

I can tell the Minister that the P. & C. was advised that provision had been made in the forthcoming year's estimates for improved facilities; so I hope that arising from what I have had to say tonight in this regard he will be able to expedite the provision of improved facilities for the teachers at that school.

I will not avail myself of the opportunity of discussing other matters during this debate on the Supply Bill, because I consider that the questions I have already raised are those which are most urgent.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

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

Third Reading

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

*House adjourned at 12.2 a.m.
(Wednesday).*

Legislative Council

Wednesday, the 1st August, 1962

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The PRESIDENT (The Hon. L. C. Diver) took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

IWANKIW CASE

Payment of Damages

- The Hon. J. M. THOMSON asked the Minister for Mines:
 - (1) Has a decision yet been reached between the Crown, Police Union, and V. S. Marshall as to who will pay the amount of damages assessed by the Supreme Court and unanimously upheld by the Full Court, resulting from an incident by Marshall while arresting Iwankiw. Injuries which, according to medical evidence, could have proved fatal?
 - (2) What was the date on which the Supreme Court gave its decision in Iwankiw's favour?
 - (3) On what date did Marshall lodge his appeal?
 - (4) When did the appeal eventually come before the Full Court?
 - (5) If the answer to question No. (1) is "No," in view of the apparent long delay to date in meeting this financial obligation on the part of the party ordered to pay would the Minister be agreeable to press for an early finalisation of this matter?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) The 5th July, 1961.
- (3) The 17th July, 1961.
- (4) The 21st March, 1962.
- (5) At the present time the matter rests as between the Police Union and V. S. Marshall, and no approach has been made to the Minister for Police.

SHIRE COUNCILS

Operations Under Section 533(2)(c) of Local Government Act

- The Hon. N. E. BAXTER asked the Minister for Local Government:

How many shire councils are operating under subsection (2) (c) of section 533 of the Local Government Act, 1960, for the purpose of making up their rate books?

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN replied:

There are at present no shire councils using a private qualified valuer under the authority of section 533 (2) (c) of the Local Government Act.

IWANKIW CASE*Tabling of File*

3. The Hon. J. M. THOMSON asked the Minister for Mines:

Will the Minister lay on the Table the Police file concerning Constable V. S. Marshall and R. Iwankiw, both of Denmark?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

Yes, for one week.

GOSNELLS SHIRE COUNCIL*Lease of Canning Location 677*

4. The Hon. A. L. LOTON asked the Minister for Local Government:

(1) Is the Minister for Local Government aware that a meeting of the Gosnells Shire Council was held at Maddington on Monday, the 23rd July, at 8 p.m., and that at such meeting a resolution was passed on the casting vote of the shire president that the shire lease part of Canning Location 677 for a quarry site?

(2) Is the Minister aware that at the conclusion of the meeting councillor Martin handed to the shire clerk notice of motion to rescind the above resolution?

(3) Is the Minister aware that notwithstanding the provisions of section 177 (2) (b) of the Local Government Act, the shire clerk did not forthwith send seven days written notice to the shire councillors calling a special meeting to consider such motion to rescind, but instead sent out on the 27th day of July, written notice of a meeting to be held on the 30th day of July for the purpose of reaffirming the resolution?

(4) Is the Minister aware that the ordinary meetings of the council are held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month and therefore the normal meeting to deal with the confirmation of the meeting held on the 23rd July would have been the 13th August?

(5) Does the Minister condone the holding of such special meeting held last night, the 30th July at Maddington to reaffirm the decision made on the 23rd July, while a notice of motion had not been complied with as required by the section?

(6) Does the Minister condone that such meeting of the 30th July, although called by notice to reaffirm its previous resolution only, proceeded further with business not shown on the notice convening the meeting, by instructing the

shire clerk to proceed with the implementing of the council's decision by the preparation of contracts, notwithstanding the notice of motion to rescind?

(7) Does the Minister condone the action of the shire president in withholding information from councillors at the meeting held on the 23rd July, where, if such information had been made available, the facts could easily have had the effect of altering the voting of councillors?

(8) Is the Minister aware that the shire president would not allow any correspondence to be read at the meeting held on the 30th July, until after the vote reaffirming the decision had been made, and in particular that such correspondence specifically referred to not only the fact that notice of motion to rescind the resolution had been given, and that such meeting was in breach of such notice of motion, but also that the shire president had so withheld information at the meeting of the 23rd July, particularising the same?

(9) Is the Minister prepared, after verification of the above facts and others that have been placed before him, to have a full and open investigation into the reasons and methods adopted by the shire president and others in their haste to complete the lease arrangements of part of Canning Location 677 before the end of July, 1962, and, in reference to this, that efforts were first made to effect this by private treaty with the ultimate successful tenderer contrary to the provisions of the Act, before calling for tenders for the same?

(10) Is the Minister prepared, in the event of agreeing to hold such investigation to intervene and order the council not to proceed with implementing its decision, pending the result of such investigation?

(11) If the Minister is not prepared to have such a full and open investigation, will the Minister order the council not to implement its decision until the special meeting to deal with the notice of motion to rescind has been duly called and held under the provisions of the section?

(12) The Minister is aware that, as the lease of Canning Location 677 by the shire council as a quarry is to be for a period of twenty-one years, it requires authorisation by or under an Act or by

the electors of the municipality conferred at a special meeting of the electors convened for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, conferring the authorisation or the approval of the Governor under the provisions of section 267 of the Act. Is the Minister aware—

- (a) whether authorisation has been conferred to the leasing by or under any Act, or if not,
 - (b) that it is most unlikely that if a special meeting of the electors of the municipality convened for the purpose of considering the authorisation would confer the same in view of the fact that at a special meeting of the electors held on the 19th July, 1962, and called by the council on petition from the electors for the purpose of considering the council's leasing of the area, that a resolution was passed that the meeting was opposed to the sale or leasing of the area for a quarry?
- (13) In view of the foregoing, does not the Minister consider that this is a proper case where the approval of the Governor should not be given to the lease, but that a special meeting of the electors of the municipality should be convened for the purpose of considering the lease and, if thought fit, the authorisation of the same under the section, and, if so, is the Minister prepared to recommend to the Governor that such approval should not be given but that the council should abide such a decision of the meeting of its electors?
- The Hon. L. A. LOGAN replied:
- (1) Yes.
 - (2) Yes.
 - (3) No. Section 177 (2) (b) does not use the word "forthwith."
 - (4) Yes.
 - (5) Section 172 (2) authorises the president to convene a meeting of the council as often as he thinks fit.
 - (6) Having reaffirmed its decision, there is no reason why, for clarification, the council should not instruct the shire clerk to take the steps necessary to implement the decision reached at the meeting of the 23rd July and confirmed at the meeting of the 30th July.
 - (7) I am not aware that any information was withheld.

- (8) No.
- (9) No.
- (10) No. This is considered to be a matter for the council.
- (11) No. I am not prepared to interfere with the procedure of the council.
- (12) I am aware that unless authority is given by or under an Act, or by the electors, the approval of the Governor is necessary for the leasing of land for a term of more than five years. I have no knowledge of what might be the decision reached at any suggested possible future meeting of electors.
- (13) No.

DEPUTY CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES

Election

On motion by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines), resolved:

That in accordance with Standing Order No. 31A, The Hon. E. M. Davies, The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon, and The Hon. A. R. Jones be elected to act as Deputy Chairmen of Committees during the current session.

COMMITTEES FOR THE SESSION

Appointment

On motions by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines), sessional committees were appointed as follows:—

Standing Orders.—The Hon. E. M. Davies, The Hon. H. K. Watson, and The Hon. S. T. J. Thompson.

Library.—The Hon. J. G. Hislop and The Hon. R. F. Hutchison.

House.—The Hon. E. M. Heenan, The Hon. J. Murray, The Hon. A. R. Jones, and The Hon. F. R. H. Lavery.

Printing.—The Hon. G. Bennetts and The Hon. J. M. Thomson.

SUPPLY BILL, £25,000,000

Standing Orders Suspension

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (Suburban—Minister for Mines) [4.44 p.m.]: I move—

That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended so as to enable a Supply Bill to be taken on receipt of a message from the Legislative Assembly, and to have precedence each day before the Address-in-Reply, and to be passed through all stages at any one sitting.

