*House adjourned at 6.15 p.m.*

## Legislative Council,

*Tuesday, 10th September, 1935.*

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

### MOTION—MINES REGULATION ACT.

#### *To Disallow Regulation.*

Debate resumed from the 4th September, on the following motion moved by Hon. J. Nicholson:—

That Regulation No. 17a made under "The Mines Regulation Act, 1906," as published in the "Government Gazette" on 8th March, 1935, and laid on the Table of the House on 6th August, 1935, be and is hereby disallowed.

HON. C. H. WITTENOOM (South-East) {4.34}: The motion before us is by no means an easy one for members to discuss, because so few of us are familiar with underground mining. We know, however, that at times the lives of the miners depend on the experience and efficiency of the supervisors, and so members should give very careful consideration to the motion before voting on it. Mining work is admittedly very dangerous work unless the utmost precautions are taken both below and above ground. Only last week we were informed by Mr. Williams of the large number of accidents that have occurred on the Golden Mile and in Western Australia generally, and more particularly during the last few years. I have been trying to obtain some information as to where these accidents have occurred in the mines, whether in the shafts, on account of winding ropes breaking, or cages or skips getting away, or whether the accidents have been due to premature explosions through defective electric firing or defective fuses, or whether

they have occurred through falls of earth. It appears that most of the accidents have occurred through falls of earth. This means that they may have been due to lack of knowledge or carelessness on the part of some of the supervisors. However, on making further inquiries I was told that it is very difficult indeed to sheet home negligence or lack of knowledge to supervisors. Apparently these accidents occur more or less through negligence on the part of the miners themselves; it seems that familiarity has bred contempt and, in consequence, the miners are not as careful as they ought to be. One member speaking last week referred to "brats." I take it he meant men who have been put into these positions without very much knowledge; perhaps young men, inexperienced, or men who have got into the position through being friends of the manager or other officials, but certainly men who should never have got those places. However, cases like that, I should think, are very rare indeed, for I cannot imagine that any self-respecting manager or underground manager would risk fatalities in the mine for which he was responsible. Apart from all other considerations, no self-respecting manager would risk the expense of legal actions. Moreover, both the mine manager and the underground manager have their reputations to maintain, and it would not be to their benefit if accidents were to occur in the mine. Naturally, in making an appointment underground, they would look about for the best man available, one who would be capable of controlling other men and who would have a good sound knowledge of underground working, ventilation, dust and things of that sort. Such a man, of course, would have to be responsible for putting the miners and the contractors in their working places, and would have to see that those working places were safe. But contractors and miners nearly always know whether or not a working place is safe; probably they know more about it than do the supervisors. Sometimes, of course, new miners are put in, men not experienced in the particular working place, and then additional responsibility falls on the shoulders of the supervisor. For a supervisor to acquire the necessary knowledge and experience to fit him for his post, a fair time is necessary. Generally speaking, the time mentioned by one member last week, two

years, is far too short, but on the other hand probably five years is too long a period. There are some men who, perhaps, would gain all the necessary experience and knowledge in two years, while on the other hand there are men who find a lifelong experience too short for the purpose, although they might be quite capable of passing the theoretical examination. Personally, I do not like the idea of an examination, for it does not mean that the best men are appointed to the job. I think the appointees should be selected by the underground manager, as has been done until recently. It is the custom all over the world, except in Western Australia, to leave the selection of the supervisors to the manager or the underground manager. The School of Mines has been mentioned in the course of the debate, but I do not think men from that institution come much into account. When a man attends the School of Mines his ambition is, not to be a shift boss, but to be assistant manager, and finally manager. To fit himself for those positions, he generally goes through his training as assayer, surveyor, or perhaps metallurgist. I certainly do not think he would expect to reach the top position through the position of shift boss. Apparently the regulation cannot be amended; we have either to pass it or disallow it. I hope members will vote for its disallowance, in which event an amended regulation can be framed. I will support the motion.

On motion by Hon. H. Seddon, debate adjourned.

## **BILL—TRUSTEES POWERS AMENDMENT.**

### *Second Reading.*

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY** (Hon. J. M. Drew—Central) [4.45] in moving the second reading said: The purpose of this Bill is to amend the Trustees Act so as to give trustees effective powers of agreeing to compositions and schemes of arrangement which would have the effect of varying their rights as trustees in cases where farmers desire to take advantage of the provisions of the Farmers' Debts Adjustment Act. The original Trustees Act was passed in 1931. It was part of the emergency legislation. That Act conferred certain discretionary powers on trustees. For instance, they were empowered to accept a

lower rate of interest in cases where emergency legislation reduced interest rates, and they were given power to apportion trust moneys as between capital fund and income fund—a very necessary provision where one has to decide whether certain moneys belong to capital or to income. Trustees were not, however, empowered to write off debts or to agree to compositions in cases where, obviously, a portion of the debt had been lost. Nevertheless many trustees are accepting the risk and are accepting, in satisfaction of debts owing to them on behalf of beneficiaries, less than the sum involved because they know full well that, if they do not accept what is offered, they will possibly lose the whole of the debt.

Hon. J. Cornell: This does not affect the trustees under the Commonwealth bankruptcy law.

The CHIEF SECRETARY: It is considered necessary that some statutory protection be given in regard to deserving cases, but the matter is an important one and must be considered very carefully. This measure is conservative. It does not provide that a trustee may on any occasion agree to a writing down of a debt which is due to an estate in his charge; but restricts his powers in that regard to cases where the general body of creditors of a farmer have agreed that a writing down of debts should take place. This will be some safeguard on the trustees. The power of agreeing to a writing down is an important one to give trustees, but, under existing circumstances, it is vitally necessary. It would be useless in practice to lay down a condition that the trustees should go to a court for permission, as this would entail heavy and useless expense. In some cases it would be well nigh impossible to get any satisfaction owing to the fact that beneficiaries are resident in different parts of the world, and, therefore, it has been decided to restrict trustees' powers of writing down debts to cases of voluntary arrangements under the Farmers' Debts Adjustment Act. Members will notice that the amendment will apply "notwithstanding the provisions of Section 6 of the existing Act." In this case Section 6 of the existing Act precludes trustees from varying the terms of leases and mortgages where the trust deed expressly for-

bids them to do so; but, of course, it must be made clear that such a provision cannot apply to the present case of writing down, etc., under the Farmers' Debts Adjustment Act. If it did, in many cases trustees would find themselves stultified and would be unable to do anything. Therefore, it is advisable to make the necessary enabling amendment in order to give full effect to the intentions of the Farmers' Debts Adjustment Act. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

### **BILL—NORTHERN AUSTRALIA SURVEY AGREEMENT.**

#### *Second Reading.*

Debate resumed from the 4th September.

