

R. & I. Bank so that it will have a follow-on holding to develop after its East Hammersley holdings run out. There will be something like 2,500 blocks in the area. Another is to examine the urban zones to see whether there are some areas where subdividers are doing nothing to get lots onto the market; they are just waiting for prices to rise. Here the improvement plan machinery could be invoked.

Lastly, there is a request to consider the effect of land tax on undeveloped urban land to see whether this is inhibiting project developers from putting more lots onto the market.

I have one or two other thoughts on this matter which I am conveying to the Premier later this week, and possibly they will be dealt with by Cabinet early next week. I also expect the land and housing committee's recommendations to be handed on to me for forwarding to the Premier, so members will see that no time at all is being lost.

We have no problem over land reserves, as I have shown. The pinch in the pipeline is the crux of the matter, and it is being tackled. The Government is prepared to be quite ruthless in nipping in the bud any recurrence of a land price boom. Anyone who examines all the facts of the situation—not just one, or the prices and the availability of blocks—will realise that we are in a healthy position; and we most certainly intend to keep it so.

For those reasons I very much oppose the motion which has been moved by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Mensaros.

House adjourned at 10.01 p.m.

Legislative Council

Thursday, the 12th October, 1972

The PRESIDENT (The Hon. L. C. Diver) took the Chair at 2.30 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTIONS

Postponement

THE HON. W. F. WILLESEE (North-East Metropolitan—Leader of the House) [2.35 p.m.]: I ask leave of the House to postpone questions on notice and questions without notice until a later stage of the sitting. I do not have the information available to answer the proposed question without notice, but expect to receive it later in the afternoon.

The PRESIDENT: Leave is granted.

LAW REFORM COMMISSION BILL

Third Reading

Bill read a third time, on motion by The Hon. W. F. Willesee (Leader of the House), and returned to the Assembly with amendments.

DAYLIGHT SAVING BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 5th October.

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (North Metropolitan—Leader of the Opposition) [2.36 p.m.]: On this occasion this Bill comes to the Legislative Council from another place with a request for our concurrence. Such are the machinations of politics that a Bill passed in the second reading stage in this House last year and defeated in Committee by the casting vote of the Chairman is this year introduced in another place and then sent here to us.

I referred to the machinations of politics because the same fate was not apparently experienced by two Bills we debated yesterday afternoon—one a private member's Bill, and the other a Government Bill to amend the Lotteries (Control) Act. For some reason the Government decided to present the latter Bill to this House for the second time; but the legislation before us was introduced in another place, the object no doubt being to give members there the opportunity to address themselves to the matter before it was dealt with here.

It is strange that the Minister's opening remarks should read—

In view of an expression of surprise by certain members of the Opposition in another place that the Government has made another effort to introduce daylight saving legislation, I feel that I should enumerate to this House the steps that led up to such a decision being arrived at. In actual fact the first step in such a move was initiated by a member of the Opposition in this Chamber and I refer to The Hon. I. G. Medcalf who moved a resolution—

Mr. Medcalf moved his motion in an endeavour to be of some help and assistance to the Government. As members are aware the motion reads—

That in the light of recent experience of daylight saving in the Eastern States and bearing in mind the varied results and conclusions reached in those States, this House is of the opinion that the Government should arrange for a properly qualified committee of persons to report on the likely effects of daylight saving on the Western Australian population having regard for health, sociological, climatic and meteorological considerations so that if some Eastern States propose to reinstitute daylight

saving next summer, the Government may in the national interest of interstate trade, commerce and communications be in a position to produce some authoritative evidence to support a case for all States standardising on a time adjustment which achieves an acceptable compromise in view of varying time factors and conditions in the several States.

Mr. Medcalf made a very good speech in support of his motion and explained to us exactly what he meant by it. Most specifically, the honourable member was seeking to accomplish what the last words of his motion state; namely—

... if some of the States were to reinstitute daylight saving that this Committee should be in a position to support a case for all States standardising on a time.

As we all know the standardisation of time is the real problem confronting us on the western side of this continent. Everyone is aware that the sun sets in each of the States of the Commonwealth at different times.

The Government appointed the committee suggested by Mr. Medcalf and it was certainly fairly representative. However, I do not know whether the committee misread the terms of reference before it, but I have been unable to find anything whatever in the report indicating that the committee attempted to receive evidence in support of a case for the standardisation of time between the States of Australia.

Instead, the report contains a summation of what various people think and what other States experienced in relation to the introduction of daylight saving last year. The report contains one single paragraph upon which, it would appear, the decision to introduce this Bill has been made. A comment appears on page 4 of the report as follows:—

Taking all aspects into account, the committee by a majority decision was of the opinion that, on balance, daylight saving should benefit the health of Western Australia.

This is the only recommendation I can find in the report. At the time I was asked my views on the report, I said that, in my humble opinion, it was slanted in favour of the introduction of daylight saving.

The Hon. J. Heitman: That is for sure.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I do not use those words in a castigating manner, though I cannot help but think of the report in those terms.

I do not think it would have made any difference what the committee found, because I believe the Government was hell-bent on imposing daylight saving upon Western Australians this coming summer. I do not think the contents of the report

would have made any difference, because I believe the Bill would still have been introduced.

I should like to turn for a moment or two to a couple of items in the report. I am sure all members have availed themselves of the opportunity to read the report. Somewhere in this report there is the statement that no evidence was taken in the strict meaning of the word, but submissions were received. The submissions were in writing and apparently no verbal evidence was taken. Is this the case, Mr. Stubbs?

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I believe so.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The committee decided to insert advertisements in both metropolitan and country newspapers seeking written submissions on the subject. The committee also obtained information from the Eastern States. In response to the publicity the committee received 63 submissions from organisations and 309 from individuals. Additionally, the *Farmers Weekly* sought the signatures of those opposed to daylight saving and 864 people signified they were of this opinion. We would hardly expect the Farmers' Union to seek the opinions of those who were in favour of daylight saving.

The Hon. J. Heitman: The union would only approach its members.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Yes, it would only approach its members. The Farmers' Union knows that the introduction of daylight saving will damage the industry of the people it represents. It would hardly be likely to go out and seek opinions from people who want to join in an attempt to damage that industry.

The Hon. T. O. Perry: They produce the greatest part of the State's wealth.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I believe they do.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: That intersection is lost on me, because I did not hear it.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The Minister ought to listen more attentively because many of the comments which are made in this way would improve his knowledge.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: My knowledge does not need improving, but I wish my hearing were better. I hear remarks in the background, but I do not always catch what is being said.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The Minister has said that his knowledge does not need improving. Mr. President, I may be tempted to stray from the subject.

The Hon. J. Dolan: You will have others straying from it, too.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I am alarmed to hear any member say that his knowledge does not need improving.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: After having heard some of the members in this House, I am quite confident of being able to say that.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I always remember the first job I held as a boy. Of course, this was a fair while ago. I read on the bookcase of the honourable gentleman for whom I was working a little axiom saying, "Always remember, a man can learn from his office boy." At the time I tried to teach him a thing or two, as youth will.

I think I should return now to this important subject. The report is submitted in two parts. As I was saying, the committee decided to take evidence in the form of written submissions. These came from the Farmers' Union and, in fact, from all over the place. The T.L.C. and a number of women's organisations made written submissions.

The report goes on to give the committee's idea of what the submissions really mean. Apparently the committee divided up the submissions and then said—

On balance we think that daylight saving should benefit the health of Western Australia.

I still fail to find where the balance lies. I have divided up the submissions, as the Chief Secretary was good enough to make them available to me.

Let us first consider the arguments against daylight saving. A fair number of these were received from shire councils, the Country Party, parents and citizens' associations, branches of the Farmers' Union, and the Festival of Perth. I am only scanning through the report, but I think I have given a fair smattering of the people and organisations opposed to daylight saving.

The Hon. C. R. Abbey: Does the T.L.C. want daylight saving?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: No, that is not the case, Mr. Abbey.

The Hon. C. R. Abbey: If you look at the report you will see it does not.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The committee, or somebody working for it, must have divided up the opinions. One is, "Daylight saving: *Farmers Weekly* opposed." There follows the signatures of farmers on what appears to be a kind of *pro forma* which could be cut out of a newspaper. Each one of these contains anything from six to eight or from ten to one dozen signatures. I now come to, "Daylight saving: *Individuals* against." A large number of signatures appear in this section of the file. The next file is entitled, "Daylight saving: *Organisations* for."

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: Skimpy looking file.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: This lists such organisations as the Western Australian Cricket Association, some individual

companies, the Stock Exchange, some progress associations, the Kununurra Progress Association, and some shires. The next file is entitled, "*Individuals* for." This file is not very thick. The last file is a copy of the case against daylight saving by the Motion Picture Exhibitors Association.

I put it to you, Sir, if the Government's decision were made according to the submissions which were listed and put before the committee, why is this Bill now before the House? In one hand I hold the submissions for daylight saving and in the other I hold the submissions against daylight saving. The committee supposedly found on balance—I am out of balance already, because I am weighed down by the submissions of those opposed to daylight saving.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: On account of health?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Well, the committee said it would benefit the health of the people of Western Australia.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: Does the committee explain what it means by that?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: It would be unfair for me to say it does not, but I have not been able to find that it does.

The Hon. F. R. White: Does the medical fraternity make a statement that it will benefit the health of the State?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: From memory, the Director of Public Health made a statement saying that he did not think daylight saving would be detrimental to the health of the community. If members intend to ask questions such as this, I will have to refer to the file rather than answer incorrectly.

The Hon. J. Heitman: You could ask the Minister.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Yes, I could. The Government Astronomer—I do not remember his name—

The Hon. J. Dolan: Harris.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: —put up quite a good submission and in the end said that there was an argument for and an argument against daylight saving. His own opinion was that we should not introduce it. However, I do not think we should weigh this issue name by name. The people who were against daylight saving put in their submissions, and those who were for it also put in submissions. Whenever we appeal to people on an issue such as this, we always hear from those who are most voluble upon the point. Mr. Claughton knows something of this because in the past few weeks we have been inundated with a great deal of material concerning his Bill. The people with the more forceful ideas are the ones who give voice to those ideas and obtain the most publicity.

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: You could say that where the opinion was actively sought we got answers. Where it was not, we did not.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: What is the honourable member suggesting? Is he suggesting that I sought opinions on daylight saving?

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: No.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Then what is the honourable member suggesting?

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: The report which you have says that the Farmers' Union sought opinions against it.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Of course it did. I made that clear. I also went out of my way to say that we could hardly expect the Farmers' Union to seek an opinion from those who did favour daylight saving.

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: Say that again?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: It is a bit trying; I will go a little slower. I said it would be unreasonable to expect the Farmers' Union to seek opinions—

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: Why?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The honourable member knows the rest of it, does he?

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: No.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: It would be unreasonable to expect the Farmers' Union to seek an opinion from those in favour of daylight saving.

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: Why?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: For the simple reason that the farmers know daylight saving is likely to injure their industry.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: How would it injure the industry?

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: The Farmers' Union sought opinions on this question and it received 864 submissions from the entire farming community.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I am sure you will agree, Sir, that Mr. Claughton is able to make his own speech. He usually jumps up before the Ministers and defends them or his Government. Perhaps he will do so on this occasion.

In Western Australia we have had the experience of being without daylight saving for a year whilst it was in operation in the Eastern States. Some of us have tried to find out from the people in favour of daylight saving how the community has suffered as a result of this. As an individual I did not suffer; it did not affect me. In fact, the last time a similar Bill was before the House, I said daylight saving would not affect me personally. However, it is not our job to think selfishly

of the result to ourselves; it is our job to think of the benefit or otherwise that could accrue to the community.

After the experience was over and the other States had resumed their normal times, certain questions were asked. What was the result? Was there any financial loss?

In another place the Leader of the Opposition posed some questions to the Premier. He asked the Premier whether he was prepared to advise what the cost had been to the State, to industry, to commerce, and to financial institutions last year as a result of our not having daylight saving. I will read the extraordinary answer to that question. It says, "See answer to (3)." Part (3) of the question read as follows:—

Was the Government's decision in favour of daylight saving based on the Committee's report and recommendations or was it influenced by other information and submissions?

The answer was as follows:—

The decision was based on the Committee's report.