Question put and passed.

Receipt and First Reading

Bill received from the Assembly; and, on motion by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines), read a first time.

Second Reading

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (Suburban—Minister for Mines) [4.45 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This is the first Supply Bill of this session; and, as we all know, it is the usual practice to receive it early in the new parliamentary session. The Bill seeks that there shall be granted to Her Majesty on account of the service of the State for the year ending the 30th June, 1963, a sum not exceeding £25,000,000.

As I said, it is a customary parliamentary practice that this Bill be introduced in the early part of the session, and I thank members for agreeing to the suspension of Standing Orders so that it might be dealt with. I am not necessarily in a hurry to see this Bill go through all its stages in this present sitting as I know that many members avail themselves of the opportunity to discuss matters of both a State and a parochial nature.

I understand that in the past that has not always been the case, but that the Supply Bill went through Parliament without a great deal of debate and the subjects which members would have liked to deal with on a wider range and wider scope were usually dealt with during the Address-in-Reply. However, there is nothing wrong with the procedure that is now followed, because the Supply Bill affords any member in the House an opportunity to address himself to any subject of interest either to his electorate or to the State in general.

This particular Bill requests that the supply of £25,000,000 be made available. It is identical with the first Supply Bill which was introduced in 1961. The amount of £25,000,000 is made up as follows:—

	£
Consolidated Revenue Fund	18,000,000
General Loan Fund	5,000,000
Advance to Treasurer	2,000,000
	<hr/>
	£25,000,000

As I have said before, it is well recognised that the detailed Estimates are discussed in minute detail in the Legislative Assembly, but we do not have an opportunity of perusing them and debating them in the Legislative Council. However, ample opportunity will be given to all members during the course of the debate should they wish to make any inquiry, and I shall be pleased and anxious to give any information within my power. I trust the House will agree to the Bill.

Debate adjourned, on motion by **The Hon. F. J. S. Wise** (Leader of the Opposition).

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY: THIRD DAY*Motion*

Debate resumed, from the 31st July, on the following motion by **The Hon. H. R. Robinson**:—

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor in reply to the Speech he has been pleased to deliver:—

May it please Your Excellency: We, the members of the Legislative Council of the Parliament of Western Australia, in Parliament assembled, beg to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech you have been pleased to deliver to Parliament.

THE HON. R. F. HUTCHISON (Suburban) [4.51 p.m.]: I would first like to congratulate you, Sir, on being elected unopposed to your present office. I am sure I express the wish of all members of this House when I say that I hope you will enjoy the present session, which, I trust, will provide you with no heartaches and not many headaches.

I would also like to congratulate the new members in this House, one from the Labor Party and one from the Liberal Party. I hope they will do justice to the platforms on which they were elected.

I am sure this House would not expect me to speak to the Address-in-Reply without referring to my purpose in being a member of Parliament. I speak as a rebel against the restrictive franchise of the Legislative Council; and I propose to speak on this matter at some length.

More and more members of the public are thinking deeply about this matter. Public opinion is being expressed through public bodies. This is the most powerful Legislature in the British Commonwealth of Nations, and this House has the most restricted franchise in Australasia. I think it is time we were realistic; I think we should face the facts and openly admit that democracy does not exist in Western Australia.

The camouflage of democracy goes on every hour, every day, every week, every month, and every year. It is said that this is a House of review; but that was debunked once and for all when **The Hon. Mr. Simpson** accepted the payment offered to the Leader of the Legislative Council.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: By the Labor Party.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: Brought by the Labor Party—quite right. I will not apologise for that. That precipitated the greatest camouflage—I cannot think of a better word—that ever existed in Western Australia.

Time and time again we have heard that this is a House of review. However, it has been admitted in this House that it is no longer a House of review—it is a House of party politics.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Speak for yourself.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: I know that the Minister does not like to hear this, but I cannot help that. He admits to the greatest camouflage of all.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: The meaning of "review" is that legislation should be looked at again, which is what this House does.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: This House does not do that; it looks to ways and means of defeating Labor-sponsored legislation which comes before the House. The Labor Party has often been the elected Government, but it has never been in power. However, the present Government has absolute power. If it wants to put legislation on the statute book, there is nothing whatever to stop it. The Minister will not have an answer to that.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: They tell me you had a few words to say about me in Forrest Place during the last election.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: I publicly said plenty about the Minister in Forrest Place, and I will probably do so on many more occasions within the next three years. If the Minister would like me to repeat anything I have said, I will do so.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: You have repeated it, every year.

The PRESIDENT (The Hon. L. C. Diver): Order!

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: That is my right as a Labor member. Ever since I was first elected I have said that this is not a House of review.

The PRESIDENT (The Hon. L. C. Diver): Order! I must ask the honourable member not to cast aspersions on the functions of this House.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: I am not trying to be contentious, Mr. President, but I really believe what I have said. If one voices what one really believes, I cannot see that it constitutes an aspersion. It might be an unpleasant truth, but it is not an aspersion. I did not mean to offend you, Sir.

There are many men who are wronged by the franchise of this House. A man who has fought for his country, and who is probably bearing disabilities of war at this moment, has no right to vote in Legislative Council elections unless he is a householder—a freeholder that is—rents a house, or owns a house in his own right. This is the only State in Australia to which that applies.

Victoria has adult franchise, although South Australia and Tasmania come into the sorry category of not having adult franchise. The two States which have the restricted franchise have given voting rights to returned servicemen.

A Labor Government in Queensland abolished the Legislative Council, and so far as I know it has never been missed. I think it is a better State for that. The Upper House in New South Wales is simply a committee elected by the members of Parliament; therefore it does not come within the category of a restricted franchise.

The first thing the Bolte Government in Victoria did was to grant adult franchise for the Legislative Council. I do not recall any tidal waves of protest about that action. Mr. Bolte was man enough to say there was a wrong; and, so far as he could, he righted it.

The National Government of New Zealand abolished the Legislative Council; and one of the finest sights in Australasia today is the empty Chamber in the New Zealand Parliament buildings. It is a very stately Chamber. I believe the Queen has afternoon tea there whenever she visits that country. I do not recall there being any tidal waves of protest when that House was abolished.

There is a restricted franchise in Tasmania. I am sorry to say there are not many Labor members in that State. Ex-servicemen and women in Tasmania have voting rights for the Legislative Council. If a man has fought for his country, he is considered good enough to have the vote.

In South Australia, too, returned service personnel have the right to vote at elections for the Legislative Council. I have no special love for the Legislative Council in South Australia, but at least returned service personnel get a vote at elections for that House. But in Western Australia we should hang our heads in shame; because here the returned men and women, some of whom are still suffering from war wounds, and who offered their lives to make a stand between what this Chamber stands for and dictatorship, are denied the democratic right to vote at Legislative Council elections unless they qualify under the restricted franchise which is in existence. Despite this, we have the impertinence to worry about whether we will bring in a small Bill to give certain voting rights to natives. Even the Federal Government has come to order in that regard.

As a matter of fact, democracy moves on very slowly and painfully. I have asked women members of the Liberal and Country parties, who serve on all kinds of committees and who have attended all kinds of meetings, why they put up with this insult. I have asked them why they allow this House to continue in its present form when they ask for equality in every

other way. They never seem to have much of an answer to the questions I ask them. As a matter of fact half of them do not know why; and I make no apology for saying it. If the newspapers played the game and gave a great deal more publicity to the Legislative Council, we would soon see something done about making it a little easier for people to vote at Legislative Council elections.

I even disagree with the view that there should be only 30 members in the Legislative Council; because it is absolutely ridiculous the way the State is divided into provinces, and the number of members to each province. For instance, it is beyond the capacity of a candidate for the Metropolitan Province or the Suburban Province to do justice to the job of canvassing. Because of this the percentage of people who vote at Legislative Council elections is very small; as a matter of fact at the last election it was about 42 per cent.; and that is about as much as we will ever get unless Legislative Council elections are held on the same day as the general election for the Legislative Assembly.