HON. G. W. MILES (North) [4.50]: I am glad the Government have brought down this Bill. It is also a good thing that the Commonwealth are finding half the money with which to carry out the work. I was interested to hear the Chief Secretary's version of aerial surveys, and his explanation of the good that an aerial survey does on behalf of the geologist on the ground. His remarks about the geophysical portion of the work were most interesting. The Bill will give the North an opportunity to get some population. It may be of interest to members to know that at Tennant's Creek, in Central Australia, some 700 or 800 men are mining to-day, and others are developing shows at Pine Creek. In this State the first gold was discovered in the Kimberleys in 1884, and then in the Pilbara district in 1886. About a thousand men were at Nullagine years before Coolgardie was discovered. After Pilbara came the Ashburton and Murchison gold discoveries, and Southern Cross came in between. Southern opinion for years has been that in the northern areas that nothing lived at depth. That is an erroneous idea. In the early 'nineties, English companies and prospectors were working areas in the North, but when they came to a fault, they had not sufficient capital with which to carry on, and the shows were abandoned. One show in particular had gone down 75 feet. It was abandoned for

several years, when a couple of young Englishmen took over the property and developed it. They have made £2,000 a year each for the last 25 years, and last year they netted £10,000 out of the same property, their best return coming from the 300 ft. level. This shows that the reefs in the North do live down, as do those in the southern portions of the State. On the occasion of a recent visit to the Golden Mile I was shown at the Lake View office a glass model of the workings of the mine. I understand there is a replica of this in London. By means of that model one can look through the whole mine, see the main shaft down to 3,000 feet, the different levels being worked, and the ore channels are shown, those that are worked out in one colour, and the ore reserves in another colour. There are three distinct faults in that mine. The boring now costs only £1 per foot, very much cheaper than in the old days. In the North, 30 years ago, if the mine operators came to a fault it cost them from £4 to £5 a foot, according to the nature of the ground, to put in a cross-cut to find where the fault was. There was only a limited amount of capital in those days, and many shows were abandoned. I have not been to Wiluna, but I am told there is a model there of the mine workings similar to that at the Lake View. In that case, too, there is a replica in the London office, so that the company's directors and shareholders can see what is happening on the mine, practically as well as men on the spot.

Hon. J. M. Macfarlane: That throws some light on the regulations under the Mines Regulation Act. It indicates that mine managers as well as underground managers have a more thorough knowledge of mining than some members have led us to believe.

Hon. G. W. MILES: Before I went north I had some practical experience of mining. I was always more satisfied to work with a practical miner, who had a knowledge of underground workings, than with a man who had only had a brief experience. There is a good deal to be said for the regulations we have just been discussing.

The PRESIDENT: The hon. member might leave that subject for the present.

Hon. G. W. MILES: The regulation would apply to the North as well. I am

told there are also three distinct breaks in the Wiluna mine. After seeing what is happening Kalgoorlie, I am more than ever convinced that in the goldmining areas which extend from Ravensthorpe to the Kimberleys, we have only as yet touched the surface. It is a splendid thing that the Government are carrying out this survey work. I saw the geological survey party at work at Bamboo Creek. What they are doing there should be of great assistance to miners in the district. While they are in the Pilbara district, I hope they will make an examination, not only of the places mentioned by the Chief Secretary, Bamboo Creek, Nullagine and McPhees, but Yandicoogina, Eastern Creek, Warrawoona, Talga, Sharks, Western Shaw, Station Peak, Weeriana, Ashburton, and Bangemall. Some time ago I asked a question whether the Government would take steps to see that a survey was made of the Ashburton and Gascoyne mineral belts. Whilst the party is in its present area, it would be just as well for a geological survey to be made of the Ashburton and Gascoyne districts. Many places there should carry hundreds of men. This is one of the most important things that has occurred in connection with the development of the North. I cannot understand why in another place some opposition was raised to the Bill by a member of the Opposition.

Hon. J. Cornell: And by a Government supporter.

Hon. G. W. MILES: The Government supporter ought to have known better, and the Leader of the Opposition should also have known better. One member asked, by interjection in this House, where the Government were going to find the money. They have only to find £37,500, and that will be profitably spent, if the job is well done. I hear that the aerial survey party, after taking the photographs, fly to Queensland to have them developed.

Hon. J. Cornell: Perhaps there is better light there.

Hon. G. W. MILES: Or better water. Surely it would be cheaper to send the films to Perth. There is an aerial service every week to Perth, and the photographs could be developed here and the planes could be kept on the job. We are living in an age of speed. It is said that it takes only two days to get to Queensland. That time, how-

ever, could be better spent in carrying out the work the planes are employed to do. I have had that information given me and I have every reason to believe that it is correct. My remarks apply not only to Pilbara, but to all the goldfields areas in the North right up to the Kimberleys, and from what I saw on the occasion of my last tour through that country, I am more than ever convinced that that part of the State can carry thousands of men all producing mineral wealth. Areas that could not be looked at in the past, it is now possible to work because of the increased price of gold. In the old days it was only possible to carry on operations where there were rich shoots, and the lower grade ore was left. Some of the dumps have panned off 5 dwts. to the ton and if these were treated now, together with the rich veins that are known to exist in those parts, quite a number of men could find employment. There are dozens of centres in the North-West where operations could be carried on profitably. I support the second reading of the Bill and I hope it will be carried.

**HON. E. H. ANGELO** (North) [5.3]: It gives me much pleasure to support the second reading of the Bill. Speaking in this House on the Supply Bill a few weeks ago I took the opportunity of again drawing attention to the grave danger that exists in the empty North, especially the Kimberley portion. Since then we have seen references in the Press from several nations regarding Australia and its empty North. Undoubtedly those nations are looking with envious eyes towards our empty spaces. The Bill suggests a method of populating those areas, the result of which might have a far-reaching effect. The proposed survey need only to assist to make one discovery which might alter completely the position of the empty North, and that would mean the safeguarding of Australia for the Australian people. I hope that any discoveries that may be made will be made known to Western Australia as soon as they are disclosed to the rest of the Commonwealth. It very often happens that Western Australia is interested in something in common with other parts of Australia, but the other parts of Australia invariably get the information before we do. I trust the Government will see that any information that is disclosed as the result of the proposed survey will be made public in Western Australia as soon

as the news is revealed elsewhere. I support the second reading of the Bill.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

*In Committee, etc.*

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

#### **BILLS (4)—FIRST READING.**

1, Brands Act Amendment.

2, Droving Act Amendment.

3, Judges' Retirement.

4, Tenants, Purchasers, and Mortgagors' Relief Act Amendment.

Received from the Assembly.

#### **BILL—FACTORIES AND SHOPS ACT AMENDMENT.**

*Second Reading.*

Debate resumed from the 5th September.