The decision would only have been based on the committee's report if, taking all aspects into account, the committee, by a majority decision, was of the opinion that on balance it was a good idea to have daylight saving. I have not been able to obtain information of anybody suffering financially in Western Australia.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I have it now. I did not have it at the time. I will tell you later.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The Chief Secretary has the information now?

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: Yes.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: You should tell us.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The time to have told us was during the second reading speech on the Bill, or are we to have another bleeding session?

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I did not have the information at the time and I did not want to comment because I did not have the facts straight.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I am delighted to know that for once the Chief Secretary has the facts straight.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I do not think you are being fair there. I always endeavour to have the facts straight.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The Minister should give such information to the House during his second reading speech. A Minister is not permitted to introduce new material in reply.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I have seen it happen here very often.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: If you, Mr. President, were to stop the Chief Secretary from introducing new material, we would never know about it.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: You will know about it.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I am very glad. I received a letter from one organisation telling me of its financial loss. I hope the company concerned will not mind my reading this letter to the House. It is addressed to me and says—

We should not let this moment pass without bringing to your attention the disastrous effects on our Industry which will most certainly be associated with the advent of Daylight Saving in this State.

Cyril Cornish Theatre Ads is the exclusive Screen Advertising Contractor to 81 Theatres and Drive-Ins in this State and our Circuit includes Theatres and Drive-Ins operating in and around the Perth City and Metropolitan areas as well as the Country. As such, we can be regarded as the leading Screen Contractor in this State.

The very thought of daylight saving, has caused an extremely detrimental Advertiser re-action to our medium, particularly in regard to the more important Western Australian Advertiser who regards Screen Advertising as an unnecessary risk and prefers to channel their appropriation to other media.

Arising out of the controversy relating to the possibility of Daylight Saving last year, this Company was affected to such an extent that a situation was created where a loss of no less than \$25,000 was incurred, thereby resulting in the necessity for substantial Staff reductions.

Since preparation and planning of advertising expenditure is normally decided upon during the July/August period, last year's loss of Revenue was subsequently irretrievable and of course this year, with a similar situation prevailing, the position has been aggravated.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: Do they substantiate the statement as to what the loss of revenue is due?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: It was associated with the problems of daylight saving being introduced. Their business apparently continued on an even keel until there was the imminent danger of daylight saving being introduced.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: That is only supposition; I would like to know for sure.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: Their clients would say so.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: Without your assistance, Mr. Griffiths, I asked the Leader of the Opposition whether they were able to substantiate the statement.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: If I may be permitted to interject for a moment I will let the honourable member know. I will, however, first complete the letter I am reading, after which I will answer the honourable member's question. The letter continues—

It is unfortunate but inevitable that the only way this Company has to combat a reduced volume of sales is by a reduction in expenses, which in turn means disposing with Staff, thereby aggravating the current unemployment situation.

This Company is of West Australian origin, wholly and solely owned and operated by West Australians, without any other means of acquiring revenue. It is therefore essential that in order for us to retain our present identity and level of employment, that the Daylight Saving Bill be defeated.

In conclusion, it is our belief that this state of affairs is indicative of the situation which prevails with the other Screen Advertising Contractors in this State.

Yours faithfully,
Cyril Cornish Theatre-Ads Pty. Ltd.
R. S. PRIDE,
General Manager.

I got halfway through answering Mr. Dans' question. These people with the imminent threat of daylight saving being introduced apparently found they would lose \$25,000 in their business transactions. What other possible reason could they give for losing \$25,000, because they have not lost this amount in previous years?

The Hon. D. K. Dans: Is there not a general recession in the economy?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: With this Government in office, there certainly is.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: That is not fair; the recession is Australia-wide and you know it.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I know it is pretty bad. How far am I permitted to continue on this aspect, Mr. President?

The Hon. D. K. Dans: As far as you like.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I think the honourable member knows that the recession is pretty bad, although there has been some renewed confidence lately. It is bad enough for there to be serious problems of unemployment, but this unemployment will be accentuated if daylight saving is introduced, because the motion picture industry employs a considerable number of people and its members feel that if daylight saving is introduced there will be wholesale

unemployment in the industry. What reason could there be for this unemployment in the motion picture industry other than the possible introduction of daylight saving?

The Hon. D. K. Dans: I like things to be proved; I would like them to be more definite.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I think it will be for the honourable member to get up and prove the reverse. Let him tell Cyril Cornish Theatre-Ads why the industry should not lose \$25,000.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: I merely want them to substantiate the fact that they have lost \$25,000.

The Hon. V. J. Ferry: Did you investigate it?

The Hon. D. K. Dans: I am not doubting that they lost it; I merely want to be sure that they lost it because of daylight saving.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I feel sure that when the honourable member gets up to speak you, Sir, will tell him that he has already spoken on a number of occasions.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: This letter has been written to me and I accept it in good faith.

The PRESIDENT: Order! I suggest the Leader of the Opposition address his remarks to the Chair rather than to the honourable member from whom he is attracting so much attention.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I was endeavouring to do just that, Mr. President, but, as you know, members will not stop interjecting. As I have said, this letter was written in good faith—and I am prepared to accept in the same spirit—in an endeavour to convey to me, as Leader of the Opposition in this Chamber, the experience which this particular company had and the reasons it gives for its financial loss. I do not think there is any necessity for me to be called upon to prove anything beyond that point. The first letter to which I have referred was dated the 10th October, and the one which I am about to read is addressed to me and is dated the 11th October. It states—

During the second reading of the Bill for the Introduction of Daylight Saving the Hon. Mr. Stubbs inferred that the Motion Picture Industry in other States felt no effect on Cinema business during the period of Daylight Saving. We strongly refute this statement and through the Annual Report to Shareholders of the Greater Union Organisation Pty. Ltd. submitted by Mr. Norman B. Rydge, Jnr., Chairman of Directors, an extract of which is hereunder quoted, we feel the Hon. Minister has no true evidence to support his opinion. I quote the extract,

"I mentioned in last year's report that we then faced the introduction of daylight saving during the summer months and that we could not then forecast the effect it would have on our business. Precise measurement of the effect is impossible in this type of business where the relative popularity of the programs presented remains the prime factor governing attendances. Our experience from the 1971/72 summer is that daylight saving has been responsible for a definite decline in attendances at drive-in theatres, but again measurement is impaired by non-comparable weather conditions which in this last summer were more favourable to us overall than in 1970/71."

Yours faithfully,

A. A. Stiles,
General Manager.

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: What State was that from?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I wish the honourable member would listen. It was an extract from a statement made by Norman B. Rydge (Jnr.), Chairman of Directors of the Greater Union Organisation Pty. Ltd.

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: To which State was it referring?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I do not know whether it refers to any particular State. We do know, of course, that in the Eastern States the sun sets earlier than it does here. I think when it is 8.00 p.m. here—which is the normal time we commence our period of darkness—then it is about 7.00 p.m. or 7.30 p.m. in Sydney.

The Hon. J. Dolan: You mean under daylight saving?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Yes, under our time.

The Hon. J. Dolan: They are much later than us.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: In other words the sun sets earlier in Sydney than it does in Western Australia.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: We have 35 minutes from daylight saving.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: That is right; which means that so far as the motion picture industry there is concerned it is an advantage because it does not have to wait so long for darkness.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: What about South Australia?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The position in South Australia is almost parallel with that of Western Australia.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: I thought you might have had some correspondence from there.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The President has directed members not to interject.

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: If the time concept suits the industry better I wonder why there are fewer drive-in theatres in the Eastern States than in Western Australia.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: That remark is so extraordinary that I will not spend any time on it. It is quite obvious that the climate of Western Australia lends itself more to drive-in theatres than does the weather in Sydney or Melbourne. I wonder whether the honourable member has been to a drive-in theatre when it is raining!

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: In other words, the weather and not the time is the factor.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Of course, in this instance the weather is the time. A person does not go to a drive-in theatre in broad daylight.

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: You said it was the weather and not the time.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The honourable member knows what I have said. If he is trying to place another interpretation on my remarks that is his affair. Be that as it may, the motion picture industry feels quite certain as a result of experience in the Eastern States that it will suffer very greatly from the introduction of daylight saving. One might say that is unproven; and so far as Western Australia is concerned it is unproven. However, I feel in the interests of this industry, its employees, and the many thousands of people to whom the industry provides entertainment, that we should not be obliged to take the risk. It has been indicated to us that a great deal of unemployment is likely to result from the introduction of daylight saving.

It all adds up to this query: What did the committee appointed by the Government find out? It certainly discovered quite a number of factors, but I do not know why it did not direct its efforts to the particular matter it was requested to inquire into. Some months ago, Mr. Medcalf, in speaking to his motion said it was important that the States of Australia should reach a point where time utilisation was adopted to better advantage, that the time should not be broadened, and that we should arrive at some standardisation of time. I cannot find any evidence that the committee appointed by the Government has given any consideration to this factor, and it is a very important one.

We are told that we must adopt daylight saving, because the financial institutions have suffered and will in the future suffer losses, but nobody has been able to tell us in what manner they have suffered losses.

The Hon. V. J. Ferry: That has not been proven at all.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: From the replies given to questions asked in Parliament, it is revealed that no reliance at all can be placed on the claim that financial losses have been sustained. I think in this question the attitude of the trade union movement is important.

The Hon. G. W. Berry: How many people does that movement represent?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I refer to page 8 of the report which I mentioned earlier. It states that only two submissions were made by the trade union organisations and both were opposed to the introduction of daylight saving. It further states that the Trades and Labor Council indicated that after a lengthy discussion with 86 unions it has been overwhelmingly decided that the council be not in favour of any disturbance to existing local time. The report started off by saying only two submissions were made by trade unions, but then it went on to say that those two submissions represented the views of 86 trade unions.

I can imagine the plight of a person working in the building industry who now commences work between 7.00 and 7.30 a.m. This person probably leaves home between 6.00 and 6.15 a.m.; and gets up at 5.30 a.m. or thereabout to prepare himself for work. Furthermore, his wife has to rise at the same time to prepare his lunch.

Under daylight saving such a worker will have to get up at 4.30 a.m., and he will return home an hour earlier in the afternoon. I can well imagine the inconvenience that will be caused not only to the person concerned but to his children. No-one can convince me that small children are prepared to go to bed earlier in the evening just because their fathers and mothers have to get up an hour earlier in the morning. I am sure that the mothers will not be able to put the children to bed an hour earlier. To suggest this is to tell a fairy tale. The true fact is that with daylight saving the children will rise earlier and they will go to bed later.

The Hon. G. W. Berry: They will be cranky.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Of course, I know that, and I am sure every member in the House knows that to be so. Many members in this Chamber have younger families than I have. I am now a grandfather, and if I had some time to spare I would tell members about my grandchildren!

The Hon. L. A. Logan: You have only one.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The honourable member is not up with the times.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: Then you must have two by now.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I certainly believe that the introduction of daylight saving will interfere with the domestic lives of the people. This is quite apart from anything one could say about the interference to any particular industry. I have said this before: probably the only reason I keep on mentioning the motion picture industry is that this body has taken the trouble to put up a good case.

The Hon. L. D. Elliott: Hear, hear!

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Did the honourable member say, "Hear, hear"? That industry has submitted reasons for its opposition to daylight saving. It has indicated that it will suffer, and its employees will become unemployed. I think we should take heed of that submission.

The rural industry has told us the same type of thing, and has indicated how daylight saving will interfere not only with the domestic life but also the working life of the people in the country. The trade union movement has told us the same thing.

The submissions against daylight saving have been overwhelmingly greater in number than those in favour of it. Despite this the Government continues doggedly with its intention to introduce daylight saving. It does not pay heed to the views of its own members who will be affected by this innovation, but no doubt they will still vote for the Bill because it is a Government measure.

I am sorry to have to say this, but I have witnessed this in recent times. I would like to be able to sit down and hear members on the Government side tell us what they really feel about the introduction of daylight saving—not what they will do when the division bells are rung, but what they really feel about it.

The Hon. R. Thompson: I can tell you now. From my experience in the war years and in Tasmania I am in complete agreement with the introduction of daylight saving.

The Hon. J. Heitman: You had better go back to Tasmania.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: All right, that is good. Mr. Ron Thompson will be able to make his speech—which he usually does—fully convinced and with great conviction because the subject he espouses will be one in which he believes. I think that is jolly good and I hope everyone else will do the same.