When the Labor Government was last in office, Legislative Council elections were held on the same day as the elections for the Legislative Assembly, and the percentage of votes cast for the Council rose to 73 per cent.; but even that figure is not a credit to any party. In my view all these things are wrong; and they prove that the whole position is a scandal.

When I came into this House in 1954, when Labor swept the polls, it was like a bursting of the seams because of the oppression of the people. I know you, Mr. President, would not like me to use the word "oppression" in connection with the Government parties, but at that time it was nothing more nor less than the people's way of getting rid of oppression in all its forms. Oppression had reached such a stage at that time that there was a bursting at the seams, and five Labor members came into this House taking the number from 8 to 13. We have just lost one seat, which we should never have lost; and we will see what happens next time.

It is all caused by the silence of the Press and by the silence of certain people who use every means possible to put things over the public and keep them in ignorance of the real power of this House. I will tie that up with what I have to say later, and I will prove my statements by the attitude of the anti-Labor forces to local government.

The first thing one hears about local government is that it has no connection with politics. That is such a big lie that it should choke anyone who makes the statement; because local government is actually politics at the kitchen doorstep. Everything in local government politically affects every man, woman, and child in this State.

When our late beloved Minister for Local Government, The Hon. Gilbert Fraser, introduced the first Local Government Bill, it had democracy within its pages, because it had adult franchise for local government.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: What did local government think about that?

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: When I was in England I made a special inquiry about this matter at some local authorities, and they were astounded at what I had to say. One person to whom I spoke said I was mistaken, and I said, "Mistaken about my own country?" and he said, "Yes." He said he did not believe that there was any country in the British Commonwealth where the people did not have a vote for local government. I said, "You come to Western Australia and I will give you a perfect example of it." Local government in Western Australia is so restricted and so undemocratic that it is really just a camouflage and should mislead no one.

Time after time if a person puts up for the Labor Party at a local government election the whole of the anti-Labor forces converge to defeat him, even though they make a silent play on it. There is nothing democratic about the franchise under the Local Government Act. Yet we have the impertinence to place on the enrolment card for the Legislative Council a clause which says, "E.L.A.L." which means, "An elector on the local authority list." That clause is used in many dishonest ways; and if anyone challenges me on that point I will tell him why I say that.

This "elector on the local authority list" is one of the worst features of the franchise. The Local Government Act has been amended and no longer do road boards have to hang out the book for only a certain number of days once a year; and no longer can names be crossed off every year if the local authority wants to do so, as was the case before. That is taking us a little further along the road to democracy, but there is still an extremely restricted franchise.

Even a married woman, a mother with children, does not have the automatic right to a vote at Legislative Council elections if her husband is renting the home. He has the vote as the householder, and she is denied the right to a vote. No wife has a vote unless she owns property in her own right; but if she deserts her husband—despite the fact that we are always talking about the sanctity of the home—and goes across the street and rents a house in her own right she can vote at Legislative Council elections. That is the greatest insult that has ever been offered to women in any country, but it is a fact in regard to Legislative Council elections in Western Australia.

If a wife is doing her duty—rearing her children, and living with her husband—she has no vote for the Legislative Council if

her husband rents or owns the house in his own name; but if her husband dies, and she is living alone, even if she has to appeal for State assistance, she can vote for the Legislative Council. A deserted wife can also get a vote if she does not know where her husband is. Did anyone ever hear of anything more disgraceful than that? I am making all these statements so that they will be recorded in *Hansard*, and so that they can be read by the people who will then learn something about the present state of affairs in the Legislative Council.

I am amazed that men have been able to sit in this Chamber, ever since we have had responsible Government, and allow this sort of thing to continue. Every session while I am here, I will, on every Bill where these matters can be mentioned, bring them forward until somebody gets tired of listening to me. If a father lives in a house and he has a family of sons and daughters, and they are returned service personnel, he gets the vote if he is renting the house, or if he owns it, but nobody else in the house has that right.

I was told that on the wireless the other night it was reported that members of the Liberal Party at their conference were discussing this matter, and I am waiting for the outcome of their deliberations with much interest. I think we would get somewhere if we could get every woman in the State to stand for local government; because I am sure that if women set their minds to it they could overcome this problem by themselves becoming members of local government. I have never said this quite as openly before in this House, but I am saying it now: I think women would make a far better job of local government than men have made of it up to date. At least we would ensure that there were not as many anomalies in, and abuses of, local government as there are now.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: They may not be all on one side like they are now.

The Hon. F. D. Willmott: It would be lopsided.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: It could not be any more lopsided than it is now; and I say that with all due respect to the honourable member. At the moment it is a close preserve, and if a woman nominates for local government there is an immediate tightening up to see what can be done about keeping her out. The men will go to any lengths to do that; I saw it done in the case of a friend of mine at Mount Lawley.

The Hon. A. R. Jones: One has already been elected to the Perth City Council.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: Some are elected, of course; and I am not condemning all men. There are plenty of them in our community who have the highest regard for the ability of women.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: I always have, anyway.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: However, there are others who have the opposite view. Some men do not object to women becoming interested in these matters; and, as members know, of course, I was elected to this House.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You are just trying to square off now.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: So is the Minister. Equality for the sexes is part of the Labor Party platform; and we are one party which means what it says in this regard. Ours is the only party that has ever introduced a Bill to give effect to our platform; ours is the only party that makes any concession whatever; and so I am wondering what the Liberal Party means to do. Perhaps it is the women who are asking for some broadening of the franchise; and it will be interesting to see what happens now that the matter has been discussed at the Liberal Party conference.

This enrolment card for the Legislative Council roll is a disgrace. We cannot alter it, of course, because the Labor Party has never been in power in this State. The card has been drawn up deliberately to confuse the people, and for the slightest reason they send it back.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Who does? Who tries to confuse the people?

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: It is drawn up by the Electoral Department.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Are you accusing the Electoral Department of deliberately trying to confuse the people?

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: Even if we wanted to have the card altered we could not do so, because we have never been in power in this State.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Don't you realise that the card has been in vogue for years, even when there has been a Labor Government in power?

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: I know; but if the Minister had been listening to me he would have heard me say that the Labor Party has been in Government but never in power; and it is necessary to have the power if one wants to do certain things.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You said that the card was drawn up to confuse.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: I do not mind it if the Minister does not agree with what I have to say, but he should listen to the truth when it is being spoken. I do not mean to upset the Minister.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: It would take more than you to do that.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: One clause on the Legislative Council electoral claim card states—

1. FREEHOLDER who has a legal or equitable estate in possession situate in the electoral province of the clear value of £50.

I object to this stilted legal phraseology being used. The card could have been framed with much more commonsense and in plain English. The instruction on the card goes on to state—

Quote house number if numbered, otherwise lot or location numbers and where situated. (N.B.—The term "owner" should on no account be used.)

So the unfortunate claimant has to classify himself as a freeholder. I cannot make this out. I claim as much commonsense as anybody else, but I cannot see the difference between an owner and a freeholder.

Time after time, before I became as knowledgeable as I am now, I canvassed votes and the claimants wrote in the word "owner" on the card. Even a member of Parliament has used the same word on the card, only to have the card returned by the Electoral Office without much explanation. That office does not tell one that he has to use the term "freeholder" instead of "owner" when filling in the card.

The qualification of a householder as set out in the card is as follows:—

Householder within the Province occupying any dwelling house of £17 clear annual value. (N.B.—A lodger or person renting rooms from legal occupier cannot claim "Householder" qualification).

However, a person who occupies part of a house which is sealed off from the rest and has an opening to a street, even a rickety door as an opening, can claim a vote. Such a person can claim that he occupies a flat. In this State a member of Parliament brought this matter up but he was censured. There is a block of big flats in Sherwood Court which is beautifully situated. Because those flats open on to a passage way—and not on to a street—the occupiers cannot vote. There are thousands of such anomalies in the franchise of the Legislative Council. It is about time the Government stopped treating people like fools and brought more commonsense into this matter.

I now turn to the qualification of a leaseholder. It is as follows:—

Leaseholder who has a leasehold estate in possession situated within the Province of the clear annual value of £17.

The next refers to Crown land, or has something to do with the occupation of Crown land. The qualification on the enrolment card states—

Crown leaseholder who holds a lease or license to depasture, occupy, cultivate, or mine upon Crown lands within the Province at an annual rental of at least £10. Quote Lot or Location Numbers and where situated.