**HON. H. J. YELLAND** (East) [5.13]: I am opposed to the provisions of the Bill and it is my intention to record my vote against it. In making that statement it is essential that I should offer some explanation. What have been described as backyard factories were established. I think, largely because a number of our artisans lost their employment. Those people felt that they should do something for themselves and in that way endeavour to earn sufficient to enable them to carry on.

Hon. L. B. Bolton: The same old cry.

Hon. H. J. YELLAND: It may be, but it is nevertheless a fact. I prefer to see those men encouraged rather than discouraged as the Bill proposes to do. I know a young artisan—his business was cabinet-making—who, having lost his employment, endeavoured without success to get work in other factories. Unfortunately the depression was making itself felt and a number of factories closed down. Then he set out to make articles of furniture or effect repairs. He has made quite a good job of this, and if the Bill be passed his little place of business will be classed as a factory.

The Honorary Minister: What harm would that do?

Hon. H. J. YELLAND: I do not know that it would do him very much good. He would be unable to devote his own time to the work as he desired, and we would be interfering with him in his effort to get on his feet. The same may be said of quite a number of classes of employment. I suggest that if we impose any restrictions upon such people, we shall not be acting in the best interests of those who are striving to become really good citizens, and who, if given an opportunity, may develop into some of the largest manufacturers in the State. Most men have to make a humble start in life and be content to develop their businesses, and we have no right to place restrictions upon their efforts. On the other hand, I can sympathise with any man or body of men endeavouring to improve their conditions provided that the improvement is not made at the expense of others. The same can be said of employers. If they are working under difficulties that prevent them from competing, they are quite justified in asking for opportunities to compete on a fair basis. But when we find, as in this instance, the employers and unions co-operating, we must wonder whether, in the words of Mr. Holmes, there has not been an unholy alliance whereby they are out to get an undue advantage over the unsuspecting public.

Hon. G. Fraser: That shows how serious the position must be.

Hon. H. J. YELLAND: If it were a question of a levelling down of conditions, it would be quite a different matter, but it appears that employers and employees have put their heads together to gain an advantage for which the general public will have to pay. If these conditions are granted to employers and employees to give them an opportunity to exploit the public, the public will certainly have to foot the bill. There will of necessity be an increase in the cost of manufacturing, and that will mean increased charges to the public. This, in turn, will give an undue advantage to one section of the community. The greatest objection I see is the possibility of creating a monopoly.

Hon. L. B. Bolton: In what direction?

Hon. H. J. YELLAND: In any direction. Take the hon. member's business. If any man were prevented from starting in opposition to him, the hon. member would be given a monopoly.

Hon. L. B. Bolton: I do not want a monopoly, but I want the other man to compete on the same basis.

Hon. H. J. YELLAND: Why should not a man use his own time?

Hon. T. Moore: The hon. member cannot have read the Bill.

Hon. H. J. YELLAND: The measure will have the effect of repressing individual effort.

Hon. L. B. Bolton: You have not read the Bill, because it will not have that effect.

Hon. H. J. YELLAND: I have read the Bill, and I know perfectly well what the effect will be. It will repress individual effort, and it is not within our rights to pass legislation that will have that effect.

**HON. W. J. MANN** (South-West) [5.21]: We had a similar Bill before us 12 months ago. On that occasion I expressed my disapproval of it and voted against it. In the interim I have heard no very great outcry, and I have not read of any big manufacturer having gone into the Bankruptcy Court. As a matter of fact the business of most large manufacturers has increased and they are doing better than they were 12 months ago; this despite the great menace that some people would have us believe that the backyard factory is at present or is likely to be. For the life of me I cannot see how a large manufacturer, if he is at all wide-awake, can be very vitally affected by those small people. Take the industry about which I know something. Two or three years ago many men were thrown out of work owing to the depression. It was impossible for them to get work in the State and they could not go to other States because a similar position obtained there. What did they do? Instead of going on the dole, they bought a few cases of type and a small machine, secured a few orders, and maintained themselves and their families. Some of those small businesses have grown to the point where power has been installed. To tell me that a man operating in a small way like that could have any effect on a large concern such as that with which I am associated is moonshine. In the one instance the man has a small machine, capable of doing only small work. It is operated mainly by man-power or by an engine of small power, and probably he is able to print 1,000 copies an hour.

The Honorary Minister: The Bill will not affect a man like that.

Hon. W. J. MANN: I am aware of that. In the case of the large concern, we have a machine running off 5,000 copies an hour. The small man would be able to carry on under this measure provided some inspector permitted him to do so. It is to the inspections that I have most objection. I have had experience of such inspections. It seems to me that this State is heading to the point when it will be controlled by inspectors. We are asked to approve of boards for this, that and the other thing, and to have inspectors here, there and everywhere. If we are going to continue along those lines we might as well give over the control of every industry to inspectors. Those members who are advocating the Bill will have to put up a much better case than they have done to convince me that they are on the right track. I propose to vote against the second reading of the Bill, as I did last year. The questions of hygiene, sanitation and safety can well be left to the Health Department, whose inspectors should control hygiene and sanitation on factory premises. With such inspectors carrying on their work, there is nothing to be said for the Bill.

On motion by the Honorary Minister, debate adjourned.

## **BILL—INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION ACT AMENDMENT.**

*In Committee.*

Hon. J. Cornell in the Chair: the Honorary Minister in charge of the Bill.

Clause 1—Agreed to.

Clause 2—Amendment of Section 6 of the principal Act:

Hon. C. F. BAXTER: The Bill will not clarify the position as is necessary, and I wish to aid the Minister to that end. Paragraph (c) provides that when a validating order is made, all awards, judgments, orders or decisions of the court shall be validated. This means that if a union that has lost registration now has as members workers who could more conveniently belong to other organisations, it will be entitled to retain them, and paragraph (c) will probably be accepted by the

President as a direction to that effect. I move an amendment—

That after "section" in line 4 of paragraph (c) the words "then to the extent only of the matters so validated" be inserted.

The engineers' awards covered fitters, turners, electrical engineers and others. As a matter of fact it extended to labourers, and not far back an attempt was made to include plumbers. Anything of that kind should be avoided. Surely labourers and plumbers should belong to their own unions!

Hon. E. H. Gray: A fitter's labourer is a special job requiring special qualifications.

Hon. C. F. BAXTER: It is highly necessary to safeguard the position, and my amendment will have that effect.