As far as I am concerned, nothing has been presented to make me change my mind. People who have asked me whether I intended to support daylight saving this year have been left with no uncertain mind. I have said, "No, I am not voting for daylight saving because I see nothing different."

It was hoped the Government would produce something as a result of the findings of the special committee which was set up. However, apart from giving the expressions of opinion on how the system worked in the Eastern States, and apart from the expressions of opinion which I enumerated as a result of the submissions made, it produced nothing.

If the Government had decided, on balance, whether or not to introduce daylight saving legislation as a result of the submissions which the committee received—measured in strength for and against—this Bill would not be here this afternoon. Of that I am quite sure.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: What has led the Leader of the Opposition to that suggestion?

The PRESIDENT: Order! I direct my attention to the honourable member who has interjected and ask him to make notes. He will have an opportunity to make his own speech.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Thank you, Mr. President. I think Mr. Dans ought to be very grateful to you.

I have almost reached the end of my remarks on this Bill. I think it is important that people understand the individual points of view of myself and the members of my party. I cannot tell members what the ultimate result of the Bill will be. Some members of my party will vote for the Bill and some will vote against it. I repeat: I cannot say with any degree of accuracy what the result of the vote will be when it is taken. However, so far as I am concerned, I have no feeling in my heart to change my mind. I do not think the introduction of daylight saving will be to the benefit of the people of Western Australia, as the Government claims it will. Therefore I propose to cast my vote against the second reading of the legislation.

THE HON. L. A. LOGAN (Upper West) [3.23 p.m.]: Despite the plea made by the Minister when he introduced this measure, I do not intend to change my mind on this very important matter. I intend to make some comments on the second reading speech of the Minister when he introduced this measure. I think the Minister should question the person who obtained the information for him because that information is not according to fact.

First of all, I will deal with that part of the Minister's speech where he mentioned the special committee which was set up as a result of a motion moved by Mr. Medcalf last year. Members will recall that on the occasion that Mr. Medcalf moved his motion I said I thought the committee should consist of members of this Chamber, and not of people from outside. The

Minister now confirms that what I suggested was right, because in his second reading speech he said—

The Government did not seek recommendations, because it felt that it was the duty of Parliament to make up its own mind about such a scheme on evidence produced to it.

I venture to say that had this Chamber set up a committee to deal with the question of daylight saving the report would have been entirely different from that which was presented. To think that a committee consisting of so many people could make only one recommendation—and that only in regard to health—was a pretty poor effort.

Mr. Dans interjected and wanted to know why the Leader of the Opposition thought there was a majority against daylight saving as a result of the submissions made. Well, the Minister has admitted that this is the position.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: That is right.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: The submissions to the committee were three to one against daylight saving and the Minister admitted that. I think that answers the question raised by Mr. Dans. As far as I am concerned, personally, I believe I represent the views of 85 per cent. of the voters in my province when I oppose this measure. That would be a pretty fair estimate. The Minister went on to say—

The final step that led up to the decision was Cabinet's consideration of firstly the committee of inquiry's report, and secondly, my report of the State Ministers' conference.

If the Minister had taken any notice of the submissions made to the committee surely his recommendation to Cabinet must have been against daylight saving and not for it. However, the Minister has said that because of the report he recommended to Cabinet that daylight saving should be introduced. The recommendation should have been the reverse. Just because the Minister attended a ministerial conference in the Eastern States, where daylight saving was supported, that was no reason for him to support it as far as this State was concerned. The Minister went on to say—

... it was felt that Western Australia could not cope indefinitely with an increased time differential of three hours.

The Minister did not tell us why Western Australia could not cope, even though we were able to cope on the last occasion. I would say that 90 per cent. of the people in Western Australia did not have a clue as to when daylight saving started in the Eastern States and when it finished. So how can the Minister tell us that we could not cope indefinitely. He went on to say—

... this caused many hardships to quite a large number of people.

Again, there was no evidence to support the statement that a large number of people were inconvenienced. On the contrary, and based on the evidence submitted to the committee, I think it can be said that hardship will be created for a large number of people if this Bill is passed. The Minister further went on—

... it is the Government's desire to implement daylight saving for a year of trial in order that we may be in a position to make a balanced judgment.

I do not think it is necessary to have a year or two of trial in order to make a balanced judgment.

I suggest those who are not old enough, or who are too old, to appreciate the period of trial which we have already experienced, would not want to go through a trial. I happen to be one of those who experienced a balanced trial. I have four children and I know what the result was, and so does my wife. The Minister said that the times were not normal. However, times were normal as far as Western Australia and the children were concerned. Daylight saving had a very serious effect upon them when trying to get them up in the morning and to bed at night. Therefore, some of us have had experience on which we can debate this measure.

The Minister went on to say—

... both opponents and supporters of daylight saving have been guilty of making some extravagant claims to support their cases.

I believe that is quite true, but on reading the evidence and taking note of some of the dire consequences we were told would occur if daylight saving were not introduced last year, I think the supporters of daylight saving stretched their imagination somewhat. I will refer to that later when I deal with the Country Party's submission to the committee. The Minister continued—

Extravagant as they may appear, the only way they can be judged to be sound or false, however, is by practical experience; in other words, by a trial period.

We had the trial period when the Eastern States adjusted their time to daylight saving. All the dire predictions that were made last year proved to be false. There is no need to give it any further trial. We know what went on.

Some extraordinary statements are made in the speech, such as this one—

Of course this is exceedingly important as, unless daylight saving is going to expose people to the sun in the critical hours, I fail to see how it can be claimed that it will have a detrimental effect on the eyes and the skin.

I do not know who wrote this speech but does he realise that every Saturday afternoon during the trial period bowlers in Western Australia will go onto the green

one hour earlier—at one o'clock instead of at two o'clock? Will that not expose them to the sun and to another hour of the worst heat? Midweek bowlers will be going out onto the green an hour earlier and will be exposed to another hour of hot sun when it is at its hottest. Women bowlers some of whom bowl twice a week, will be exposed to another hour of hot sun. I remind the Minister that many hundreds of men of mature age who play bowls will not be able to stand up to that extra hour of hot sun.

The Hon. S. J. Dellar: Will it take them an hour longer to play the game?

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: They will be on the green during an extra hour of heat from one o'clock to two o'clock instead of playing between two o'clock and five o'clock. That extra hour is vital as far as sun on the skin is concerned. I have heard some of the elderly men say that if daylight saving comes in they will give up bowls. That is only one section of the community, but I think it is a rather important one. The Minister spoke about the health of the community and the prevention of coronary disease. I believe that playing bowls has given an added lease of life to these men, but exposure to another hour of the worst heat of the day will not extend their life span; it will shorten it.

The Minister almost repeated that statement when he said—

Once again, there is no tie-up with daylight saving and exposure as a change of hours cannot expose workers to more time in the critical hours and it certainly cannot lengthen the long hours of heat.

I think it will be appreciated that on a very hot day it is much better to be out in the sun between four o'clock and five o'clock than between one o'clock and two o'clock. Therefore, one must be exposed to extra heat because, at the present time, the heat starts to wane at four o'clock but between one o'clock and two o'clock it is at its worst.

As regards schools, the Minister quoted the following statement by a spokesman of a medical organisation:—

I know of no ill effects upon the health of any child or adult from daylight saving; on the contrary daylight saving can provide additional opportunity to enhance the physical health of the community.

He went on to say that statement "influenced the Government to the same conclusion as the majority of the committee, who felt that on balance daylight saving should benefit the health of the people of Western Australia."

I have already spoken about the children. I do not believe it will not harm children to have to get up one hour earlier in the morning in order to catch the school bus,

or to have to travel home one hour earlier in the afternoon, generally in the hottest part of the day.

It has been said that it may be possible for the schools to stagger their hours. The person who wrote the Minister's speech does not know anything about schools and school buses. That is obvious. I know of cases where the children in a family attend three different schools and have to travel to school in school buses. If it is left to the schools to change their hours, one school might not change at all, one might change by an hour, and another might go halfway and change by half an hour.

In the case of the family I have just mentioned, one child could be required to go to school an hour earlier while another hangs around town or somewhere else for an hour until his school starts; then in the afternoon the first child would finish school an hour earlier and have to hang around for an hour until the other one came out of school. This is the sort of stupid situation which will arise and which we are told in the Minister's speech will be all right. What about giving some thought to those children and their families? The Labor Party says it represents those people. It just would not have a clue.

The Minister says daylight saving will enable husbands to spend an extra hour with their families when they come home from work. In the majority of cases the wife and mother will be home with the children all right but she will be on her own for the extra hour. There is no argument about that. Members should have a look at the results of the poll conducted by *The West Australian* or one of the other newspapers. Do members know who suggested daylight saving should be introduced? It was those who want to make a fast buck; young people between the ages of 16 and 20 years who have no responsibilities; and those who wish to play sport. Those are the people who want daylight saving.

No thought was given to the women and children; no thought was given to the women cleaners who rise at 5.00 a.m. to go to their cleaning jobs in offices; and who will have to rise at 4.00 a.m. if daylight saving is adopted.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: I think it might be a leisure measure!

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: No thought was given to those who work at the markets and who are the lifeblood of the community. They are all opposed to daylight saving. No thought whatsoever was given to the market gardeners. Instead thought was given only to those I have enumerated.

The Hon. R. Thompson: Which market gardeners are opposed to daylight saving?

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Mr. Ron Thompson should go to the markets and find out. The market gardeners there will

tell him. I went there myself and that is what I was told.

The Hon. N. McNeill: The Potato Growers Association.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: It is not only the Potato Growers Association; all those at the markets will tell Mr. Ron Thompson that they do not want daylight saving. I think it would be an education for some members were they to go to the markets in the early hours of the morning. They would then appreciate at what hour such people commence work. Under daylight saving they will be required to start an hour earlier. But no consideration at all was had for them.

The Hon. R. Thompson: Do you know what? I don't think you know what you are talking about.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Mr. Ron Thompson should go to the markets and find out for himself.

The Hon. R. Thompson: You do not know.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: I was down there last week. Was the honourable member there?

THE PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. R. Thompson: I have been there thousands of times; I am not just a one-time visitor. I represent many of these people.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: I visited the markets last week and that is the information I received. Mr. Ron Thompson can please himself what he does about it.

I would like to read the submission made by the Country Party to the committee of inquiry because I think it should be recorded in *Hansard*. It is quite a concise submission, and it reads as follows:—

When the Daylight Savings Bill was introduced in 1971 without any demand from the general public, the Minister said the main reason for the proposal of the legislation in Western Australia was that Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia were each taking similar action.

This in itself was no valid reason which, in effect, was to conform by time adjustment rather than daylight saving.

Mention was made of possible losses by the R. & I. Bank on the short term money market; questions answered by the Hon. Premier cannot justify the claim as no definite or specific instance of pecuniary loss could be given.

International time differences around the world do not interfere with money transactions or market opportunities.

Whilst some small loss may have been made in the first few days, business quickly adapted itself and

whereas a few people were inconvenienced by starting earlier, many thousands were not.

We were threatened with confusion over telephonic communications because of the three hour difference; this did not eventuate.

The wool buyers said that the Albany Wool Sales would be drastically effected even to the extent of wool sales ceasing in Albany. Wool sales were held as usual with a general increase in values.

The Chamber of Manufacturers said that Western Australia would be held in ill repute and would lose reputation and standing, indeed indicate a lack of maturity; this statement has been proved to be unwarranted and ill-founded.

The statement that Eastern State's offices are closed for business between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. is not correct in a general sense, this could apply in a few instances.

I do not know of any worth-while business either in the Eastern States or in Western Australia which closes its office between the hours of one and two. The submission continues—

It should be fairly obvious there are more Eastern States people doing business with W.A. than W.A. with the Eastern States.

The 3 hour difference gave Western Australian business, commerce and exporters an advantage on overseas transactions, and indications are that Western Australia gained more than it lost in this regard.

If members look at a map of the world they will find the Asian continent is alongside Australia and they will readily appreciate that we are not bothered by the time difference. The submission continues—

A decision on adjustment of times should not be made for monetary considerations only but the effect it has on all sections of the community.

That is the crux of my argument. To continue—

In this regard the country school children travelling on school buses would be considerably inconvenienced. Those now leaving home at 6.45 a.m. would need to leave at 5.45 a.m. They would also be returning home during the hotter part of the day.