One qualification is the leaseholder of Crown land at an annual rental of at least £10; another is the leaseholder of a leasehold estate of the clear annual value of £17; and another is the householder occupying any dwelling house of £17 clear annual value. I wonder why that should be the case.

I now refer to the fifth qualification on the enrolment card which reads as follows:—

"E.L.A.L." A person whose name is on the Electoral List of any Municipality or Road Board in respect of property within the Province of the annual rateable value of not less than £17. Quote House, Lot, or Location Number and where situated. If the property is rated on the Unimproved Capital Value there is no right of enrolment as no Annual Rateable Value exists.

The further I go the worse the position becomes, because the last qualification is a dreadful one. One has almost to be a Philadelphia lawyer to understand all the qualifications.

There is one paragraph on the card which reads as follows:—

Important.—Personal Signature of Claimant.—The signature of the claimant must be his personal signature. If unable to sign his name in his own handwriting, he may make his mark as his signature. Such signature or mark must be made in the presence of the person who signs as witness.

I wonder how many particulars in the card are not filled in accordance with this instruction. How does anyone know that such signature or mark has been made in the presence of the person who signs as witness? We must remember that we are now dealing with a question of law.

The final directions on the card have always intrigued me. They read as follows:—

Directions to the person witnessing the signature on this claim.

All this is so loose that what I have just said could quite easily happen and nobody would know any different. This instruction is designed to scare people, and if they read the instruction they would be afraid of signing. It is amongst the uninformed ranks of the people that these

things have the most effect, because they do not understand them. The directions go on—

The Electoral Act, 1907-1959 provides:—

Sec. 193.—The person witnessing any claim, or application to change the qualification of an elector under this Act shall, if he is not personally acquainted with the facts, satisfy himself by enquiry from the claimant or applicant, that the statements contained in the claim or application are true.

One asks the claimant on signing the enrolment card, "Are the particulars true?" If the claimant replies in the affirmative, the witness signs the card. I wonder if anyone really cares whether the statements in the claim are true.

The Hon. A. R. Jones: We are dealing with honest people.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: That is about the worst interjection I have heard from the honourable member. He knows with whom we are dealing.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: With whom do we deal?

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: If people are not honest in this matter, I do not know when they will be honest.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Tell us with whom we deal.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: We are dealing with the general public. I am not saying that anyone is honest or dishonest; we are dealing with a cross-section of the people. The directions further state—

Sec. 207 (1).—The signatures to claims or other forms may be witnessed by an elector, or person qualified to be enrolled as an elector of the Commonwealth Parliament or of the Legislative Assembly of Western Australia.

Any person who witnesses the signature of a claimant without being personally acquainted with the facts or satisfying himself by enquiry from the claimant or otherwise that the statements contained in the claim are true, is guilty of an offence and liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds.

This is the most foolish and insincere piece of work I have seen. Under the heading of signature of witness, the following appears on the card:—

I, the undersigned, being an elector or person qualified to be an elector of the Commonwealth or of the Legislative Assembly of Western Australia, certify that I have seen the above-named claimant sign the claim, and that I either know the statements contained in the claim to be true, or have

satisfied myself by enquiry from the claimant or otherwise, that the said statements are true.

(Penalty on witness for failure to fully comply with this requirement—£50.)

So we can see the people hold the law in contempt. Of the thousands of such cards sent into the Electoral Office, I would like to know how many of the witnesses there-to can say for certain that the statements contained in the claims are true. This aspect has never been questioned. The witnesses sign the cards and nobody seems to know whether the statements contained in them are true.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: What is in the Assembly enrolment cards?

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: I know this hurts.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: What is in the Assembly enrolment cards?

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: When an injustice is perpetrated it hurts. I can be honest about this; I have gone out to get cards filled and signed. I have seen them signed. I am as honest as anyone can be, but I will not have a bar of this penalty which can be inflicted on a witness.

The Labor Party in this State has been in Government, but never in power, so it has not had the opportunity to change the qualifications on the enrolment cards for the Legislative Council. During the last session of Parliament I introduced a Bill to rectify some anomalies in respect of the franchise—a Bill which had been dormant in this Chamber. A new-Australian who became naturalised could immediately claim a vote for the Legislative Assembly and for the Commonwealth Parliament, but he had to wait twelve months before he was allowed to vote for this House.

The other matter referred to concerns a native who has served in the armed forces for six months, and who has obtained an honourable discharge; such a person is no longer regarded as a native under the Act.

During the last election, I found one such voter when I went out canvassing. I enrolled him. The circumstances were as follows: When I knocked on the door, the wife of this person came out. She was a coloured woman, probably a half-caste, with nine children. I told her that I had come to enrol her husband. She replied, "He cannot vote. He does not have a vote." I said, "Are you sure of that?" She replied, "Yes. All I have is his military discharge certificate." I asked her to show me the certificate. She did so. I told her that her husband could vote. I then enrolled him. On election day I went to meet him, because I had left the card at his house and he had signed it and had had it witnessed. I had sent the card in.

On election day I notified the Press that this person was going to vote. The Press came and took a photograph of him because his was the first such vote. He was the first person to vote under the qualification I mentioned.

Since that time I have received telephone calls from at least 10 natives asking me whether I could get a vote for them. When I inquired into their circumstances I told them they could not vote because they were not renting a house or because they did not own any property. They asked me, "Why did Mr. Jones have a vote?" I mention the person's name, because it appeared in the newspapers. They said they were returned servicemen. I said, "You will have to go to Parliament House to make your objection to the Leader of the Government, because I cannot do any more for you."

One of them told me that he had been wounded while he was in the armed forces, and was still suffering from his wound. I said to him, "Even though you have fought for your country, and have been wounded, you cannot cast a vote, because you do not own a house, or are not renting a house in your own right." He said, "What kind of country do you call this Missus?" I said, "I do not know." But that is a fact and it distressed me so much that I determined this time to bring the matter forward and explain what I know of it, and to condemn once more the wrong that we do. I have just located the cutting about which I am speaking. It was accompanied by a large picture of Mr. Jones, and reads as follows:—

Ex-Soldier Casts His First Vote

Former Ninth Division soldier Frank Jones (39) made electoral history when he cast his vote in the Legislative Council elections for the first time.

A part-aboriginal, he became what Labor M.L.C. Mrs. Ruby Hutchison believes to be the first person in W.A. to vote under an Act providing automatic citizenship rights of ex-service-men natives.

(The Constitutions Act Amendment Bill was passed at Mrs. Hutchison's instigation in October, 1955.)

The Hon. H. K. Watson: With the consent of the Legislative Council.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: Yes, with the consent of the Legislative Council; and we all know why, too.

The Hon. H. K. Watson: The wicked Legislative Council, too!

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: The Government would not like it to be known that this provision had been lying dormant. To continue—

As a householder, Jones (father of nine) has a Legislative Council vote but his wife has not.

A labourer, living in West Parade, East Perth, Jones cast his vote at the Forrest High School polling booth in the Suburban Province.

He said he had served in the Middle East with the 2/32nd battalion of the Ninth Division.

He had never voted nor did he know of his right until he met Mrs. Hutchison a month ago.

His name was not on any electoral roll. Mrs. Hutchison had it put there.

Mrs. Hutchison said today that she had found lying dormant in legislation an Act which gave automatic citizenship to a native who had served for more than six months in the Armed Forces.

I think I have done enough exposing today to entitle me to request the Minister to ask his party to have a look at this franchise and what is going on. I hope the Liberal conference will be behind me and will give some kind of democracy in this fair land about which we hear so much. We have heard of the great things which are occurring, and the wonderful things which have been opening up for Western Australia; yet we have this blot on our escutcheon in that we deny the people who live and work in our State a vote for the Government of the State—and that means this Legislative Council.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: More aspersions!

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: I just want to touch on a couple of other subjects, although I will be speaking on them at greater length later. I have two protests to make, one to each of the Ministers in this House. I brought in a Bill—I am sorry, a Bill was introduced entitled the "Married Persons (Summary Relief) Bill."

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Could you go on to the subject of complaint which concerns me, because my colleague does not at the moment happen to be present?