The HONORARY MINISTER: I fear I cannot accept the amendment, the net result of which would be to make the position worse than it is now, according to Mr. Baxter's own argument. The Bill sets out to validate the registration of numerous organisations which for years past have assumed that all things connected with their registration are in order. Mr. Baxter should not assume that some of the organisations include members who, under a recent decision of the Arbitration Court, are not really eligible for inclusion in those organisations. The hon. member's remarks regarding fitters' labourers show that he has only a poor knowledge of the subject. If he has been advised to the effect of his statements, he has been badly advised. Every award of the Arbitration Court dealing with engineers deals also with engineers' labourers, who generally are granted a margin for skill of 1s. per day. The carrying of the amendment would make confusion worse confounded. Some of the organisations affected have been registered for 15 or 20 years, and now the hon. member wishes the Committee to declare that their registrations are wrong, and require validation in various, possibly numerous, respects.

Hon. J. NICHOLSON: The Honorary Minister takes rather an extreme view of the amendment, which can only be construed as intended to clarify the provision in the Bill. It would not have the effect indicated by the Honorary Minister.

The Honorary Minister: My view is based on Mr. Baxter's argument.

Hon. J. NICHOLSON: The effect of the amendment would be to enable the President of the Arbitration Court to say, for instance, "In view of the registration granted unwittingly by the registrar including members of such-and-such other union, I will only authorise registration and validation to such-and-such an extent." The amendment makes the position better from the President's point of view. I hope the amendment will be carried.

Hon. C. F. BAXTER: If the President validates only a portion of the constitution, what will be the position, in the absence of my amendment, with regard to members outside the constitution? Will they have to be included in other awards?

The HONORARY MINISTER: The carrying of the amendment will mean that a union must apply for validation of its registration in certain respects.

Hon. H. S. W. Parker: Or in toto.

The HONORARY MINISTER: It will be necessary for every organisation applying for validation to apply for the validation of particular points, and not of the whole constitution; otherwise there is no force in the amendment. Suppose, for the sake of argument, that the Arbitration Court granted the validation in respect of a particular point and the union next week went into the court for an award, and suppose further that then some small point of the constitution was found not to have been validated by the court. Thereupon the employers' representative would have the right to object to the proceedings on the ground that the constitution was not valid, whereupon the union would have to go through the whole process again; and arguments of that kind might be carried on month after month. Every organisation has from time to time amended its rules; some organisations have made many such amendments. Mr. Baxter's proposal means that all those alterations would have to be examined by the union to ascertain whether any one of them contains anything questionable, and if something questionable was discovered the Arbitration Court would have to be approached for validation; otherwise the employers' representative could object. His objection might relate to an unimportant alteration that had existed for years.

Hon. H. S. W. PARKER: I understand that proposed Section 6A of the Bill provides that any union may apply for valida-

tion of registration, which automatically includes validation of amended rules. Some of the amended rules the President of the Arbitration Court might like to allow, and to others he might say no. Under the amendment he would then validate the registration while disallowing some amended rules. If he allowed validation in toto, he would also be allowing validation of the rules in toto. The amendment authorises the President to validate registration while disallowing some of the rules. I would be inclined to vote for the amendment on that understanding. I do not agree with the Honorary Minister that it would cause confusion. It seems to me that when the President is asked to validate the registration, he must automatically go through the rules if someone points out that something is wrong. Unless his attention is directed to something of that nature, the registration would go through and would automatically cover the altered rules as well.

The HONORARY MINISTER: I am afraid I cannot accept that interpretation. If agreed to, the amendment would mean that every award or decision of the court would be affected, and consequently it would be open, should anyone know of a small matter regarding which the formalities had not been fully complied with, to direct the attention of the court to the deficiency, and the registration would be invalidated.

Hon. J. Nicholson: I do not think so.

The HONORARY MINISTER: That is the advice tendered to me, and that is the position as I understand it.

Hon. H. S. W. Parker: If, for the sake of argument, a union were to alter its rules to admit plumbers, the President might agree to register the rules but would exclude the plumbers.

The HONORARY MINISTER: That position is hardly likely to arise.

Hon. L. Craig: But that happened the other day when the engineers' union wanted to bring in radio workers.

The HONORARY MINISTER: That is a different matter altogether.

Hon. J. M. Macfarlane: It is not in the same category.

The HONORARY MINISTER: If a union desires to extend the scope of the organisation by admitting other workers, certain steps have to be taken, notice has to be given to parties interested, and the court has to receive any objections that may be lodged to the application. In this instance,



we are dealing with registrations that have been in existence for years.

Hon. L. Craig: All of them?

The HONORARY MINISTER: Yes. The Bill will lay down the procedure to be adopted. The object is to avoid a situation such as arose a few months ago.

Hon. H. S. W. Parker: If a union were to make application for validation of registration, the amendments to rules would go through automatically unless any objection were taken by an interested party, in which event the court would have to go through the rules.

The HONORARY MINISTER: In 90 per cent. of instances, there is not likely to be any argument regarding the registration, but if Mr. Baxter's amendment be agreed to, there may be opportunities for the lodging of objections, and it may lead to a lot of useless work, for which there should be no necessity. I believe members desire to be helpful, but I cannot accept the amendment.

Hon. C. F. BAXTER: My object is to clarify the position. Should the President grant a partial endorsement, what will be the position? Should a section of the membership be excluded from a union under the President's decision, those men will be left out in the cold. If the amendment be agreed to and a partial award granted, the President will then be able to join up those excluded individuals with another union more in keeping with their class of work. It is quite competent for a section of workers to be registered without their having any knowledge of the fact.

Hon. E. H. Gray: When did that happen?

Hon. C. F. BAXTER: It happened with the orchardists and vineyard employees' union recently. A technicality was discovered by the President and, in such circumstances, my amendment would prove helpful.

The HONORARY MINISTER: I wish I could place the construction on the amendment that Mr. Baxter does. He suggests that if the President were to partially validate the registration of a union, certain individuals were likely to be left in the cold. That is one phase of the matter only. I do not know of any organisation that could be affected in that way. The court limits membership of a union to those who

are eligible. If certain members should be excluded under a partial validation of registration, those men could either join another union or take other suitable steps. The President has power to make an order to safeguard the interests of any organisation.

Hon. L. Craig: Can the President move members from one organisation to another?

The HONORARY MINISTER: It is possible to do that provided the men are eligible to join the other organisation. However, we are now raising technicalities that are hardly necessary in such a discussion. The Bill prescribes that in matters affecting registration, certain procedure must be followed in future, and we should make the legislation as simple as possible.

Hon. L. CRAIG: Speaking as a layman, I do not desire to vote like a fool. I want to know what I am voting about, and I am sure that other members do not thoroughly understand the position.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I hope the hon. member does not bring other members into his own category.

Hon. L. CRAIG: I do. There are other members who do not know what the position is, and we should be able to cast an intelligent vote. It would appear that in past years some unions have altered their constitution or rules, and now find that they should not have done so without the consent of the court. They want to approach the court and secure validation for the alteration. Did the court rule that the alterations made by the union were invalid?

Hon. J. Nicholson: In the course of proceedings, the President found the invalidation. Alterations had been effected wrongly, and registered wrongly.