Children will not go to bed one hour earlier and therefore lose one hour's sleep, and this is the most valuable part of the day when they can sleep in comfort and not troubled by the heat.

From our investigations in New South Wales and Queensland, the many letters received indicate the

difficulty the mothers had in endeavouring to get the children to adjust. Others stated that they were obliged to spend another hour in the house because of the children.

We found that those in favour were those who generally get home from work in the dusk or dark, those who wanted to go to the beach or play golf or bowls, and the younger people with no ties; in the overall, taking into consideration the population, these are a minority.

It is pertinent to point out that Queensland, which has more in common with Western Australia, have stated they will not introduce daylight saving this year; four month's experience was enough. It is also significant that the Northern Territory never altered their time at all.

The extra daylight and the less cloud formation we have in Western Australia compared to Victoria or New South Wales, means that we have not the same problem and in this regard no adjustment is necessary or warranted.

Sitting suspended from 3.47 to 4.02 p.m.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Before the suspension I had completed a submission the Country Party had made to the committee. I do not intend to deal with the side of the argument relating to the motion picture industry, because The Hon. A. F. Griffith has done that quite capably and effectively.

However, one letter by way of a submission was addressed to Mr. C. W. Campbell, the Chairman of the Daylight Saving Committee of Inquiry, by Mr. J. P. White, of 4 Brockman Avenue, Dalkeith, which I think is worth quoting to the House. It reads as follows:—

In response to your Committee's advertised invitation, I submit the following aspects for consideration.

Perth is situated 115.50 East; Sydney, 151.12 East. The difference, 359.22', is large and physical. It cannot be bridged or reduced by an Act or a Regulation.

W.A.'s population of 1,000,000—the great majority of which lives on the same approximate longitude as that of Perth, should not be subjected to the manipulation of its natural hours of living by the further artificial advancing of the clock. (Even the present 22 minutes is itself an unnecessary manipulation of a population principally situated North-South along a continental western coast which faces an empty ocean).

The proportion of the Western Australian business community which might be genuinely and seriously disadvantaged by this State's not following the south-eastern States into

Daylight Saving Time would be very small indeed and could not conceivably be held to justify the proposed further manipulation of the lives of the people of this State by the introduction here of a further one hour of so-called Daylight Saving.

It was clearly demonstrated between November 1971 and February 1972 that the increase from two hours to three hours in the time-difference between W.A. and the eastern States as a result of Daylight Saving over there had little effect on this State or on the other States or on the Commonwealth as a whole.

The argument, supported by claims of reduced interest earnings by certain financial institutions on overnight balances invested in the short-term money market, carries very little weight in the Daylight Savings context. The prime cause of such reduction in earnings was the huge in-flow of overseas funds seeking accommodation on the short term money market, resulting in major falls in the daily interest rates offering. This situation was set out very clearly in an article on the subject which appeared in the 10th November 1971 issue of the "Australian Financial Review".

The continental United States of America—a sophisticated financial and economic society—with (as in Australia) the financial power situated chiefly on its eastern seaboard, does not find it necessary to adjust the lives of its population on its west coast to the times in use on its east coast in order to effect its business and other national transactions satisfactorily.

Perth is situated 32.00 South. Sydney is 33.53 South—almost two degrees further south—which places Sydney at a point equivalent to one between Cape Naturaliste and Cape Leeuwin, where the climate is noticeably milder than that of Perth. In turn, Adelaide, Canberra and Melbourne are situated on latitudes south of that of Sydney. The great bulk of the populations of those States proposing to continue with Daylight Saving therefore live and work in latitudes well south of that in which the vast majority of West Australians live and work.

The majority of W.A.'s population lives to the west of wide arid areas—sometimes deserts. In the months of high summer, these arid areas generate extreme heat which can be carried through the populated areas during periods of sustained easterly winds.

With the first sustained heatwave during Daylight Saving (if introduced here) those who have forgotten—or

who, being new arrivals, have not yet learned—will have cause to regret (and resent) the introduction of Daylight Saving.

The last hour of sunlight in high-summer is a drawback to our otherwise excellent climate. To increase it by another hour would be unwarranted and avoidable interference with our environment and way of life. Few people can fail to look forward to sundown from 6 p.m. onwards, on a mid-summer day.

The argument which speaks of an extra hour of daylight for outdoor leisure is spurious. The vast majority of people, men and women and children, are necessarily house-bound—usually in a hot suburb—at that period of the day and are looking forward to the relief of darkness.

I thought that letter was very well framed and considered it worth reading to the House. It supports just about everything I have said, which I do not intend to reiterate. I have expressed my views before in this House, and I have repeated them again today.

I do not know how many members of my party intend to speak, but they have told me, in no uncertain terms, that they do not intend to agree to this legislation.

THE HON. W. R. WITHERS (North) [4.09 p.m.]: On Wednesday, the 6th October, 1971, I expressed my views on this subject and these may be found recorded on pages 1867 to 1869 of *Hansard*, Volume 191. At that time I expressed appreciation of the problems that may be faced by those affected by daylight saving. In particular, I mentioned the farming community, and also those engaged in the motion picture industry.

I pointed out there are weaknesses in the Standard Times Act of 1895 which was enacted for standard time on the 120° eastern meridian. I went on to explain that this catered for a small group of southern people, because there was only a small group of southern people in the State at that particular time. The number of people who did not reside in the southern section and the eastern goldfields of the State was, of course, very small by comparison.

I went on to point out that the State was far too large for any one standard time; that is, if we wish to keep everyone happy. I submitted my reasons then, and I feel that now I should quote some of the sunrise and sunset times that are comparative in the north of this State, measured against the times in Perth or the metropolitan area. I mentioned this fact in my previous speech, but I now feel that these times should be incorporated in *Hansard* so that people can compare the one with the other. These times are quoted in 2400 clock time, and are listed against the 30th

of each month with the exception of February, which will be shown as the 28th February. The first time I will quote will be sunrise for Perth and the second will be sunrise for East Kimberley. The third time will be sunset for Perth, and the fourth will be sunset for East Kimberley. The times are as follows:—

CURRENT WESTERN AUSTRALIAN STANDARD TIME

| Date | PERTH | | EAST KIMBERLEY | |
|----------|---------|--------|----------------|--------|
| | Sunrise | Sunset | Sunrise | Sunset |
| 30 Jan. | 0530 | 1921 | 0514 | 1800 |
| 28 Feb. | 0605 | 1854 | 0524 | 1748 |
| 30 Mar. | 0626 | 1816 | 0529 | 1727 |
| 30 April | 0648 | 1741 | 0534 | 1703 |
| 30 May | 0707 | 1721 | 0543 | 1701 |
| 30 June | 0718 | 1723 | 0550 | 1705 |
| 30 July | 0705 | 1738 | 0547 | 1714 |
| 30 Aug. | 0638 | 1758 | 0531 | 1715 |
| 30 Sept. | 0558 | 1817 | 0507 | 1721 |
| 30 Oct. | 0522 | 1840 | 0449 | 1727 |
| 30 Nov. | 0504 | 1907 | 0444 | 1740 |
| 30 Dec. | 0512 | 1926 | 0455 | 1750 |

So if any member has copied down that table he will find that in the East Kimberley a picture theatre can start at 6.00 p.m. under the present time system, but, like everywhere else, the pictures commence at approximately 7.30 or 7.45 p.m., the reason being that when a person knocks off work it gives him time to go home and relax a little; to get showered and changed before he attends the movies, if that happens to be his pattern of life.

Because they exist on the same pattern adopted by those in the city, they go to the pictures rather late in summertime, but it is roughly the same clock time. But what is the situation at the conclusion of the pictures? These people go home—just as they would if they were living in the city—and then retire to bed. However in the morning they get up at sunrise to start work because they live in a very hot climate. If they get up any later than sunrise the temperature is over 38°C. If we compare their situation with that of people living in the city who may be leading the same kind of life, we find they would go to the picture theatre and leave it at the same comparative sun time as they would in the north, which means they would remain at the picture theatre until 2.00 a.m. They would then get up at the normal time in the morning to go to work. I am sure that if city folk did this they would feel rather jaded in the morning; but this is the situation in the north.

I have just indicated that the State as a whole has a problem but I now wish to demonstrate that the North Province alone has a problem involving time because the State and my particular province is so large.

The eastern extremity of the North Province is on the Northern Territory border; its south-eastern corner is near the junction of the Northern Territory-South Australian border; the western edge is approximately 100 miles west of Perth; while the southern edge of the province is approximately 1,000 miles north of Perth. The

north-west edge is only 350 miles from Indonesia. Members can readily realise that in that one province alone a time problem is experienced.

Some people in the west of my province will be disadvantaged by daylight saving, but the majority of the people in the entire province are disadvantaged under the existing situation.

In order that I might fairly represent my province and do the right thing by the State, I advised all the shires within my province that the previous representations to me had indicated that I should vote for daylight saving. Only one shire has advised me that it is against daylight saving, and that is the Roebourne Shire which is operating under a commissioner who has a small advisory committee. However, the advisory committee is not an elected body like a council and the largest town in the shire is not even represented on it. Consequently I do not think that, with all due respect to the commissioner and his advisory committee, the opinion of the commissioner is a fair indication of an elected body because the committee is not an elected body. Consequently I must accept the commissioner's word, but I cannot allow it to sway me when I consider all the other shires which have advised me that they are in agreement with daylight saving.

For the reasons expressed it is my duty to my province to vote for this Bill.

THE HON. I. G. MEDCALF (Metropolitan) [4.20 p.m.]: I consider I should comment on this Bill because, as the Chief Secretary and Mr. Griffith have already mentioned, it was at my instigation the Government agreed to appoint a committee to report on daylight saving.

The Chief Secretary was kind enough to make available to me a copy of the report as soon as it came to hand and I have therefore been able to study it closely and examine its import. I must confess I was one of those to whom the Chief Secretary alluded as being a little disappointed that the report contained no recommendations. However, on closer examination I agree with the Chief Secretary that we did not in fact ask the committee for any recommendations and therefore I suppose it was in order in not submitting any. The Chief Secretary said—

No recommendations were recorded and this appeared to upset certain members, but it did not upset the Government as no recommendations were required.

That, of course, is correct. The motion which this House passed did not in so many words ask the committee for any recommendations.

Before I submitted the motion to the House I considered it very carefully and I hoped that as a result of the deliberations of the committee sufficient background information would be submitted to enable

the Government in the national interest of interstate trade, commerce, and communications to produce some evidence to sustain a case for the standardisation of daylight saving throughout Australia in some more palatable form than the way envisaged.

The Hon. J. Heitman: Are you interested in the daylight saving side of it or the time lag?

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF: I was primarily interested in the time lag because of its effect on interstate trade, commerce, and communications. To further elaborate on the answer to the question asked by Mr. Heitman, I must say that I made it clear in the debates on this subject last session that I thought two principal elements were involved—one being the time difference and the other being what we might call daylight saving proper. So two separate arguments really exist, but my prime concern throughout has been with the first; that is, the time difference as it affects the interests of interstate trade, commerce, and communications.

The motion requested that this background information be made available so that a case could be submitted for standardisation of daylight saving, if possible, as against the rather haphazard result it appeared we would experience this summer.

It will be recalled that in the past we have always had three time zones in Australia—the eastern zone, the central zone, and the western zone. When it was 12 noon in Perth it was 1.30 p.m. in Adelaide and 2.00 p.m. in the Eastern States. However, last summer we had four time zones so that when it was 12 noon in Perth it was 2.30 p.m. in Adelaide, three o'clock in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland, and yet a different time in the Northern Territory.

My concern at the time the House passed my motion was that we might not have three or four time zones this summer, but five. We could have one time zone for Western Australia, another for the Northern Territory, another for Adelaide, yet another for Victoria, New South Wales, and Tasmania, and a fifth for Queensland. This still appears as a distinct possibility and would make the difficulties of trade, commerce, and communications more acute than they would otherwise be.

What I am saying, I hope, is reasonably factual; and I am rather critical of the way in which the Eastern States, of their own volition and without consulting anyone but themselves, decided to institute daylight saving, because I believe this is a national matter which deserves a national approach. As I mentioned on the last occasion we discussed this matter, after 72 years of Federation I would have expected a better result. However, New

South Wales consulted only the interests of that State, and Victoria consulted only the interests of its State. I do not believe that was really quite good enough for those two senior States.