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: Do you like being complained to?

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: If the complaints are justified, I do not mind.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: The complaint which concerns the Minister for Mines is in connection with the amendment I introduced touching on the bond payable by teachers. The Minister said that if I would withdraw my amendment he would see that something comparable with what I desired would be introduced. I have looked through the legislation that has been introduced and I am not at all satisfied with it. The Minister did not keep his word to me. If he had even sketched what he was intending to do, I would not have withdrawn my amendment; and I am sure I would have received good support for it from members in this House.

I am not going through all the speeches made on that occasion; I just desire to say that I pointed out to him that in the other States if a female teacher is on a bond she can marry if she so desires. It makes no difference whatever. In New South Wales, such a teacher can marry, and if she requires time off to have an infant she is granted compassionate leave of four months, I think it is, or longer, and is given two additional years in which to work out her bond. I am not saying that teachers should not repay their bonds. That is not my stand at all. I say that there should not be one set of laws for a man and another set of laws for a woman when it comes to marriage and family life. People do not get married at any time, or anyhow, they feel inclined. Human nature is involved, as I pointed out to the Minister.

It would not have been any trouble to bring us into line with the other States. Although it is said that the bond will be dispensed with in certain circumstances, if a woman does marry she will still be immediately sacked and, therefore, will be outside the Public Service. I am going to speak more fully on the subject at a later date.

In connection with the Married Persons (Summary Relief) Bill, the Minister for Local Government told me that if I withdrew my amendment, or Bill—I cannot quite remember in what form it was before us at the time—he would introduce legislation the following year to cover what I desired. If we cannot rely on the integrity of the Minister, on whom can we rely? He gave me his word publicly—it is recorded in *Hansard*—that he would introduce this legislation. I asked him on many occasions when it was to be introduced, and it was not, I think, until the last week of the session when I asked him again was it to be introduced, that he made the bald announcement, "No."

Yet he had told me before that he would introduce it and that he knew I would have no quarrel with it. I even received a letter from him when I was in England to this effect, but then he did not introduce the legislation. I want to know who is at fault, whether it is he, the Government, or who? I say that it is an abrogation of the truth, and I am very indignant about it. I will not delay the House any longer, because I will be speaking on these matters during the debate on the Supply Bill.

THE HON. J. G. HISLOP (Metropolitan) [5.39 p.m.]: It is my desire to congratulate you, Sir, on your election to office and to express the hope that you may enjoy many years in that office. I am not deeply envious of you, because of the responsibility placed upon you. I doubt, although I was a candidate, whether I would have been able to restrain myself sufficiently to refrain from commenting about something that might have

been close to my heart. Therefore, I would probably have been a very bad occupier of your dignified position. I do, however, envy you the opportunities you have for service to the public.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: You would have made a very bad "precedent."

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: As I was saying, I do envy you the opportunity you have because of your office, both inside this House and outside it, to raise the position of this Council to that which it was when I first entered some 21 years ago. I think that everyone in this House, and probably by now almost every Australian, is giving some thought to the question of the European Common Market and its influence on Australia. I have no desire whatever to raise the question of who is right and who is wrong. I am prepared to follow the leaders of our country in the advice that they give on the matter. But there are certain aspects which have not, probably, been given any consideration.

It seems almost a duty, as I said last year, on the part of Great Britain to do what she can for her people; and that may include entering the European Common Market. If that is so, it will affect us in some way; but have we really thought of methods by which we could really get over the difficulties? Nothing in this world can remain static; everything changes. Therefore there must be certain problems that will come to us.

Last year I even emphasised that we must consider whether we are really justified in saying to the people of Europe and Great Britain—the latter having been struggling financially ever since the war to retain her pre-war position—and to people like the Germans—who have worked and worked and who are finding that some of their tremendous industries, including shipbuilding yards with a capital of £65,000,000, are in difficulties—that they must assist us to maintain our standard of living. Those countries work three shifts a day whereas in the majority of cases we start at 9 a.m. and finish at 5 p.m. We have an entirely different mode of life. Therefore we may find ourselves in a position whereby even if we get all the preferences we require and all that the Prime Minister seeks, we may still have to alter our way of living.

One of the matters that interests me very greatly is whether our field of economy in Australia is as soundly based for the future as we might hope; whether we are able to continue as a people living as we do and conducting our lives as we do—our agricultural pursuits, secondary industries, etc.; whether we have devised a system of living which will continue to work when we face the possibility that many of our markets may have to be in Asia.

I would like to read to the House certain extracts from a very interesting document of which I became the owner by the courtesy of Nestles. This firm apparently paid for this publication and issued it to a number of the profession; and, I believe, there are only about half a dozen in Western Australia. It is called *Humanity and Subsistence* and is a record of a conference held at Vevey in Switzerland from the 21st to the 23rd April, 1960.

One of the problems that I would like to discuss with the House—and I wish I had a much deeper knowledge of the subject than I have so that I could explain it more clearly than I will be able to—is that of malnutrition and under-nutrition. This is a subject that may be of tremendous importance to the future of this land.

The first article I wish to read is on page 54 of this document, and it is headed, "Protein Malnutrition and Stable Foodstuffs." The article is by J. F. Brock, and it states—

The last decade has seen a shift of emphasis away from an earlier too exclusive preoccupation with vitamin nutrients to a more realistic appraisal of the importance of the quality or make-up of proteins, fats and carbohydrates. These three can no longer be treated as nutrients but must be regarded as constellations of nutrients. The same decade has shown the great economic importance of protein malnutrition; that is malnutrition resulting from too great a dependence on starchy foodstuffs at the expense of protein-rich foodstuffs. Protein malnutrition is most evident in the post-weaning years—

This is where the article refers to "kwashiorkor," which is quite prevalent in New Guinea and the Islands, and on which much research has been made by Australian scientists; and a number of our professors of medicine and allied scientists have already visited those areas in the hope of assisting in the eradication of this disease. The article continues—

—(kwashiorkor) but it is reasonable to suspect that it may have effects on constitutional susceptibility at all ages. Because starchy foodstuffs and protein-rich foodstuffs are variably constellations of nutrients (including amino-acids, sugars, fatty acids, vitamins and minerals), the clinical picture of kwashiorkor varies from region to region according to the prevailing local staple foodstuffs. Experimental work on kwashiorkor has, however, shown that the most-limiting nutrients in protein malnutrition are a group of amino-acids. This determines the international public health need to concentrate in agricultural policy on the production of more protein-rich foodstuffs and more variety in staple foodstuffs.

I will not go on wearying the House by reading further at this stage, but I would mention the chief symptoms of this disease of kwashiorkor; and if later any members would like to see the state of the children suffering from this disease, I will make this book available to them. The great disability suffered by these children and others afflicted with this disease are retarded growth and especially delayed bone maturation; deficiency of albumen; loss of body skin condition; fatty infiltration of the liver; abnormal fermentation in the intestine; imbalance of minerals within the blood.

This type of condition is one which is continuing steadily in the territories over which we have trustee control, and it is a disease which should be eradicated. It appears in quite a number of Asian places, and it keeps the inhabitants of those areas in poor condition.

Quite an amount of this book is so technical that I do not want to weary the House with what cannot possibly be understood without some explanations, which it is not possible for me to make at this time. But I wish to emphasise that previously it was thought that if these races were supplied with such things as soya bean, that being rich in protein of a vegetable type, the supply of that protein would be adequate. But the findings of these fellows were so enlightening that one must begin to think completely differently in regard to the agriculture of our country. This is the passage to which I wish to refer—

The protein content of the diet can be raised, as well, by the addition of vegetables to the cheap cereals and sugars. Yet the biological value of vegetable protein of the soya bean or pea, is not high. Therefore, to have an adequate intake of essential amino acids, a large quantity must be eaten.

One also has to realise that the soya bean is even deficient in amino acids which are so essential to the absorption of those proteins.

A further reference I want to make—again it must interest those in agriculture within our own State—is this—

The struggle to conquer this disease will be won with the following principles:

First, by increased supply of protein, mainly of animal origin, for the nutrition of children especially after weaning. Unfortunately, animal protein is expensive. A cheap and easily obtainable superior remedy is dry skim milk. One disadvantage of it, however, is that frequently during preparation, lysine is inactivated through prolonged or excessive heating, resulting in the loss of this most important amino acid.