Hon. L. CRAIG: That is, technically speaking.

Hon. J. Nicholson: Yes.

Hon. L. CRAIG: I take it the court ruled that if the alterations had been effected in the proper way, the alterations would be validated.

Hon. J. Nicholson: That is so.

Hon. L. CRAIG: Now the unions desire to go to the court and secure validation.

Hon. J. Nicholson: Yes.

Hon. L. CRAIG: As I understand Mr. Baxter's amendment, it is that the unions

shall be compelled to go to court, disclose the whole of the alterations to their constitutions and rules, and the President shall validate each particular alteration.

The Honorary Minister: That is the interpretation.

Hon. H. S. W. PARKER: No, it is not.

Hon. L. CRAIG: Where are we? I want to get at the correct position. If I cannot find out what I am expected to vote for I will leave the Chamber rather than vote. I have a rough idea of what the amendment means, but I want to know its precise meaning.

The HONORARY MINISTER: I do not know that one can make it any clearer than it is already. The argument is as to the interpretation put on the amendment by me as representative of the Government, as compared with the interpretation of the hon. member who moved the amendment. The Bill provides that the court may validate the registration of organisations which have altered their rules since the date of registration to include persons other than those originally intended to be included. In addition, the court may validate the registration of a union which has extended the scope of its operations. So there are two points. The registration has already been agreed to by the court and has been in operation for years. It is only recently, by virtue of those two points having been raised, that the President of the Court has said that this is something which should not have happened in the way it did happen. Therefore it is necessary for Parliament to pass a Bill under which the court can validate what has been done. Without the Bill the union will have no standing, and so I ask the Committee to pass the clause as printed.

Hon. G. W. MILES: I cannot see that the amendment is going to have much effect. I cannot see any need for the amendment, and so I will vote against it.

Hon. H. V. PIESSE: I take it that any future alteration will have to be passed by the court.

The Honorary Minister: Yes, the next clause provides for that and lays down the procedure which will have to be followed.

Hon. H. S. W. PARKER: If after registration the union alters its rules to embrace a larger area, and at the same time includes people that should not have been included in its membership, and if after the passing

of the Bill the union goes to the court, the court may say, "We will allow you to have those new members, but we will not allow you to increase your area or scope." What is to happen in that event? I am inclined to agree with the Minister that the effect of the clause will not be altered by the amendment, but I do think the amendment will clarify the position.

Amendment put and negatived.

Hon. C. F. BAXTER: I move an amendment—

That the following be added at the end of the clause:—

(1.) In every case where application for registration, validation of registration, or for the addition, amendment or rescission of all or any part of the constitution of the union is made pursuant to the provisions of this section, the Court shall give notice by advertisement or otherwise to all persons and industrial unions, likely in its opinion to be affected, of its intention to hear any such application, and shall hear any person or industrial union desiring to be heard in opposition thereto: Provided that any employer may appear personally or by his agent appointed for that purpose in accordance with section sixty-five of this Act.

When this has been considered, and I hope agreed to, I will move other complementary amendments. Applications for registration can be heard in Chambers, but it is seldom that all interested parties are advised of the application, and so those not advised have no chance of appearing before the President. It is highly desirable that the President should have the fullest information placed before him, and so everybody interested, including employers, should be entitled to appear.

Hon. G. FRASER: Why should they have the right to appear?

Hon. C. F. BAXTER: Surely it would lead to a better understanding between the parties. Everybody interested should be notified when a registration or validation is being applied for. If the President had had the fullest information in a certain case that has been spoken of, a certain union would not have been registered. To have everybody present when an application is being made for registration will tend to a better feeling between employers and employees.

*Sitting suspended from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m.*

The HONORARY MINISTER: I cannot accept the amendment. It involves a new

principle. According to the Act, when the registration of a union is desired notice has to be given to organisations of workers who may be affected by the registration.

Hon. L. Craig: Does the court give that notice?

The HONORARY MINISTER: Yes. The organisation itself has to advertise the fact, as well. Mr. Baxter's amendment provides that any employer or person who may be interested, may object to the registration or the validation of the registration. This gives the employer the right to interfere in the domestic affairs of the union.

Hon. J. M. Macfarlane: Provided it is not organised.

The HONORARY MINISTER: If a body is not organised according to the provisions of the Act it may not come before the court. Any fifteen persons in a given industry may apply for the registration of their union. If that application affects any other organisation already registered, due notice is sent to it. If the court is of opinion that some other registered union already exists in the locality, to which the applicants could belong, it may refuse the application. Mr. Baxter's proposal is revolutionary. Were it agreed to it would lead not to peace in industry, but to industry in pieces.

Hon. H. S. W. PARKER: The amendment merely sets out how people may make application to the court, other than in the prescribed manner. Would there be any objection to embodying in the Bill the procedure for the registration of these unions, that is, in the form in which application is made for the original registration.

The HONORARY MINISTER: The conditions that apply to an application for the registration of a new union apply to any application for validation or registration under this Bill.

Hon. J. NICHOLSON: The purpose of the amendment is to give notice to everyone affected by any of these registrations, so that they may express their views to the court, which will then consider the extent to which the application may be agreed to. In my opinion the hand of the court would be strengthened by this amendment. I certainly cannot see that it would be destructive of peace in industry.

The Honorary Minister: You can take my word for it.

Hon. J. NICHOLSON: I cannot see any harm in the amendment, which would be helpful to the court.

Hon. J. M. MACFARLANE: The object of the amendment I think is to give wider publicity, first of all to the employees in other organisations who may be affected and, secondly, to any body of employers or a single employer who may be affected by the validation or registration of a union. Mr. Baxter emphasised this point when he mentioned the attempt to form a union of those engaged in viticulture and half-a-dozen other callings, and which was never advertised at all. Publicity is essential.

Hon. H. S. W. PARKER: The Minister told us that what was sought was provided for in Section 21 of the Act. I do not agree with him. That deals with additions or amendments or rescission of rules. The object of the Bill is to validate something already done. An application to the court to validate a registration should follow the same procedure as that adopted in connection with the registration of the union originally. I take it that the Minister desires that the same procedure should be followed as in the original application for registration.

The HONORARY MINISTER: I cannot emphasise the position any more than I have already done. This is a general validating measure dealing with registrations arising from a recent decision of the President of the court and it has been suggested that we should adopt this course to put matters right. The Bill says "You shall apply in the prescribed manner" and the prescribed manner is set out in the Act.

Hon. H. S. W. PARKER: There is no manner prescribed in the Act for this particular duty.

The HONORARY MINISTER: The Act provides "the prescribed manner" and the Bill sets out that an application shall be the same as an application for registration under the Act.

Hon. H. S. W. PARKER: Where does it say that?