I may be accused of being an idealist, but I do believe that with the many interests the people of New South Wales and Victoria have in trade with the other States, most of which is in favour of New South Wales and Victoria, the Governments of those States could have made a better attempt to co-operate with the other States, but particularly with Queensland and Western Australia. However, it is not my business or our business; it is their business. Nevertheless it is unfortunate that a selfish attitude has been adopted by the States in this matter instead of an attempt being made to co-operate.

The reason for my moving the motion to which the Chief Secretary has alluded was to endeavour to obtain some factual evidence which the Chief Secretary could submit at an interstate conference to indicate the situation and problems in Western Australia. In this way the States could have been asked not to merely consider accentuating the time difference by an extra hour, but to devise some means whereby we might standardise our conditions.

I think I suggested that perhaps half an hour's saving could be given consideration provided it were done on an all-Australian basis. I am not suggesting that would have been the solution, but it appeared to me that a committee of experts might be able to guide us and the Chief Secretary to the right solution.

With all due deference to both the Chief Secretary and Mr. Logan I cannot quite agree that this was primarily a matter for a committee of this Parliament. I am well aware of the fact that in the final analysis Parliament must have the say and make the decision, as it must on all matters which come within its jurisdiction. However, I do not believe a committee of this Parliament would have produced the most desirable or most informed opinion from the point of view of health, meteorological, climatic, and sociological considerations.

Again with all due deference to the committee appointed by the Chief Secretary, I am disappointed in the report, because I do not believe the Government or Parliament has been given an adequate amount of background material or evidence on which to base a case for some kind of national approach to this topic.

In any event, I do not believe any national approach has been made from any quarter whatsoever. As I have said, I read with great interest the copy of the report which the Minister gave me as soon as it was available. I was unable to find in the report any evidence which

could be used by the Minister or the Government with a view to making a case for standardisation of time.

I can well believe the committee experienced great difficulties. I am not being personal in my reference to the committee. I believe it experienced great difficulties because so many people expressed different points of view. I would be the last to criticise a committee—when the evidence before it was so conflicting—for not reaching a unanimous decision. I am not suggesting it could have reached one. However, I do suggest that if the committee could not find sufficient material on which to give the Government the evidence asked for in the motion, it should have said so.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: That is right.

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF: I think the committee should have said, "We have considered the points in the Legislative Council motion and have come to the conclusion that we are unable to obtain evidence that there should be a case for the States to standardise on a time adjustment as requested by the Legislative Council." I think the committee should have said this if, in fact, this was its conclusion.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: I do not think the committee tackled that problem.

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF: The committee does not appear to have tackled it. In any event I was disappointed with the committee's report when I read it. It would be futile to say that I was not. The Minister knows I was disappointed and I think other members, too, were disappointed.

When I say I was disappointed, I am not criticising the committee; I am saying I think it could have done a better job. Members can take that as criticism if they like, but I am certainly not criticising the *bona fides* or the intentions of the committee. Had the report been given to me, I would have given it back and said, "Get back inside; lock the doors; and stay there until you produce a better report."

I merely wish to say now that I am still of the same mind as I was previously. I believe that, in the interests of trade, commerce, and communications, this State cannot afford to be left out on a limb as far as daylight saving is concerned. I am referring entirely to the time differential question. I do not believe the Eastern States will worry about us; in fact, this has been demonstrated. Therefore, I believe that in the present economic state of Western Australia, we would act wisely by coming into line on this question. For these reasons, I intend to support the Bill.

THE HON. R. J. L. WILLIAMS (Metropolitan) [4.33 p.m.]: I shall be brief in my comments, but I have two points I wish to make. I listened with interest to Mr. Arthur Griffith when he said that members

should be honest in what they say in this House and in what they really think on this issue.

Let me say right from the start that personally I am opposed to daylight saving. Probably I have lived under daylight saving for longer than any other member in the House. I lived under it for 32 years and sometimes the interval of daylight saving was one hour and sometimes it was two hours. Daylight saving was introduced in England for good economic reasons and, of course, the climate there is different from what it is here. Even in a different climate I was not endeared to daylight saving as such. I think it is unnatural. I think the adjustment at the end of the daylight saving time does not make a great deal of difference. However, at the same time I can remember a great deal of trouble in getting infants—I am not talking of children, but infants—off to sleep at night. Obviously, the problem will be aggravated in Western Australia because of the different temperatures.

The question of air pollution is one feature of the report tabled by the Chief Secretary which would cause me, personally, to vote against daylight saving. I think it is as well for me to tell the House that this part of the report is a definite reality. It is known that in the summer months of Perth there is such a thing as temperature inversion which is fairly common in the mornings. This temperature inversion—or layer which occurs at approximately 1,000 feet or less—has the effect of putting a blanket over the city. The early morning pollutants are trapped at that layer and a brown stain, as it were, appears over the city.

When this brown stain appears there will be letters written to the Press, telephone calls to the Environmental Protection Authority, and an outcry from the populace. There always is. The stain is caused by the early morning pollutants from factories and industries, which have started up, being trapped in the air. Pollutants from bushfires and the like are also trapped. The brown stain will last for at least another hour if daylight saving is introduced.

As the report states, the introduction of daylight saving would not mean that there will be more pollution, but the existing pollution will become more apparent. The inverse layer does not disperse until the temperature reaches a certain point. Alternatively, it can disperse with wind movement. As we know, there is not a great deal of wind in the summer months in Western Australia. Possibly the stain could hang over the city until after 11.00 a.m.

I have used this illustration, Mr. President, to indicate that personally I would not vote for daylight saving under these circumstances. However, let me say that

I have not been elected to Parliament to represent myself. I have been elected to represent my constituents. From the representations which have been made to me from time to time, the people in my electorate, by and large, feel that daylight saving should be introduced and Western Australia brought into line with the other States of Australia. They have given precisely the same reasons—those of trade, commerce, and industry—which my learned colleague, Mr. Medcalf, has just mentioned.

Scant attention is paid to Western Australia by the other States. On these grounds alone, I feel we must go along with daylight saving.

There is one other ground which I would point out to the opponents of the measure. A member would have to be over 45 and have a good memory to remember accurately the daylight saving experiments held in Western Australia previously. I believe these experiments were conducted in the 40s.

The Hon. J. Heitman: It is all right for a young fellow like you.

The Hon. R. J. L. WILLIAMS: This is exactly my point, and Mr. Heitman has stated it very well for me. The older generation—and in saying this I am referring to people who are over 50—would accurately remember what occurred at that time, but the bulk of the population, particularly the age group from 18 to 35, would have no memory of it at all. Even if they could recall it, their recollections would be extremely dim because they would have been children or infants at the time.

The Hon. S. T. J. Thompson: It was held over a different period and it was not in the summer.

The Hon. R. J. L. WILLIAMS: Fair enough; it was not in the summer. By the same token, what I am about to say may have some effect. I think Western Australia should try daylight saving. The people would then have a better idea and would be able to make a far better judgment than they can at the moment. In fact, when one asks the man in the street whether he wants daylight saving, he shows very little enthusiasm—about as much enthusiasm as he would show if he were asked his opinion about going to the moon unaided. The bulk of the population is not interested in this question. Naturally, these are certain factions. If we ask them their views, they invariably say they could not care less one way or the other, because it does not affect them.

Last summer we had the experiment in reverse and I think that during the coming summer we should experiment with the rest of the States of Australia. Then we can say to the people, "You have had a taste of daylight saving. What do you think?"

It is at this stage that I suggest we could weigh in the balance the two files—those for and those against—presented by the Chief Secretary. As Mr. Arthur Griffith pointed out, no group is quite so vociferous on any public question as that which is anti-something. Always the vociferous minority organise themselves into protest groups. We will see this in another debate on legislation to be discussed in the future. There are always those who are for something as well as those who are against, but the anti-party is always better organised, because it has something about which to protest.

We should be honest about this and try an experiment. We should give the people a chance to make up their own minds. There has been talk about sport, extra leisure time, and many other factors. However these remarks discount the loss to the theatres, to advertising revenue, etc.

However, people only make up their minds after they have experienced something. We live in an age today—goodness knows, we are all aware of this—where the word of our generation is no longer accepted. It is useless for anyone to stand up and advocate something unless he is prepared to back it up with proof. That is one of the local ills which bedevils our society today.

In fairness to the people of this State, let them try daylight saving for themselves and let them come back to us with their views next year. Had the Government introduced a measure which it intended to place on the Statute book for all time, I would have opposed the Bill. As it is, the Government has said that the measure is only for a trial period. I will go along with that trial period, although I, personally, dislike daylight saving intensely.

As I have said, members in my electorate feel that daylight saving is desirable. I have been elected to Parliament to express their views. Other members, too, express the views of the members of their electorates and not their own personal opinions.

Honestly and sincerely, I feel we should give the people the opportunity to try daylight saving on this occasion. Let them have the actual experience of it and then let them express their feelings in favour of the issue or protest against it, as they will. Under those circumstances, I will support the Bill.

THE HON. V. J. FERRY (South West) (4.43 p.m.): I respect the views of members who have contributed to the debate, but I feel I must express myself as I see the matter.

The measure is called, "The Daylight Saving Bill." The name itself is not a true reflection of its importance, I believe, because it has been pointed out that the main area of difficulty lies with the time differential between Western Australia and the other States of Australia.

I am yet to be convinced that we need daylight saving in Western Australia. I am the first to admit that there are areas of difficulty in connection with business enterprises and some areas of difficulty—I emphasise the word "some"—in connection with the financial world in this State in relation to its counterpart in some of the Eastern States.

I believe the experiment of last summer was a fair and just one. In fact, we conducted our experiment by remaining, as is usual, on standard time. I am not convinced that the areas of difficulty which arose were sufficient to warrant any change in the situation.

The Minister, when he introduced the measure in this House, gave us certain information, but I was a little disturbed to hear him intimate today, by way of interjection, that he has some further information to give to the Chamber.

I do not believe the Government should introduce a measure without giving the House the fullest possible information. If the Government is not satisfied that it has a complete case, it should withhold the introduction of the legislation until such time as it has all the facts available.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: This legislation has already been through another House.

The Hon. V. J. FERRY: I am fully conscious of that fact, and also that we are debating the issue for a second time in this Chamber. It is not good enough for members to be asked to make a sound judgment on the facts before the House and then for the Minister to have the privilege, if I may put it that way, to introduce fresh material which could have been made available at the outset. I do not appreciate this approach to the legislation. In fact, I am very disappointed at the way it has been handled. I do not say that for myself, but for the whole of Western Australia. Whatever may happen to this legislation, every person in the State will be affected.

If the Government wishes to go off half cocked, I do not believe this Chamber should give the Government the support it desires on some occasions. The report compiled by the committee of inquiry is an interesting document—interesting for its lack of information rather than for the information made available to us on which to base a proper assessment.

I took the trouble to peruse a number of submissions made by many people and organisations from all over Western Australia. I was rather surprised at the large number of people residing in the metropolitan area who expressed an opinion against daylight saving. I am quite aware that most country people do not favour daylight saving as their views have been made known on a number of occasions. However, I was indeed surprised at the number of submissions against daylight

saving from people who reside in the metropolitan area. Yet the Government is not convinced that it is in the interests of the State to remain on standard time.

I submit that very little fresh evidence, if any, has come to light since we last debated this issue some 12 months ago. Reference has been made to the cost to the community in many areas. I have already said that some business enterprises will undoubtedly be disadvantaged if daylight saving is not introduced. However, I believe they are in the minority and on balance—a phrase which has been used before in this debate—the great weight of opinion is against altering the clock. I realise that difficulties have arisen in the short-term money market but I do not believe the difficulties are insurmountable.

I have spoken personally to a number of people engaged in the building industry, plumbers, painters, carpenters, bricklayers, and others. The majority of these people are not particularly happy with the prospect of daylight saving, and in fact, the committee's report referred to this. The Hon. A. F. Griffith mentioned the fact that the Trades and Labor Council said its members were not in favour of daylight saving, and my own personal inquiries have substantiated this. Many people throughout the length and breadth of Western Australia are involved in the building industry and would therefore be adversely affected.

One industry which has been mentioned, and justly so, is the motion picture industry. This industry did not just dream up the opinion that it would be disadvantaged in the event of daylight saving being introduced in this State. In this context we must bear in mind that on many occasions the Government has expounded the view that it wishes to encourage decentralisation.