Those are the technical details that I want to lay down as the principle of what I am prepared to say. What I think we must now face is this: We are not going to find these people to the north of us, or those in China—that vast country—accepting indefinitely, wheat from us as a staple food. I cannot imagine that as time continues the Chinese will accept an over-distended belly as a state of health. They are not going to do so; and that is all that the carbohydrate foodstuffs will give them.

Those of us who have been to places like India will have seen children lying around with swollen bodies, loss of pigmentation of hair, and thick skin in a horrible state. That state of affairs is not going to continue forever once it is known that the answer to it is animal protein and not wheat or any other foodstuff of the carbohydrate type.

We must begin to take stock of the position. If we are going to supply the Asian markets, we will have to supply animal protein at a lesser cost than is possible at the moment. We may have to alter entirely the relationship between the wheat areas and the areas that are now engaged in the production of beef cattle; we may have to increase the export of lamb; and we may have to become a country that produces animal protein at a much lower cost than we do at the present moment.

Mr. Wise spoke about research in the north. But there is ample room for research in this field which I am mentioning; and the question arises whether in this State this mass amount of animal protein that is going to be needed in these distant countries can be produced. One must ask oneself this: If we feed carbohydrates to animals in this State, will they grow to a normal, healthy size?

I am quite certain that in the past it was believed that we could grow poultry by feeding the birds nothing but carbohydrates. But in recent times it has become evident that the more protein that is given to animals, from poultry upwards, the greater will be the growth of the animal and the greater will be the production of protein matter from that animal.

Today, by the addition of the protein from the blood of the slaughtered animals, we are able to see a tremendous rate of growth in the poultry receiving that protein; and poultry is now occupying an increasingly prominent place on the household table. Do we imagine that in our great north-west we are going to raise cattle purely upon grass? Is there some other factor which must be considered? Is it possible that in the north of this State we have cattle growing to the size they reach because of the carrion which, through lying on the ground, eventually soaks into the earth? Is it possible that the decayed protein of birds and animals,

which we know are in quantity in the north, going into the soil allows the cattle to make the growth they do?

Is it going to be possible for us to condition our great south-west into cattle production, if what I think is our future turns out to be true, simply on grasses; or will we have to find added protein for these animals? Because it is going to require a very large increase. I say that, because there does not appear to me to be the carrion in the south-west that there is in the great north.

One of the questions that must be looked into from the point of view of research in relation to this production, is: What effect is being produced in the north-west by the eradication of animals by poisoning? Someone might put me right if I am wrong, but I believe that pentoxide is one of the drugs, if I may call it so, used for eradication of the kangaroo; or it was used until the C.S.I.R.O. introduced 101 which, I believe, is a highly virulent poison. Are we poisoning all the carrion and the decaying protein in that area; or is it perfectly safe for us to continue to do it?

I do not know enough about agriculture to answer that question, but I do know enough to tell the House that in the future this protein is going to be the basis of export from this country to Asia if Asia is to live a normal life so far as human nutrition is concerned.

If what I have said is true, then I think there should be quite a number of us turning our attention to what might have to be done to change over from one form of living in this country to another; and it might go for the whole of Queensland and the Northern Territory and, indeed, anywhere else where we can grow cattle.

I realise that, with the new roads that are being built through the north, there will be an increase in production but, if we are going to live with these people who number nearly 1,000,000,000, and if we are going to meet our share of their needs, we will have to produce a large amount of animal protein.

I admit that up to recent times I, too, have thought that the soya bean would provide part of the answer to the question, but on the findings of these people at Vevey there is no possible chance that the soya bean will do so, because the large amount of soya bean that is needed to gain the required protein cannot be absorbed by the individual. Therefore, we have some more problems which I think we must investigate.

If we are to continue to produce milk in this State, and, further, if the production is to be increased, we must examine the potential of dried skim milk; but the drying of that milk must be done by some method which will not generate sufficient heat to reduce the lysine in the milk

otherwise the treatment will be quite useless for the purpose for which it was designed; in other words, it will be quite useless for the supply of lysine.

The Hon. F. D. Willmott: What about skim milk cheeses?

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: Yes, they would be in order provided that the heating in the production was not too severe to destroy the lysine. The amino acids must remain; and, if they remain, this disease could be controlled. It is true that in certain countries, such as Central South America, protein is not the sole answer to controlling this disease of kwashiorkor. It is believed the deficiency, through lack of protein, renders the whole human body to such a state that other factors can take over. In some cases, it is considered that cancer of the liver is in greater proportion there than elsewhere; and it is believed that this lack of protein is a start of that condition.

That is one factor, and the second factor is that if we are going to supply these people with protein, the question arises as to how this change of circumstances in this State or even in Australia is to be brought about and how the change over is to be made. As I pointed out, there are many questions to be answered: whether the cattle will grow to the required condition in certain parts of this country; whether there will have to be certain parts of this country which will have to be recognised as being more suitable for the growth of animals.

If we are to do this, we might find ourselves in this position: If we join the European Common Market, in my opinion the people who will be most affected will be the New Zealanders with their agricultural products and, if that be so, even with the preferences which are given to them, it is possible that it might be wise for Australia to cease manufacturing butter and cheese and to rely on New Zealand for such production whilst we turn more towards the production of protein.

It is interesting to realise that about 84 per cent.—this is what I am told—of the real value of agricultural products—I suppose those words are incorrect because I should talk about the bovine and sheep products—in the milk and the cheeses, is derived from the particular type of grasses of New Zealand which have a higher nitrogenous quality. I make this statement in all seriousness because from what I can gather there is only a very small proportion of our small dairy farms which are dotted all over this country that is showing a profit; and, in fact, there is only a small number of owners of these small dairies that is even paying income tax. I believe that, on the whole, they are the poorer group of this community.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: There is no doubt about that.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: Yes; there is no doubt about that.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: I believe that is true. If we can get collective areas in which we can turn to cattle production and get down to the real question, that of being the external supply of such production to New Guinea and Asian areas, in any form which is desirable and absorbable, I think we could alter the whole of the economy of those people. There is no doubt that, on making inquiries from people who have been in England, the New Zealand butter and cheeses are more acceptable in that country than are the Australian products; and the New Zealand lamb is accepted by the people of Great Britain before the Australian lamb.

The Hon. A. L. Loton: Not in all cases.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: I will not say in all cases, because I have not sufficient knowledge of the position. There are people who like Australian lamb; but if one goes to England—and I have asked quite a number of people who have lived there for quite a time—and one enters a butcher shop, the butcher, in the vast majority of cases, will advise the purchase of the New Zealand product. If that is so, we have in New Zealand a great field that is possible of expansion because their season is earlier than ours, and that is why their products arrive on the market before the Australian products.

However, the point I am making is that there is a possibility, with close co-operation between Australia and New Zealand in production, and because of our relationship with South-East Asia, and even with Chinese and Japanese areas, that this might alter the economy and meet any difficulties that might arise in that particular field if we did find that we had to change our circumstances and our means of living. One must realise—because it is quite true—that Britain, as a customer in actual financial terms, has decreased its imports from Australia considerably. It has decreased them from something like £90,000,000 a year to £27,000,000 a year. We still have to face up to that fact. We must also face the fact that we have to live with Asia. Every day the gap between Asia and ourselves becomes less and less.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: Whether communistic or not.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: Yes, because the Asians can supply us with a means of living if they can afford to buy our products. I do not know a great deal about agriculture, but I put this point of view forward as being one of commonsense. There is sense in the fact that these people are crying out for protein; and they are not always going to be prepared to accept ill-health because of carbohydrates

being their staple foodstuffs. Therefore, we must look closely at the position to ascertain how we can alter the existing set-up.

There are a number of matters about which I would like to say a few words. For instance, I would like to say that a great deal of interest has been aroused by the work of the town planners; and, in my opinion, the work they have done is of great interest to everybody. I think it is a subject to which everyone should pay a great deal of interest, and if they feel they have anything to offer by way of constructive criticism, or any other contribution, they should offer it. The question of the switch road is one that is exercising the minds of a great many people today; and I sympathise with the town planners tremendously in trying to devise a switch road in an area which is already built up.