The HONORARY MINISTER: In the section I have read.

Hon. H. S. W. PARKER: I think the draftsman intended that we should prescribe the manner.

The HONORARY MINISTER: The intention is that the organisation already re-

gistered shall be able to apply for validation. So far as having new applications are concerned, and to avoid complications, the Bill lays down the proper procedure to be adopted and that will do away with the possibility of a recurrence of recent experiences. Our only desire is to put the matter in order so that the President of the court may deal with it. To-day he is prevented from doing that. The amendment provides that any person may come into the question of the registration of an organisation; the employer may attempt to dictate to the employee how he shall organise. The court is there to deal with matters of that kind.

Amendment put, and a division taken with the following result:—

Ayes	..	..	..	5
Noes	..	..	..	14

Majority against .. 9

AYES.	
Hon. C. F. Baxter	Hon. J. Nicholson
Hon. L. B. Bolton	Hon. J. M. Macfarlane
Hon. W. J. Mann	(Teller.)
NOES.	
Hon. E. H. Angelo	Hon. T. Moore
Hon. L. Craig	Hon. H. S. W. Parker
Hon. J. M. Drew	Hon. H. V. Piesse
Hon. G. Fraser	Hon. H. Seddon
Hon. E. H. Gray	Hon. A. Thomson
Hon. W. H. Kitson	Hon. H. Tuckey
Hon. G. W. Miles	Hon. A. M. Symonds
	(Teller.)

Amendment thus negatived.

Hon. C. F. BAXTER: In view of the division just taken, I do not intend to proceed with other amendments of which I have given notice.

Clause put and passed.

Clauses 3, 4, Title—agreed to.

Bill reported without amendment.

#### *Recommendation.*

On motion by Hon. H. S. W. Parker, Bill recommitted for the further consideration of Clause 2.

#### *In Committee.*

Hon. J. Cornell in the Chair: the Honorary Minister in charge of the Bill.

Clause 2—Amendment of Section 6 of the principal Act:

Hon. H. S. W. PARKER: I move an amendment—

That in line 6 of the proposed new section “prescribed” be struck out, and after “man-

ner” in the same line the following words be inserted:—“prescribed by and under Section 9.”

I desire that the application to the court for validation be made in the prescribed form, accompanied by the documents set out in Section 9 of the Act. Then, when an application was made to validate an order, the same procedure would be adopted as if the union were applying for original registration. I do not like the idea of too much government by regulation, and the amendment will save the promulgation of further regulations.

The HONORARY MINISTER: The real objection to the amendment is that it will create a lot of unnecessary words.

Hon. H. S. W. Parker: No, it will save words. You will not need a regulation.

The HONORARY MINISTER: The organisation will have to supply a list of members, officers and trustees and their addresses. Those lists are supplied every year, and are in the possession of the court at a given date. The amendment would mean doing that work over again.

Hon. H. S. W. Parker: A formal matter, surely!

The HONORARY MINISTER: An expensive matter. The organisation has also to supply two copies of the rules and a copy of the resolution authorising the application. Section 152 provides that the court may, with the approval of the Governor, make regulations for matters including the following:—

(viii) Prescribing any act or thing necessary to supplement or render more efficient the provisions of this Act as to the conduct or proceedings before the court; and

(ix) Providing for any matters which by this Act are required or permitted to be prescribed, or which it may be necessary or convenient to regulate (either generally or in any particular case) for giving effect to this Act.

There should be no need to compel organisations to go to further trouble. Under the amending Bill we have also given the President discretionary powers.

Hon. H. S. W. PARKER: Regulations have to be published in the “Government Gazette” and tabled in both Houses, by either of which they may be disallowed. The only real difficulty is that of supplying the list of members.

Hon. C. F. Baxter: What is the difficulty about supplying a list?

The Honorary Minister: Time and expense.

Hon. H. S. W. PARKER: I understand that lists are already supplied.

The HONORARY MINISTER: At the end of the year additional copies could be provided, but we are now in the middle of the year. The amendment would involve organisations in trouble and expense, and some of them are not in a position to bear the expense.

Hon. L. Craig: Would it not save a union work in other directions?

The HONORARY MINISTER: No.

Hon. H. S. W. Parker: It will save the expense of regulations and gazetting.

The HONORARY MINISTER: I cannot see how the amendment will help in any way. Rather will it hinder. The President could call for a list from any particular union.

Hon. H. S. W. Parker: The provision should apply to all.

Hon. C. F. BAXTER: The question is whether provision shall be made in the measure or whether this matter should be left to regulation. It would be better to make provision in the measure. To keep copies of the list of members would not be difficult.

Hon. W. J. Mann: Is it only a matter of making a copy?

The Honorary Minister: No.

Hon. C. F. BAXTER: Copies could be kept by the organisations and brought up-to-date from time to time. In the case of any association the articles, which are equivalent to the constitution of the union, can be amended only with the consent of the court.

Amendment put and negatived.

Clause put and passed.

Bill again reported without amendment.

Reports of Committee adopted.

## **BILL—CREMATION ACT AMENDMENT.**

### *Reinstatement of Order.*

Message from the Assembly requesting the Council, in accordance with the provisions of the Standing Orders adopted by both Houses, to resume the consideration of the Cremation Act Amendment Bill, now considered.

HON. J. NICHOLSON (Metropolitan) [S.19]: I move—

That, as requested by the Legislative Assembly by Message, this House resume the con-

sideration of the Cremation Act Amendment Bill, and that, the Bill having been read a first time on the 19th December last, the second reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting of the House.

In moving this motion I am not justified in entering into the merits of the question as on the second reading; but for the information of hon. members I would say that the amendment proposed by the Bill in an Act passed by Parliament in 1929 is to permit of the establishment of a crematorium outside the cemetery. Under the Act as it stands, it is only possible for a crematorium to be established inside the cemetery by the authorities there. It has been found impracticable for those authorities to undertake the work, and considerable pressure has been brought to bear to give an opportunity for the work to be done by others.

Question put and passed.