We are particularly fortunate in Western Australia because a large number of drive-in theatres have been established in country districts as well as the metropolitan area. I believe I am correct in saying that the people of Western Australia have the advantage of being able to enjoy entertainment in open-air drive-in theatres to a greater extent than is the case in any other State of the Commonwealth. It is no accident that we have more drive-in theatres than any other State, but this has come about for a number of reasons, the first being our geographical situation. We are a very large State and people enjoy having this sort of entertainment within their own local communities without having to travel large distances.

The next reason is our climate. It has already been mentioned that our climate is very suitable for this type of entertainment. The third reason is that a number of local authorities have assisted the estab-

lishment and development of drive-in theatres in many country districts. A deliberate policy was followed to bring amenities to the people to enable them to enjoy the comforts of this type of entertainment. I believe I am also correct in saying that the standard of drive-in theatres established in this State is as good as, if not better than, similar establishments in the other States. This has been made possible very largely as a result of the interest taken in this industry by local authorities in different areas.

This is one avenue of decentralisation—decentralisation of entertainment amenities for the people. We must also bear in mind that many people are employed in these drive-in theatres, and we do not want to close any avenues of employment in country areas.

I do not have the exact figure with me, but I believe that during last summer, when daylight saving was in operation in the Eastern States, a very large company operating drive-in theatres there had a downturn of something like 11 per cent. in its turnover for the summer period. This has been accurately assessed. Unfortunately I do not have the figures here to substantiate this but—

The Hon. R. F. Cloughton: Which State is this?

The Hon. V. J. FERRY: I believe this particular company operated in the three States where daylight saving was in force. I do not have the figures, but I believe the company suffered a downturn of 11 per cent.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: You just took me to task for not having proof. Now you are saying you do not have proof.

The Hon. V. J. FERRY: I have admitted it. I leave it to members to make their own assessment.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: The Minister hears what he wants to hear.

The Hon. V. J. FERRY: He is here right now, but he probably wishes he were not.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I can hear any member who speaks up.

The Hon. V. J. FERRY: The effect of daylight saving on country children has been mentioned many times but I feel it is worth repeating. Country school children will indeed be disadvantaged in the event of the introduction of daylight saving. I will not repeat all the arguments as they have been fully canvassed.

Another factor which I find very perplexing is the Government's attitude to the legislation. We are accustomed to hearing a constant bleat about the state of our economy—the lack of funds for this and that, the inability to build a hospital here or provide classrooms there. I do not deny the fact that funds are always tight, no matter which party occupies the Treasury benches. We have spoken about substantiating statements, and in this regard it is

interesting to note that the Chief Secretary has supplied us with one fact by the way of answer to a question. On the 5th October, I asked the Chief Secretary the following question:—

In the event of daylight saving being adopted in Western Australia for the period from the 29th October, 1972, to the 4th March, 1973—

(a) what is the estimated additional cost to the Forests Department;

The Chief Secretary replied—

Approximately \$40,000.

It is anticipated that the cost to the Forests Department will be \$40,000 if daylight saving is introduced over the proposed four-month period. Here is a department which will be directly disadvantaged if this measure becomes law.

I have been very closely associated with the workings of the Forests Department since I have been privileged to represent the south-west part of the State. I greatly admire the work of this department. It provides employment opportunities in country districts, and plays a very important role in the economy of our State. Why should this department be disadvantaged to the extent of \$40,000? I then asked the Chief Secretary—

How is this figure arrived at?

He replied—

Increased costs will be almost entirely due to overtime payments incurred on prescribed burning and fire suppression and due to additional time for which crews must be stood by in preparedness for fire suppression.

Prescribed burning and wildfire occurrence are inflexibly related to solar time and added costs will be directly proportional to the extra hour per day when crews must be paid overtime or stood by for fire operations.

It will be appreciated that the officers of the Forests Department and its employees are not governed in their work by the hands of the clock. They are governed by the weather conditions prevailing on any particular day. From my personal knowledge of the operations of this department, and from discussions with the men engaged in this work, I know the men's attitude to it. They do not enjoy fighting fires—it is a most hazardous and exhausting occupation. Daylight saving will add an hour's work every day for these men throughout the whole summer period because they must be in a state of preparedness for an extra hour. Bushfires can occur on a hot summer's day as early as 6 o'clock in the morning. Any member who has had the misfortune to observe or to help to control a forest fire will readily

understand the feelings of the men concerned. Human lives may be at stake and, in fact, lives have been lost in the suppression of wildfires, as fires are called in forest country.

Admittedly, the employees of the Forests Department will be paid overtime, but I am sure that the men would prefer to spend the time with their families on the beach, or following some other activity. However, if daylight saving is introduced, they will be required to work this overtime.

Members may well ask: How did the Forests Department arrive at this figure of \$40,000? The Chief Secretary's answer to this question was as follows:—

The estimate of added costs is based on averages of past expenditure which vary widely from year to year.

Naturally the costs of this department must vary widely from year to year, because, as I mentioned earlier, fire suppression is dependent upon prevailing weather conditions. No-one is able to predict whether we will have a cool, wet summer or a hot, dry one. If we have a hot, dry summer, the Forests Department employees will be well and truly occupied in fire control.

The Hon. N. McNeill: This is going to be a very hot, dry summer.

The Hon. V. J. FERRY: Indeed it is. I am perplexed at the thought that the Government should choose to again move in connection with this measure when it is crying poverty in many areas. I am surprised that the Minister for Forests should have allowed himself to be overruled in this matter by the members of the Cabinet—that is if he did put up a case—because I am sure he knows that the present problems associated with the Forests Department relate not only to the development, maintenance, and expansion of the forests, but also to the cost of their protection.

Accordingly, as I have said, I am perplexed that this sort of thing should have been allowed to take place in the Cabinet room; that the decision should have been arrived at to proceed with daylight saving. It just does not add up.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: You asked two questions that day about daylight saving. What about the other one?

The Hon. V. J. FERRY: The other question I asked related to the Department of Agriculture. I asked how the introduction of this measure would affect the activities of the Department of Agriculture. The answer I received was—

It is anticipated that the introduction of daylight saving will have little effect on departmental operations.

Some additional overtime costs may be incurred during harvest on some research stations depending on seasonal conditions.

I do not disagree with that.

I asked the question because the Department of Agriculture is a very important department and I felt we should have information along these lines. I may add that I would have also welcomed information being made available to this Chamber from all of the departments. As members of Parliament I believe we are entitled to be given as much information as possible. For my own purpose it was sufficient for me to seek information from the two departments from which I did. I feel the Government is duty bound to give us further information.

I refer to my earlier remarks when I attempted to castigate the Chief Secretary for indicating that he had further information to give us, and that he would give us this information when he summed up the debate. I feel that the information should have been given to the Chamber during his second reading speech.

I now refer to the geographical situation of Western Australia. I agree with my colleague, Mr. Withers, who pointed out the disadvantages that beset the particular province he represents in the north of the State.

It has been pointed out on page 12 of the report of the committee of inquiry that about 94 per cent. of the State's population lives west of the 120° meridian and therefore enjoys daylight saving of up to 28 minutes all the year round.

I do not dispute the statement, but 94 per cent. of the State's population is a pretty high percentage. If we are to introduce daylight saving by advancing the clocks one hour, surely we could have almost 1½ hours daylight saving. This is too much to ask the population to carry. It is beyond reason, and there is no need for it whatever.

The case for daylight saving has not been proven at all. Many approaches have been made to me from the south-west of the State—an area I have the privilege to represent—to oppose daylight saving, which I now do. I have had approaches from one organisation and from two individuals who have favoured daylight saving. The people I represent are strongly opposed to daylight saving, and so am I.

THE HON. J. HEITMAN (Upper West) [5.05 p.m.]: I do not think there is any need for me to tell the House that I propose to oppose the Bill.

The Hon. R. Thompson: Why?

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: I will tell the honourable member as I proceed. When a similar measure was introduced last year I gave my reasons for opposing the

measure, but perhaps the reasons may stand repetition. When I heard and read the Chief Secretary's second reading speech I felt there were a number of questions which he could have answered at the time, particularly after I had questioned him on one or two matters. I daresay it was rather rude of me to have done so during his second reading speech, when the Chief Secretary's thoughts were exclusively concerned with his speech, and not with questions he might have been asked while delivering it. Perhaps if I go through some of these questions now the Chief Secretary may be able to answer them when he replies. During the course of his second reading speech the Chief Secretary said—

I think the committee did a good job in that it reported on the likely effects of daylight saving on the Western Australian population. No recommendations were recorded and this appeared to upset certain members, but it did not upset the Government as no recommendations were required. The Government did not seek recommendations, because it felt that it was the duty of Parliament to make up its own mind about such a scheme on evidence produced to it.

If Parliament did this there would have been no move to bring back daylight saving.

On the last occasion when the Chief Secretary introduced a similar Bill he said that he had received some 600 letters, the majority of which were against daylight saving. Surely that should have been sufficient evidence to indicate the opposition that existed to daylight saving.

The report the Leader of the Opposition read out today shows clearly that the letters received and the people who tendered evidence to the committee were definitely against daylight saving.

Here again Parliament made up its mind on the last occasion and proved that the majority of people did not want daylight saving. We did not have it last year and I have not met anyone who was really upset because daylight saving was not introduced.

Mr Ron Thompson said that Tasmania had introduced daylight saving. I feel that if Mr. Ron Thompson returned to Tasmania tomorrow he would find that daylight saving is a very good thing in the climate experienced by that State. I am sure, however, that it would not be as good a proposition in the climate we have here, where we experience a great deal of sunshine. We do not want to save daylight to give us any more sunshine than we already have in the summer months.

On the last occasion on which I spoke on a similar matter I think I proved that the country people would be disadvantaged to a great extent if daylight saving were introduced. For example, C.B.H. would

have to open an hour earlier in the morning; most farmers would cart their wheat in and would have to wait till there was enough sunlight to prepare the crop ready for stripping; and where it was previously possible for them to work late into the evening they would not be able to do so because of the lack of storage.

Accordingly, by the introduction of his legislation the Chief Secretary is putting the farming community to a great deal of expense. These expenses must be increased if they are to cope with the situation. The Chief Secretary said that C.B.H. is prepared to alter its hours to meet the needs of the farming community. He also said that school teachers in the country would be told to work to altered hours.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: They will be requested to do so; we cannot tell them.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: The Chief Secretary definitely said the hours would be altered.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: They are being altered now in the State. Indeed this is already in existence.

The Hon. R. F. Cloughton: A number of schools start and finish at different times.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: It appears to me that some sections of the community will have daylight saving while others will not.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: It is a question of an arrangement between the school and the headmaster or the P. & C. association, whoever makes the application.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: It is as easy as that?

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: It is as easy as that.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: It is not really quite so easy, because if I wanted daylight saving and Parliament decided we should not have it, and I came to Parliament an hour late and wanted to sit an hour late, I would not be allowed to do so. But this does not worry the Chief Secretary. The unions must be considered and some of them do not want daylight saving; but the Chief Secretary has said, "If Parliament passes this legislation we will have it."

The Hon. J. Dolan: This would be the first time you agreed with the unions.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: I am not agreeing with the unions, though I do agree with some of them; I am merely pointing out the fallacy of the Chief Secretary's argument when he seeks to use unions in a particular manner on one occasion while using them in a different manner on another occasion. If daylight saving comes into being some members of the community will be governed by it while others will not. I will be one of those people who will not, because I know the Chief Secretary would not wait till I came along to Parlia-

ment before he commenced the session. In his speech the Chief Secretary goes on to say—

If this legislation becomes law, Western Australia will be able to conduct its own trial—the first year, without daylight saving and then a year with daylight saving.

Does anyone wish to practise this? Bless my heart and soul! We all know what it is like to get up earlier than we should in the morning and work an hour later at night. I have made inquiries throughout the State and wherever I have been the farming community has said daylight saving would affect them; that they would have to get up an hour earlier and work till sundown, and that if they wanted a part for their machine they would probably find that the firm in question would be closed.

The Minister said that it would be possible to order a part for a machine at any time, but of course, the train will not wait while one decides to place the order. At present it is possible to get an order in by 4 o'clock, but with daylight saving it would be necessary to place the order by 3 o'clock. So daylight saving would affect the farmers considerably. It may be possible to ring through to the caretaker and tell him that a part is wanted, but he would not be able to obtain it until the next day, and this would mean a day wasted. It would be no good to the farming community at all.