I am wondering whether one can really estimate the size of a city as it continues to grow; and, if we are to consider a city of about 1,000,000 or 1,500,000 people, such as that of Perth, I for one would not know how to estimate the size of the central city; and I do not know whether it would be possible for anyone to estimate the size of the city at the present time in view of the many changes in living, in traffic, and in various other directions.

However, I am wondering whether the switch road, if it is to follow the route suggested now, is going to constitute another road block comparable to the railway station, and whether it should not go out some little distance further; but the moment that happened I can quite realise that one would get into ordinary domestic areas. One of the aspects of the switch road that interests me is: To what use are the borders of the switch road to be put in a city of this character? Wherever I have travelled and wherever I have seen a wide road built in a city where narrow roads previously existed, the wide road, which was thought by the planners should contain trade shops and houses, did not in fact do so. The roads were lined by public offices, insurance companies, churches, public halls, and so on, but not by what we know as trade shops and houses. The public seem to have liked, for trading purposes, the narrow streets.

It would be interesting if the Minister for Town Planning could give us some idea of what is envisaged, by the town planners, on the borders of the switch road. Is it contemplated that such areas will be residential? Is it contemplated that shopping areas will go along these roads? Or is it contemplated that big business houses such as insurance offices and large retail stores will go there?

To me, at any rate, it would be fascinating to know what the town planners have in mind in regard to these areas. There

is one factor which I have had the privilege of discussing with Mr. Lloyd; and whenever I have discussed town planning with him and his officers they have always been most helpful and obliging, and I fully acknowledge that they always answer the doubts which I raise. However, I propose to continue my remarks after the evening meal because I want to introduce to the House an instance of town planning on the river end of our city; by that I mean down by the Causeway; and to commence dealing with the details I have in mind at this moment would, I think put us off the trail.

Sitting suspended from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: Just before the tea suspension I mentioned that I wanted to bring up a matter which had already been discussed with Mr. Lloyd. While I respect his opinion greatly, I feel so keenly about this matter that I think it should be brought to this House and given a public hearing. As one who goes to watch football matches and other sporting events held at various grounds, I have been concerned at the fact that at the present moment we have not got a ground which really meets our present requirements.

It will not be very long—I think it will be four or five years at the rate it is going—before the Subiaco football ground will be quite inadequate to hold the number of people who desire to see the finals and semi-finals during the football season.

I also view with concern the fact that the Western Australian Cricket Association still finds itself in difficulties. Unless there is a great change in the public attitude, the Cricket Association may find its difficulties continuing in the future. The Western Australian Cricket Association has had to raise sums of money to meet conditions which have arisen; yet I still feel very doubtful—while we have to pay a subsidy to the Eastern States—whether the Western Australian Cricket Association will find itself in anything like financial stability.

If one views this area of the W.A.C.A. ground one will realise that it is one of the most picturesque spots in the entire city; and were the Government to buy the W.A.C.A. ground, it would have control of the entire frontage of the river, from the recently erected tramway and bus terminus to the recently built Trinity College on the waterfront. It would be faced with a wide avenue that would go around that area; and it would be one of the main outlets from the city; and it would lead to a bridge, to be built in the future, from that area to Heirisson Island, and again to the mainland.

I venture to state that in the future there will be a greater number of people entering the city by land than there will be via the port. I would say that far more people will come overland, across the

Nullarbor, and by air and by train, than by ship. The number will be considerably greater. The Government would have an opportunity of really extending that area into a most cultural and picturesque site. I suggest that an approach be made, with a view to the money that the W.A.C.A. would have; and I estimate it would be somewhere about £300,000; and the value of the land would I think be equal to that.

The W.A.C.A. would then be in a position to approach the Subiaco Council with a view to purchasing that ground and coming to some arrangement with the W.A. National Football League. It would be necessary for it to spend a considerable amount of money to make the Subiaco ground one which would compare favourably with the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

I appreciate that Mr. Lloyd says that the Subiaco ground is situated in the wrong direction; that the goal posts should be in the opposite direction; but that would then create difficulty with the present members' stand. But the present stand need not always remain where it is; it could be shifted to where the western goal posts are at present. I believe this could be converted into a ground that would meet all our sporting requirements for many years to come. There is a great deal of possible parking space in that area, because it is an "A"-class reserve from the Modern School to the Subiaco ground; and west of that area I believe the land is vested in the Subiaco Council.

There are tennis courts established there at present, but these need not always remain tennis courts; they could be sited in an equally convenient place nearby. I feel this is a plan which could well be given consideration. If the Government did not want to purchase this area at the present moment, I feel it would be in the interests of a body of public-minded citizens to purchase it on the basis of valuable increment, and make it available for investment purposes and for building purposes.

I do not know of any other site in the city that would attract people more than that area; because there are very few sites available which are comparable to it. If one looks at this matter further one will realise that there is an area on top of the hill, where the cemetery is established at the moment, with houses around the border. This could eventually be made into an area to hold one of the most sort after suburbs in the whole of Perth.

I appreciate that Mr. Lloyd is perfectly correct when he says he has a plan for Heirisson Island. He has been good enough to show me this plan; it is a wonderful plan which when completed will make Heirisson Island the greatest sport centre in the entire world—not merely in Western Australia—but I feel

that this cannot be done for many years. In my opinion it cannot be carried out for less than £10,000,000. I feel that that sum would be required to bring Heirisson Island to the required standard. That may include the bridge which would go from one bank of the river across the island to the other bank. But I cannot visualise that money being spent on Heirisson Island while we have so much else to do in bringing our city into order; particularly when we consider that it will be necessary to build switch roads, to widen certain areas, and so on. I cannot imagine this being completed in the lifetime of members in this House.

In the meantime we must make some preparation. I would make a further plea for consideration of this matter; and this is the place to make such a plea public. Quite frankly I have not approached the Western Australian Cricket Association or the Subiaco Council; but I make the suggestion as a personal one to see what the public reaction will be. It is possible that the Western Australian Cricket Association would hesitate to fall in with the scheme knowing that it would lose its present ground. But the Cricket Association consists of men of such great purpose—men who are dedicated to cricket—that if they felt they could stabilise their finances, and the sport, they could very well give consideration to the matter.

This afternoon I asked a number of questions in regard to traffic penalties with particular reference to the suspension of licenses. I am not opposed to any measure that will produce results and help lessen the death roll by traffic accidents, but I do feel it is time we had a look at the position to see whether we are achieving our purpose in a sensible manner; or whether the cancellation of licenses is proceeding on the grounds of speed alone; because speed is not the only consideration. There are motorcars on the road today which are perfectly safe at 35 to 40 miles per hour; they can in fact pull up in the same space at that speed as can some older cars which might be doing 25 miles per hour.

I often wonder how some of the cars on the roads today were ever licensed. They are dangerous to drive at 25 to 30 miles per hour. From the number of times one sees the blue light at night it makes one wonder whether we are in fact reducing the number of fatalities by the present system of punishment. It would be interesting for members to consider a three-month review of our present method of punishment for speeding offences.

Another feature that does not appeal to me about this system of punishment is the imposition of a double penalty for one offence. We have never been the sort of nation to say to somebody, "If you have done something wrong you must go to

gaol, and we will take all your property away from you and let your family starve". I cannot see why there should be a monetary penalty and the cancellation of the license; because the cancellation of the license is tantamount to a monetary penalty, since anybody who loses his license and requires it for business purposes would find it necessary to employ some other mode of transport, which of course would be extremely costly.

I feel that in some cases we penalise not only the driver but the family of the driver; and we penalise them very heavily indeed. Let us consider the matter of losing one's license for passing through a red traffic light. Quite frankly at some hours of the day it is almost impossible to see some of these lights. One such set of lights stands at the corner of Hampden Road and Mounts Bay Road near the University. It is impossible at times to tell when the lights change, and one could quite easily go through while the red light was showing. I have found it necessary to look with the greatest care before I turn into Stirling Highway. Sometimes we hear of someone being fined £10, together with the loss of his license for a speed of 40 to 42 miles an hour. This could quite easily mean that the individual was moving down an incline which would naturally increase his speed above 40 miles an hour.