## **BILL—BUILDERS' REGISTRATION.**

### *Second Reading.*

HON. L. B. BOLTON (Metropolitan) [S.22] in moving the second reading said: The measure provides for the registration of builders under certain conditions, and I recommend it to hon. members because I am fully convinced that its provisions will operate for the betterment of one of our greatest industries, the building trade, an industry upon which in the year 1930 no less than £1,873,000 was expended, this sum including all Government buildings. For the year ended 30th June, 1935, the amount expended was £1,434,000. The figures for all work outside Government departments were, for the year 1931-32 £600,000, 1932-33 £730,000, 1933-34 £988,000, and for 1934-35 £1,354,000. The present year promises to show a large increase. I am quoting these figures in order to illustrate the great importance of the industry. Before supporting the Bill the Master Builders' and Contractors' Association deputed a representative committee to make inquiries and to gather all the information obtainable. After spending 18 months in doing so, the committee were fully convinced of the absolute necessity for such a measure as this in the interests of the building trade. Further, the Royal Institute of Architects were consulted, and they wholeheartedly endorse and support the

measure. It is but fair to mention also that those directly interested in the building trade were consulted, and that after discussing the question the Building Trades Executive decided that in the best interests of the trade the Bill was absolutely essential. Thus the measure has the whole-hearted support of the Master Builders' and Contractors' Association, the Royal Institute of Architects, and the Building Trades Executive. Some hon. members raise objections to any measure brought before this Chamber upon which employer and employee are in agreement. They look with the greatest suspicion on all such arrangements. But, except in cases where it is quite evident that the object is to exploit the public, I am not in accord with the views of those hon. members. My long connection with industry, and with manufacturing in particular, has convinced me that it is the duty of both parties to use every reasonable endeavour to adopt this course in order to maintain that peace in industry which all of us so much desire. I am certain that if even greater efforts were made in the same direction, it would be to the benefit of both parties. In the building industry it would have the advantage of guaranteeing continuity of employment with duly qualified builders, who necessarily would be better able to meet their commitments for both wages and materials, in addition to having the skilled knowledge needed to erect buildings in keeping with the requirements of their clients, instead of some of the jerry-built places we see around us to-day. However, even the support of the bodies I have mentioned does not carry as much weight with me as does the fact that I see in the Bill greater possibilities for the more efficient training, and the larger absorption of numbers of our unemployed youths as apprentices; for I would make it a condition that every registered builder and contractor should be forced to take his full proportion of apprentices to the various branches of the building industry.

Hon. G. W. Miles: Where would you make provision for that?

Hon. L. B. BOLTON: Undoubtedly provision can be made.

Hon. J. Nicholson: But not in this Bill.

Hon. L. B. BOLTON: I am not in any way condemning the Building Trades Ap-

prenticeship Board, who would continue to co-operate with the registered builders. The position is most serious, viewed from any angle, when we consider the number of apprentices in the building trade. In 1930 the total number of apprentices was 381. In 1931 the total number was 317. In 1932, when the value expended on buildings in the metropolitan area outside any Government work was £600,000, the number of apprentices had been reduced to 195, made up of bricklaying 28, plastering 17, stone-masonry 11, plumbing 44, and carpentry 95. In 1933 the value expended was £730,000, and the total number of apprentices was 121, made up of bricklaying 8, plastering 7, stone-masonry 7, plumbing 20, and carpentry 79. In 1934, when the value expended had risen still further, to £988,000, the number of apprentices was reduced still further, to 86, comprising bricklaying 3, plastering 3, stone-masonry 4, plumbing 26, and carpentry 50.

Hon. G. W. Miles: Was that on account of the jerry-builder?

Hon. L. B. BOLTON: I would not say that altogether, but probably I shall be able to convince hon. members that that factor had quite a lot to do with the reduction. For the 12 months ended on the 30th June, 1935, the value expended had risen to £1,354,000, and the total number of apprentices was reduced to 84, including bricklaying 2, plastering 4, stonemasonry 1, plumbing 19, and carpentry 58. It will be seen that in 1931-32, when the amount expended was £600,000, the number of apprentices was 317, while in the year ended on the 30th June last, with an expenditure of £1,354,000 the total number of apprentices had been reduced to 84. When we take into account the large number employed in the building trade in the metropolitan area, the small proportion of apprentices is brought home to us. My contention as a large employer of labour, and as one knowing the advantage of the skilled artisan against the Jack-of-all-trades, is that employers who do not engage their maximum number of apprentices must eventually be the worst sufferers, as such a condition of affairs puts labour at a greater value than that to which it is really entitled. I earnestly appeal to the employers not only in the building industry, but in all other industries as well, to bring their comple-

ment of apprentices up to 100 per cent. of the number they are allowed to take. As one who has taken the keenest interest in the youth employment movement, and one who has had the training, and thus knows the great value, of apprenticeship, I am always willing and anxious to assist the youth who wants to work and is willing to undertake something that will make him the good citizen we hope he will eventually become. I am sorry to say that in this direction the Government themselves are the worst offenders. I understand that notwithstanding that the value of Government work completed last year was over £80,000, the number of apprentices to the building trade did not exceed five, and on a large Government building in course of construction at East Perth, which represents a cost of £72,000, not a solitary apprentice is being employed. In the building industry, many are carrying out a large volume of work, but have not at present, and never have had, an apprentice engaged. That is because the persons concerned have not the qualifications or the training necessary to enable them to instruct and train apprentices. That, I should say, was an effective answer to the interjection by Mr. Miles because that is the type he referred to.

Hon. G. W. Miles: Your argument regarding apprentices is quite all right, but the master builders themselves have not done their part.

Hon. L. B. BOLTON: This legislation will help them to do it.

Hon. J. Cornell: It will make no difference.

Hon. L. B. BOLTON: A recent inspection of the buildings in course of construction in the metropolitan-suburban area disclosed the deplorable position that not one apprentice was engaged on about 120 different jobs. Surely if the Bill will do nothing else than mend that sort of affairs, it will prove more than worth while, and I appeal to members to support the Bill, if for that purpose alone. There is nothing in the measure that will prevent anyone that is competent from embarking on the industry, nothing that will preclude anyone who desires to enter the trade from passing the necessary examination and becoming absorbed in the industry. Members need have no fear that the Bill, if agreed to, will create a close preserve. All that it

will ensure is that every person engaged in building operations shall have a sound knowledge of his calling. Both the public and the trade are entitled to that protection, just as it is required in connection with other industries and callings. Registration is not in the interests of any small section, but should be of advantage to the industry as a whole. Some members may complain that the Bill should it become law, will be restrictive in some degree, but what legislation is not more or less restrictive? Qualification is an essential condition respecting the right to practise in other professions and callings, and applies in some sections of the building trade. I would instance the drainer, the sewerage plumber and the electrician. Nevertheless, the man controlling the work of those sections may not have the qualification to carry out his part, and yet is not required to pass any examination or to secure registration.

Hon. J. Cornell: The same applies to members of Parliament.