There is of course the other aspect that must be considered, particularly as it concerns the metropolitan area. I know of many women with young families who oppose daylight saving. They do not want it at any price, because they feel it will be necessary for them to get the children up an hour earlier in the morning and, when they return from school, it will be necessary for the parents to take time off to look after the children for an hour longer; an hour which, normally, the children would spend at school.

This problem does not apply quite so much in the country area where the children are able to play on the farm or join in community activities. In the metropolitan area, however, a boy would more than likely get onto his bicycle on his return from school an hour earlier than normally and be cleaned up by a motorcar. If daylight saving were introduced young mothers would have to put in an extra hour looking after their young children; and this apart from their normal chores and duties around the house. I would not like the Chief Secretary to have to put in an extra hour during the day to look after a young family.

I have been asked by many people in country areas to oppose the Bill for varying reasons. As I said earlier, I have not met anyone who has felt any adverse effect as a result of our not having daylight

saving. I have consulted the Stock Exchange in this matter and I have been told that if daylight saving were not introduced it would not be affected at all. It's employees would merely have to get up an hour earlier, and those in the Eastern States would get up two hours earlier. If the people here got up earlier they would be able to contact the people in the Eastern States as soon as they arrived for work. It did not worry the Stock Exchange.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: It worried the staff.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: Why should everyone have to get up an hour earlier just because a few people want to get in touch with the Eastern States? Those few should be prepared to get up earlier and not inconvenience the others. We should consider the impact on all the people, and not on only the few.

I have not heard one argument in favour of daylight saving. On the last occasion when a similar Bill was introduced Mr. Ferry mentioned the official short-term money market. We were told that millions of dollars was handled over the weekend on the short-term money market. There is an official and also an unofficial short-term money market. Both those bodies have indicated that they would lose tremendous amounts of money in not being able to get in touch with the Eastern States at the required time.

After the introduction of daylight saving in the Eastern States I asked some of the members of both the bodies what amounts of money they had lost. They told me it was difficult to determine the amounts; in fact, they did not know. I thought that if anything hurt one's pocket one would be quite prepared to get up an hour earlier to obviate the loss.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: If some move hurts one's pocket, one would know to what extent.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: Some of these people told me they would experience trouble in getting in touch with the Eastern States. I asked them what was the most difficult time to phone the Eastern States, and was told it was around 11.00 a.m. I asked one of the persons concerned to make two calls—one at 11.00 a.m. and one at 11.05 a.m.—to the Eastern States. On each occasion he got through within two minutes; yet it takes me longer than that to ring my farm which is located in this State.

The volume of communication was not so great that this person could not get through to the Eastern States during what was claimed to be the busiest time of the day. I submit that if people got up two hours earlier in the morning they would have no difficulty in getting through.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: It takes longer than that sometimes to get through to the Minister!

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: I could raise a number of points to indicate how daylight saving will affect the people adversely. The committee of which I was a member interviewed the wool brokers to find out the effect of daylight saving on their operations. We were told by them that it would make a tremendous difference; and that if they did not sell all the wool at a sale they would have to get in touch with the Eastern States to place the unsold wool. I do not know that any farmer will believe that.

The Hon. J. Dolan: What did they say when you challenged them?

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: They became rather heated, and told me if I did not stop asking stupid questions they would not continue the discussion. I suppose if we asked for their views today they would say the fact that they got up earlier caused the price of wool to rise!

On every occasion last year wherever I had the opportunity I attempted to find out the effect of the non-introduction of daylight saving on the people, particularly those who were most keen for its adoption. The only group which was keen on its adoption comprised the young people who participated in sport. These young people would prefer to commence work at 8.00 a.m., and knock off an hour earlier in the afternoon so that they could engage in sport.

In many country areas there are no swimming pools; also, if the young people want to play cricket they have to use a gravel oval. If they knock off an hour earlier in the afternoon in many cases they will be playing cricket when the temperature is around 110 degrees. I say that if there is an air-conditioned club in a country town that is where the young people will be found.

Unless all the amenities for sport are provided by the State or the local authority, the young people will not be so keen on daylight saving to enable them to participate in sport. I have always been a keen follower of sport, and I like to see people take part in recreation after they finish work. I think that is good for their health. If we have healthy people we have a healthy State; but I do not think daylight saving has anything to do with creating a healthy people. Without daylight saving the people can still engage in recreation and sport after they finish work.

Quite a lot has been said about the effect of daylight saving on the drive-in theatres. I have a great deal of sympathy for the operators or proprietors. Where the operators do not own the theatres themselves they have to pay high rentals. If they cannot operate the theatres and have good attendances night after night they cannot make much money. If, with the introduction of daylight saving, the

drive-in theatres cannot commence screening before 8.30 p.m. It will be 12.00 midnight before the picture show finishes. Parents who have to rise early to get their children to school will not be inclined to go to the drive-in theatres so often.

When the Minister considered the impact on the drive-in theatres he glossed over the opposition from this quarter fairly quickly. He did not seem to be concerned with the interests of the drive-in theatres. He said they should be prepared to try out this experiment. However, I would point out to the Minister that when one is in the open air one cannot pull down a window blind to shut out the light; and drive-in theatres have to wait until it is dark before they commence screening.

The motion picture industry has put up a very good case. One honourable member asked whether the case was authentic. It is obvious that if they cannot commence screening until it is dark, and they do not finish until 12.00 midnight, the people will not be inclined to go to drive-in theatres as often.

With the adoption of daylight saving the people in the country will have to work an extra hour each day. They will get up at sunrise and knock off at sunset. If they want to attend a drive-in theatre they will have to wait until about 8.30 p.m., and they would not come out of the theatre until 12.00 midnight. Consequently they will not get much sleep that night.

For the sake of such people we should inquire into any losses that have arisen through the nonintroduction of daylight saving last year. How many people have approached the Minister and said they sustained financial losses?

We should take into account the views of the people of Queensland. The Minister has spoken to the Minister in Queensland; and Mr. Logan and I spoke to about 10 members of the Queensland Parliament last year when we were over there playing bowls. Not one of them indicated to us that he would vote in favour of daylight saving. They said they had enough sunlight in Queensland without having to introduce daylight saving.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: In Queensland the Country Party is opposed to daylight saving but the Liberal Party is in favour of it.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: That may be so, but I do not know to which Minister in Queensland the Minister has spoken.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: To the Premier.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: Both Mr. Logan and I spoke to members of the Liberal Party, of the Country Party, and even those of the Labor Party. They said they did not think they would vote for daylight saving again.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: What did the Labor members in Queensland do in the House?

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: I do not think the Bill was introduced in Queensland this year. The people there did not want daylight saving, and they seemed to be of the same view as the people of Western Australia.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: At least in Queensland the opinion of the people was obtained before it was discontinued.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: Does the honourable member want any more opinions than the result of a Gallup poll which was conducted, and which showed 75 per cent. of those interviewed were against daylight saving?

The Hon. L. A. Logan: The Leader of the Country Party suggested a poll, but the Premier was not agreeable.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: I am aware that daylight saving has been introduced in Western Australia previously. Mr. Williams had 30 years experience of daylight saving before he came to Australia. I wonder whether he liked being awakened an hour earlier to have his bottle! He had 32 years of experience with daylight saving and did not like it; yet he is still prepared to go along with the idea on this occasion because he thinks his electors are in favour of it.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: He is a very wise man.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: That is the Minister's opinion, but I cannot take any notice of it, because two years ago the Minister told me that personally he was not in favour of daylight saving.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I cannot remember that.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: The Minister is like Mr. Williams in this respect; his memory lapses when it is convenient.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Did the Minister say that two years ago?

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: Two years ago the Minister told me that personally he did not favour daylight saving. I do not blame Mr. Williams for holding the views which he has expressed, because he represents largely a young population and these are the people who favour daylight saving. Despite the fact that his own experience has indicated that daylight saving is not of benefit to the community, Mr. Williams is prepared to go along with the views of the people he represents; but that is exactly what I am doing.

Personally I do not desire to rise an hour earlier in the morning. I like to get up at about 6.00 a.m., read the newspaper until about 7.00 a.m., have my breakfast, and come here to start the day's work.

The Hon. R. Thompson: I do not wonder that we have a generation gap. It is the generation gap from which you are suffering.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: The honourable member is getting mixed up with the Generation group which was mentioned in the debate on a Bill yesterday. I have no intention of voting for the second reading of the Bill, because I think it is wrong to force daylight saving on people who do not want it. If the proposal before us referred to the holding of a referendum to decide whether or not the people wanted daylight saving I would go along with it; but I cannot accept the Minister's statement that daylight saving is suitable to Western Australia just because the other States have adopted it. I agree with the comment of Mr. Medcalf when he said there was a time gap between the States. I have not heard any member complain about the existing two-hour difference between the times, or of any proposal to come to some agreement with the Eastern States for them to put back their clocks an hour and for Western Australia to put forward its time by one hour.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: That was what the Government committee was supposed to inquire into.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: I do not know why the Minister did not appoint me as a member of that committee. I definitely cannot support the Bill.

THE HON. R. F. CLAUGHTON (North Metropolitan) [5.29 p.m.]: I support the Bill.

The Hon. J. Heitman: That surprises me.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: It does not surprise the people of my electorate.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You should not be too sure of that.

THE PRESIDENT: Order! Will the honourable member continue with his speech and address the Chair?

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: I am surprised that although Mr. Griffith and I represent the same province, in many instances we go in different directions.

The Hon. J. Heitman: I think the people in your electorate made a mistake. I am sure they will rectify it at the next election.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: They did make a mistake in one case.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You should not embarrass yourself like that!

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: Mr. Griffith in his contribution to the debate used a tactic which is not unusual for him. He took one statement from the report of the Government committee, and this dealt with the conclusions arrived at in regard to the effect of daylight saving on health.

The honourable member could have equally used a number of the other opinions expressed or conclusions arrived

at by the committee. However, for the reasons stated he used this one conclusion to support his argument against the Bill which is now before us. When the committee considered the matter of health, as it did, the conclusions reached would naturally be related to health. When the committee refers to commerce and industry, naturally the conclusions in the report will also refer to these matters.

It was clearly indicated that the majority of manufacturers were in favour of the introduction of daylight saving. They did not want the two-hour differential increased as a result of the other States adopting daylight saving. That conclusion could be read to mean that they were in favour of daylight saving.

Mr. Griffith also mentioned the number of submissions and at that point I interjected because I had read in the report what the committee had had to say in relation to those submissions. A total of 33 organisations were against daylight saving, and it is interesting to record that included in that total were eight submissions from the Farmers' Union branches, eight from country women's associations, seven from local governing associations, and five were from country parents and citizens' associations. On the other hand, 30 organisations were in favour of daylight saving and that number included the Chamber of Manufactures as a single unit. In other words, the individual organisations within the Chamber of Manufactures did not submit individual submissions. The chamber conducted a poll among its members and 95 were in favour, 21 were against, and 10 had no opinion either way.

Naturally, if one seeks support for a point of view one will contact individuals who are sympathetic. However, if one does not go out and seek those points of view one does not get them. It is as simple as that. The Farmers' Union sent out a questionnaire soliciting opinions.

The Hon. F. R. White: Did the trade unions express an opinion?

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: With regard to the T.L.C., it could be said that if that body is regarded as being in support of the Government the Government would not have introduced this legislation. That is the point: This is not something which is promoted by the Labor Party; it is Government legislation.

The Government felt, in the interests of the State as a whole—not of a particular section—that it was up to Parliament to decide the issue. If we are to take notice of a sectional feature of the report we would then have to also take notice of other sectional parts of the report. The report states that in the cities of the Eastern States the bulk of the population is in favour of daylight saving. Those

against—and who form the minority—reside in the country districts. On that basis, it could be said that daylight saving should be introduced.

I have made casual inquiries within my own electorate; I have not gone out particularly to seek points of view. Daylight saving has come up during discussions I have had, and a variety of opinions have been expressed to me. For instance, one person said he did not particularly want daylight saving because it would interfere with his morning run along the beach. From his point of view that was a valid objection.

On the other hand, this week I spoke with two ladies with young families—a number of children in each family—who were most anxious that the legislation should pass this Chamber. They are looking forward to enjoying the benefits of daylight saving. Those ladies see daylight saving as an advantage to their families because the fathers will be home earlier and will be able to share in the family circle. The general opinion of families within my electorate is that they are looking forward to daylight saving.