I wonder whether we are not being just a little too heavy in our penalty in such a case. I do not mind how heavy the penalties are for drunken driving, or against people who have no care for the safety of the public and who are ruthless in the driving of their cars; but I wonder whether we are not imposing some hardship on some of those people who are normal drivers with a normal sense of responsibility? I ask these questions in order that the House might have an opportunity to review what has happened in the last few months. If, when the figures are released, they show that there has been a drastic lessening in the number of accidents and fatalities, I will be quite satisfied.

I was interested this morning to see in the Press the report of the Child Welfare Department, because I really believe that what that department is doing is essential. I am very glad to see that the major onus is being placed upon the parent. I feel that every one of those children who is regarded as a delinquent should at least be seen by a sympathetic psychiatrist. In addition, when these children are charged, I would like to see some sort of investigation made of the parents.

It is an extraordinary thing that we have been having families for thousands of years, but we have never learned how to bring them up. It is one of the tragedies of civilisation. We all know that there

are cases where a mother and father almost reject a child who is difficult to handle. These parents do not seem to have a psychology that fits, and the position becomes very difficult.

I agree that some steps have to be taken to look for where the trouble really lies—and more often than not it lies in the home. We must not blame the delinquent child all the time. If the child is of submental deficiency, I think the parents should be given some guidance as to how to handle the child; and the various recommendations made by the committee have my wholehearted approval.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: Do you think some of our welfare officers are old and seasoned enough for the positions they hold?

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: I believe that the training of these people is absolutely essential. This is not a job for everybody who says, "I will become a guidance officer," or a person who says, "I will advise in the handling of children." This job can only be done by people with a suitable knowledge of psychology and a smattering of psychiatry, with a trained psychiatrist behind them.

What has happened in this State and in the other States of Australia is that we get an idea that something should be done, and then appoint someone who is regarded as being suitable, although that person has no real qualifications, because there is no method of educating such a person. In the field of mental health we should not only include those people who are regarded as being in need of mental medical aid, as one might call it, but should also embrace people who need aid to enable them to bring up a family. This would give them a correct approach to their family.

I would also appreciate even more stringent investigations being made before a child can be adopted. I think those investigations ought to be as strict as possible; not only as to whether the family is in a financial position to adopt a child or whether they desire to have a child in their home, but as to whether they have the ability to accept that child. This would apply particularly where individuals have lost a child. Those parents may not be suitable persons to adopt a child.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: I know of two bad cases.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: These are questions that have to be dealt with. I feel the whole problem must be handled by people who are prepared to dedicate their lives to it and who will undertake training in order to become efficient in these matters.

I now wish to draw attention to something which strikes me as being very important in our community so far as it affects the status of civilians. This unfortunate case involves an individual whom

I know quite well, but I will not mention his name as my concern has nothing whatever to do with the case or the actual finding of the case. Let me proceed! There was an accident in which an individual was followed by another car. This individual was driving his car and was seen in the early hours of the morning by the driver of the car behind to be weaving over the road. Eventually that car ran into a milk cart.

The man following behind left his car to find that the man who had been weaving had stumbled out of his car. I am quoting from the newspaper report which then stated that the driver of the offending car asked if anyone was hurt; and apparently if no-one was hurt, all he had done was to run into the back of a milk cart. The driver of the offending vehicle then said, "All right, I will carry on my way," or similar words. He was reminded to look at his car and he found he could not go on his way. The newspaper report then continued to state that he become offensive to the individual who advised him. The magistrate's finding, as reported in the newspaper, was that, on the ground of insufficient police evidence, he could not sustain a charge of drunken driving.

If we are reaching the point when only the evidence of a policeman is of credence, we are getting into very sorry situation. There were two reputable individuals who saw the accident, one of whom was the person whose vehicle was damaged. If a charge can be dismissed on that ground, is the civilian losing his position in the community? It would not have mattered if there had been six witnesses, the newspaper report stated that the magistrate could not give a finding because of insufficient police evidence.

I would suggest to the Minister that he look into this particular case to see whether that statement is true. If the magistrate was not prepared to take note of the evidence of two citizens who were obviously participating in the event, then I think the Minister should look carefully at what is happening in regard to the rights of the citizen.

The Hon. H. K. Watson: Would not that imply "not sufficient evidence adduced by the prosecuting sergeant"?

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: I do not know. I would like the Minister to check the position in order to see that it is correct. I am neither interested in the man nor the case, but in the fact that two responsible citizens of the community could not give evidence that could be accepted, and in the fact that, on the ground of insufficient police evidence, the charge of drunken driving could not be sustained.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: All speeding charges are *ex parte* against the citizen, are they not?

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: Yes. We do not have two policemen together as they do in some other countries where two policemen have to give evidence. I was astonished over this case and thought we were getting to the stage of a police State.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: I think it might be a good idea if you convey the name in the case to me and I will make the file available to you so that you can have a look at it yourself.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: I will give the name to the Minister. I now wish to raise a few queries about the appointment of magistrates and to say a few words with regard to the law as a profession. I cannot imagine why legally trained men are not always appointed to posts where legal decisions are required. I have been told on good authority that the whole situation should be brought into line with the medical profession. Nobody but a doctor is in charge of a hospital. We do have men from abroad who go to district areas, but they have certain qualifications which after a while we can accept. Initially they are not qualified for full work because they have come from a university which is not registered in this State.

However, they are men with experience. They go to country areas and eventually come back to the city. Surely to goodness we can raise the number of persons who will be attracted to the legal profession by seeing that nobody is appointed to posts where legal decisions are to be made, unless the persons concerned have legal qualifications. If this were done the citizens would feel perfectly safe. I feel the whole position should be taken up by the Law Society which should submit a recommendation to the Government that only legally qualified persons shall be appointed to courts or anywhere else where legal decisions have to be made.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Are you talking about magisterial appointments?

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: Yes.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: The Public Service Act provides that only a member of the legal profession, or someone who has passed the magisterial examination, is eligible for appointment.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: Would you extend that to administrative law?

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: If the rights of the citizen are concerned, positions should be held only by men with legal qualifications.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: How do you think we should approach the problem of two justices of the peace having the same post as magistrates in petty sessions?

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: The control of citizens' rights should only be governed by men with legal qualifications.

The Hon. J. D. Teahan: What about juries?

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: The decision as to the degree of punishment is dictated by the judge—and rightly so.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The important thing is that the verdict is reached by the jury.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: But the degree of punishment is dictated by the judge. When we speak of the verdict of a jury we refer to the voice of a number of citizens. The decision is not reached by one person. I do not know whether I am sticking my neck out or not, but I cannot see why it should be necessary for the health of an individual to be looked after by a qualified man, yet in matters of law his interests can be looked after by a man who is not legally qualified. I would point out that I have no ill feeling towards any of our present magistrates, but I do not like the principle. I think it is one that should be looked at. If we are going to attract people to the legal profession, I think we have to ensure that there is a sufficient number of suitable posts for them.

The Hon. E. M. Heenan: In this case you mentioned that the police could have appealed against the magistrate's decision if they thought it was justified.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: They could have done.

The Hon. E. M. Heenan: The fact that they did not appeal indicates that they did not share your views.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: The Minister has promised to let me have a look at the file, and that might satisfy me entirely. I have aired my views on the matter.

In conclusion, I would like to wish the new members of this House a happy term of office. I am sure that their contributions to the debates of this House will be readily acceptable.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. E. M. Heenan.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE: SPECIAL

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (Suburban—Minister for Mines) [8.2 p.m.]: I move—

That the House, at its rising, adjourn until 4 p.m. tomorrow (Thursday).

May I say, in explanation, that we amended Standing Orders last session to provide for the House to sit on Thursdays at 2.30 p.m. However, I feel that the noise resulting from the present building operations may be of such a nature that the deliberations of this House could be severely interfered with. These building operations are necessary, and if we sit at 4 p.m. instead of 2.30 p.m. we will not have such a prolonged period of interference.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: Then let us make more noise in here to counteract the noise outside.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: There are some people who do that already.

Question put and passed.

House adjourned at 8.2 p.m.

Legislative Assembly

Wednesday, the 1st August, 1962

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