Hon. L. B. BOLTON: Experience and evidence, through examination, of knowledge acquired are necessary before a person is allowed to practice in the legal or the medical profession. Even the engine-driver is forced to prove his efficiency by test or examination, and the apprentice in almost every trade must attain a certain standard before being acknowledged as a journeyman. This is what prompted the introduction of the Bill, and the builder who is competent by training or experience will find no difficulty in securing registration. The Bill will afford a measure of protection and will raise the average standard of buildings. It will ensure longer life and will eliminate the necessity for premature maintenance, as well as assure that people secure value for their money. The Bill seeks to provide no monopoly other than for those fitted by qualification and experience to give reasonable service in building operations and in furnishing estimates for such work. Another point is that it will not be necessary for anyone who may seek registration, to be a member of the Master Builders' Association, either before or after registration. The problem of the builder is not new by any means. In the past there have been too many jerry-built houses, and I am sure other hon. members are as anxious as I am to see our city made

beautiful with buildings upon which we can look with pride. The Bill provides that unless a person possesses the necessary qualifications, he cannot undertake other than small jobbing operations, of a value of up to £300. Provision is made for the appointment of a board that will consist of the Principal Government Architect, who will be the chairman, the President of the Royal Institute of Architects, and a representative of the Builders and Contractors' Association. This board will be enabled to register any prospective builder whom they consider competent, without the necessity for an examination. The board shall also register any person who has, for a period of two years from the passing of the Act, been trading as a builder or supervisor of buildings, provided he is competent to carry out and supervise such building operations.

Hon. W. J. Mann: Whether a jerry builder or not?

Hon. J. Cornell: How will they judge his competency?

Hon. L. B. BOLTON: They will judge on the work the man has carried out during the previous two years. The Bill also provides that any apprentice who has completed his apprenticeship and passed his examination in building construction, as prescribed by the Technical College, may obtain his registration without the necessity for any further examination. The schedule provides that the measure shall apply to certain townsites, which include practically all the large towns outside the metropolitan area, and this may not appeal to some representatives of country centres. I appeal to them to support the second reading and give the measure a trial. It is just as necessary that the advantages of this legislation shall apply to country districts as to the city. If, however, they do not feel disposed to do that, they can move amendments in Committee striking out any particular townships they may desire. I remind members that the Bill was introduced by a private member in another place, and received every consideration there, the second reading being carried by 30 votes to seven. During the Committee stage a number of amendments were agreed to, and I sincerely commend the Bill to the favourable consideration of members, believing as I do in the benefits likely to accrue from its passage. In conclusion, I would suggest that

the benefits likely to arise from the passing of the Bill are—

1. Protection for the general public in guaranteeing that only qualified men are engaged in building construction.

2. Ensuring the best development of the master builder as a qualified expert in building construction.

3. Ensuring that buildings will be correctly built, and so develop a stamp of construction that will carry a guarantee of efficiency, the work thus carried out being of increased usefulness and durability, and of greater economic value to the State.

Hon. L. Craig: Is that not the job of the architect?

Hon. W. J. Mann: This takes it out of his hands.

Hon. L. B. BOLTON: Probably Mr. Craig is aware, as I am, that many buildings are erected to-day without the services of any architect at all.

Hon. L. Craig: That is so. They are jerry buildings.

Hon. L. B. BOLTON: The benefits also include—

4. The protection of the public against the adventurer. The present position of the trade gives great opportunities to this type of person, who operates for as long as his credit holds and the gullibility of the public extends, and then moves on to pastures new, leaving behind him a trail of hopeless debts and shoddy works.

5. The protection given to the wages of tradesmen and labourers in the building trade.

6. The protection afforded to the suppliers of many and varied building materials, thereby tending to stabilise many industries in this State, which employ large numbers of tradesmen and labourers. It is with pleasure that we hear testimony to the high standard that these materials have reached in Western Australia.

Hon. G. W. Miles: Who are "we"?

Hon. L. B. BOLTON: I hope you and I are included in that reference—

7. To carry out the proper training of apprentices to the various trades. This has been done by the legitimate builder for many years, who has to accept full responsibility for the apprentice to be a first-class artisan. The general public and the speculator, in this respect, do nothing whatsoever, and seeing it is from this source the master builder of the future must come, every incentive should be given to the genuine builder to carry out his work, and this can be done most effectually by registration.

8. This measure, if enacted, will have a considerable influence on speculative building, an influence that will certainly benefit the buying public. At present, this type of building is carried out to a very considerable extent without the supervision of qualified or registered architects, and frequently with dissatisfaction and loss to the thrifty citizen in his laudable effort to own his home.



Hon. L. Craig: What about the city surveyor?

Hon. L. B. BOLTON: He has some say in it.

Hon. E. H. Gray: Only regarding the plans.

Hon. L. B. BOLTON: And, in some instances, he has no say in the plans, because there may not be any. We are anxious to stop that sort of thing. I commend the Bill to hon. members, and I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

On motion by Hon. W. J. Mann, debate adjourned.

*House adjourned at 8.42 p.m.*

## Legislative Assembly.

*Tuesday, 10th September, 1935.*

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

### SWEARING-IN OF MEMBER.

The Speaker announced the return to a writ for the election of a member for the district of Katanning showing that Mr. A. F. Watts had been elected.

Mr. Watts took and subscribed the oath and signed the roll.

### ADDRESS-IN-REPLY.

#### *Presentation.*

Mr. SPEAKER: I desire to announce that, attended by the hon. member for Brown Hill-Ivanhoe (Mr. F. C. L. Smith) and the hon. member for Albany (Mr. A. Wansbrough), I attended upon His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor and presented the

Address-in-reply to His Excellency's opening Speech. His Excellency was good enough to reply in the following terms:—

I thank you for your expressions of loyalty to His Most Gracious Majesty the King, and for your Address-in-reply to the Speech with which I opened Parliament. (Sgd.) James Mitchell, Lieut.-Governor.

### QUESTION—ELECTRICITY SUPPLY.

#### *Breakdowns at Queen's Park.*

Mr. CROSS asked the Minister for Railways: 1. Is he aware that inconvenience has frequently been caused to the residents of Queen's Park by breakdowns in the electric light service? 2. Can an explanation be given of three lengthy breakdowns in the service in that district during the week ended the 31st August? 3. If so, can action be taken to prevent a recurrence of breakdowns?

The MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS replied: 1. Yes. 2. The very heavy storm winds caused the failure of high tension insulators. 3. Every precaution is taken but it is not possible fully to guard against violent storms such as were experienced.

### QUESTION—RELIEF WORK.

#### *"C" Class Men.*

Mr. RAPHAEL asked the Minister for Employment: 1. Are the Government aware of the number of "C" class men who cannot be put to any of the work supplied by the Government Relief Department? 2. Do the Government intend to provide special work for those men? 3. If not, will the Government consider the provision of extra sustenance for that particular class of men?

The MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS (for the Minister for Employment) replied: 1. Yes. 2 and 3. It is the policy of the Government to provide as far as possible work within the physical capacity of these men, and attention has already been given to this aspect.

### BILLS (4)—THIRD READING.

1. Brands Act Amendment.
  2. Droving Act Amendment.
  3. Judges' Retirement.
  4. Tenants, Purchasers and Mortgagors' Relief Act Amendment.
- Transmitted to the Council.