Among other persons to whom I have spoken are painting contractors who claim it will not make any difference at all. They do not work by the clock; they work during the best part of the day to suit themselves. They then knock off for the afternoon. Those people would be able to share more of the day with their families. If the children arrive home earlier they would have a better opportunity to share in family activities.

Another person to whom I have spoken conducts a considerable interstate business. I asked him if he could not start work a little earlier and so not disturb the rest of the population. I thought that was a reasonable request. Members who oppose this Bill have also raised this question: Could not just that section commence work earlier?

The Hon. J. Heitman: Is he a self-employed man?

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: No, I am talking of an executive of a company which conducts a lot of business in the Eastern States. He said that the business could not start earlier because the people employed by the firm also conducted business with other firms in this State and there was little point in their starting earlier if other firms were not open.

The previous experience of the firm was that by the time the office was organised and ready to make contact with the Eastern States it was getting close to lunch time in the Eastern States. It is not unreasonable to assume that they would take time off for lunch. However, that lunch break would probably be followed by the lunch break of the firm in Western Aus-

tralia and, as a result, it would then be too late to get in touch with the firms in the Eastern States. The executive to whom I spoke felt that not having daylight saving was a real disadvantage when conducting business with the Eastern States, and he felt the firm had lost business because this State did not join in.

In relation to that aspect we could, perhaps, accept the estimates of loss of business given by Mr. Ferry but at about that time during last summer we were experiencing a recession because of several reasons. The daylight saving element was only one such reason. Other factors were involved and it would be pretty difficult for any firm to claim that its loss of business was due to the difference in times between the States. I do not think that business firms would be able to separate the effect of the downturn in the economy from the effect of daylight saving.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: If an organisation loses money with the introduction of daylight saving, do you not think it is reasonable to assume that this was at least one of the causes?

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: Yes, I would agree that is reasonable. However, how do we differentiate that factor from the other factor of a downturn in economic conditions? This latter affects the amount of money people have to spare. Marginal money is what is important to the entertainment business.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: I will tell you on Tuesday.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: A householder cannot avoid paying for his milk, electricity, and transport costs. Money spent on entertainment is marginal and this could make a difference to the cinema industry.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: As I understand this, there was no daylight saving in Western Australia and no downturn in motion picture attendances.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: The Leader of the Opposition has the figures to show that?

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: I say, "take the situation." You do not want to listen to anybody.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: All right, let us take the situation.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You do not want to listen.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: I will be speaking on Tuesday and I will tell Mr. Cloughton then.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: Well all right. One other point related to daylight saving is that of family life. I personally do not think the introduction of daylight saving will make a great deal of difference to my life.

The Hon. J. Heitman: Of course it will not.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: In our work, the hours of starting and of finishing are of no significance at all. We cannot accept that as an argument. No-one could say, "I particularly want daylight saving and will introduce it myself" because everything is geared to what all the other people are doing. In fact, I think it would be sensible in the summertime in our State to have an eight-hour working day, say, from 6.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m., and the rest of the day free. There is also the siesta period which some countries adopt. In those countries they work from, say, 6.00 a.m. to noon, have a four-hour break, and come back later.

The Hon. J. Heitman: You think it is a fashion trend?

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: No. We do not do this, because it is not the accepted pattern. If there is to be a change, there must be a change on the part of everybody.

It is possible for schools to vary starting times, because a school is a community within itself. Many schools around the city have varied their starting times to fit in with the availability of buses. One school may start at 8.50 a.m. and another at 9.10 a.m. This flexibility exists with schools and, in fact, some schools in the country start at earlier times to suit the interests of those in the district. There is nothing to prevent their doing that. They can still continue to do this if daylight saving is introduced. I support the Bill.

THE HON. C. R. ABBEY (West) [5.44 p.m.]: The case put forward by the Minister and the arguments presented today do not, in my view, change the situation one iota. The majority of members in this House voted against a similar Bill introduced last year and they did this because of the evidence they had been able to gather, because of their own opinions on the subject, and because of the very considerable disadvantages which would be caused to the people they represent by the introduction of daylight saving. I was one of those who voted against that measure, and I certainly do not agree with the Bill which is under discussion today.

I would like to cover a point which Mr. Cloughton raised a moment ago. He stated that schools in the metropolitan area stagger their starting times from 8.50 a.m. to 9.10 a.m. This is a fairly reasonable time differential and one the staff can accept. However, I very much doubt—in fact, I express the opinion—that the staffs of schools in general would not like to change and become out of step with the rest of the community. This is what happens when a small section of the community changes something to suit its own circumstances. If daylight saving were to be introduced the schools would find that they

were totally out of step with the rest of the community. In my opinion, the statement made is a lie.

The Hon. S. T. J. Thompson: We suggested half an hour last year and the teachers knocked us back.

The Hon. C. R. ABBEY: Obviously, the teaching staff generally would not accept the proposition. I suppose we could not blame them because, as I said before, they would be out of step with the rest of the community. This also applies to drive-in theatres.

I do not want to delay the House for very long but I want to make it perfectly clear that there is not sufficient evidence to sway me on this subject. Generally, the expressions of opinion I have received are against daylight saving. I well understand that this question affects a small portion of the community and one which wields a great deal of power in the financial world. The point has been made by other members that those concerned can adjust their times of work to suit the situation. As has been pointed out by Mr. Heitman, it is quite evident that there is no real evidence to indicate that they were disadvantaged last year.

Like other members, I believe that a small section of the community can change its working habits and achieve a satisfactory state in its actual community work.

When I spoke to the debate last year I said that I had not, at that stage, been approached by any section of the community which supported the measure. Subsequently I received a telephone call from a person in the financial world. Almost the first statement he made was that, if I continued to take this attitude and vote against the legislation, he would not financially support the party which I represent. That was a fine statement to make to me! My first reaction was to slam down the phone and not listen further. However, I kept my temper and listened to what he had to say. I made it perfectly clear to him that his threat of not giving financial support to the party I represent would not sway me in any way. In any event, he probably did not support the party I represent. Many people imagine they can wield those big sticks. They are very wrong in my case and I think in the case of all members of Parliament.

I have made my position clear. I do not intend to support the Bill. I will not vote for this measure and I will not vote for any similar measure which may be introduced on a future occasion. The position is perfectly clear as far as I am concerned. I think the introduction of daylight saving would not do anything for the State or for the people in it. The measure is not worthy of support.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. Clive Griffiths.

INHERITANCE (FAMILY AND DEPENDANTS PROVISION) BILL

Assembly's Message

Message from the Assembly received and read notifying that it had agreed to the amendments made by the Council.

QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE

HEPATITIS

Incidence in Karratha

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS, to The Leader of the House:

How many persons with identified hepatitis in Karratha resided at—

- (a) the caravan park;
- (b) the light industrial area; and
- (c) homes within the town?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:

- (a) 7.
- (b) and (c)—
 - 4 Gregory Way, Karratha.
 - 7 Other addresses in Karratha.
 - 2 Post Office Box addresses.
 - 1 No address other than just Karratha.

QUESTIONS (4): ON NOTICE

1. HOUSING

Lake Grace

The Hon. R. J. L. Williams for the Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH, to the Leader of the House:

- (1) Has the Lake Grace Council requested further State Housing to be built in Lake Grace?
- (2) How many State homes have been built in the town?
- (3) (a) How many of these were vacant during the recent agricultural recession; and
(b) for how long?
- (4) How does this compare with other towns in the area?
- (5) (a) How many applicants are on the waiting list for houses in this town; and
(b) have these applications been checked to see if they are still valid?
- (6) (a) Was it intended to build three additional houses before a land exchange was requested by the Shire; and
(b) are suitable blocks available today?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:

- (1) Yes.

- (2) State Housing built in Lake Grace is:—

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| State Housing Commission— | |
| Rental Dwellings | 25 |
| Purchase Dwellings | 3 |
| Other State Departments for | |
| Essential Officers | 4 |
| plus under construction | 1 |
| Government Employees | |
| Housing Authority | 4 |
| TOTAL: | |
| | 37 |

- (3) (a) Vacancies during 1970-1971 were 2;
Vacancies during 1971-1972 were 7.
- (b) Vacancies during 1971-1972 totalled 75 weeks i.e. 10.5 weeks per dwelling.
- (4) Not as acute.
- (5) (a) 5.
(b) Yes. Four were lodged in September, 1972. Of these applicants one will be housed in a vacant house now under maintenance.
- (6) The Commission does not intend to build additional houses in this financial year.
(a) Yes but all Building Programmes are subject to regular review to ensure need for additional housing is evident. Programme intentions for 1970-71 and 1971-72 were deferred because of both land exchange proposals and the rural situation.
(b) Two lots will be available in near future as a result of the land exchange. The third will be available as a consequence of road closure now being arranged through the Lands and Surveys Department.

2. RURAL RECONSTRUCTION SCHEME

Pastoralists: Applications

The Hon. I. G. Medcalf for the Hon. G. W. BERRY, to the Leader of the House:

- (1) How many pastoralists in the wool section of the industry have applied for assistance under the Rural Reconstruction Scheme?
- (2) How many—
 - (a) have been approved;
 - (b) have to be processed;
 - (c) have been refused?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:

- (1) 41.
- (2) (a) 10;
- (b) 2;
- (c) 29.

3.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Ravensthorpe

The Hon. R. J. L. Williams for the Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH, to the Leader of the House:

- (1) Is the Minister for Health aware that from the 1st October, 1972, the Goldfields Medical Fund will no longer pay ancillary benefit services for outpatient consultations at the Ravensthorpe District Hospital?
- (2) As the Flying Doctor is available for consultation on only one day a fortnight, and the nearest resident doctor lives 120 miles away, what is the Government intending to do to ensure the people of this isolated shire are not forced to pay still greater costs for medical services?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:

- (1) Yes. I am advised that the Goldfields Medical Fund is one of only two small Funds in Western Australia which have paid these ancillary benefits and that these have contributed to higher contribution rates.
- (2) This is a Commonwealth matter. The States have been pressing the Commonwealth, without success, for many years to include outpatient treatment in the National Health Scheme. It is understood that this matter is still under review.

I am aware that the Ravensthorpe Hospital Board has written to the Federal Minister for Health in relation to this matter.

4.

DROUGHT RELIEF

Government Policy

The Hon. I. G. Medcalf for the Hon. G. W. BERRY, to the Leader of the House:

Has any policy been formulated by the Government, or does any exist, to deal with drought problems if and when they occur in the State?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:

The Drought Finance Committee set up in 1969 is responsible for advising the Government on action to be taken to deal with drought problems as they occur.

House adjourned at 5.54 p.m.

Legislative Assembly

Thursday, the 12th October, 1972

The SPEAKER (Mr. Norton) took the Chair at 11.00 a.m., and read prayers.

COMPANIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2)

Report

Report of Committee adopted.

ACTS AMENDMENT (ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH LANDS) BILL

Second Reading

MR. T. D. EVANS (Kalgoorlie—Attorney-General) [11.03 a.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

The Bill which is being introduced at the request of the Roman Catholic Church deals with matters relating to property of the church of all kinds within the Archdiocese of Perth, and the powers of His Grace the Archbishop in relation thereto.

The amendments which are sought relate to—

- (1) Change of name of the corporation sole from "Roman Catholic Bishop of Perth" to "Roman Catholic Archbishop of Perth";
- (2) simplification of the method of fixing the corporation seal;
- (3) provision to the effect that when there are any alterations between the Archdiocese or any other diocese, the Registrar of Titles or Registrar of Deeds can record the change of ownership on an application supported by a statutory declaration;
- (4) provide for appointment of Vicar Capitular to act after the death of an Archbishop; and
- (5) enlargement of the powers of the corporation relating to all kinds of property.

It is necessary to mention in regard to item 5 the powers can be exercised only in relation to property acquired by the church itself free of any trust.

As a matter of public policy the State could not give to the church unlimited rights of dealing with property given by the Crown on an express or implied trust for church purposes. Clause 14 (4) requires the prior approval of the Governor in respect of transactions affecting such lands. The Bill has been perused by the solicitors acting for the Archbishop and is satisfactory to them.

Members will be aware it has been the practice for Governments to introduce legislation of this type on behalf of the