

than one who is not married. I know many people will say it is not showing a sense of responsibility to get married!

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: That is why many are not married.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: I was interested in some portions of the Bill. For example, it proposes to repeal some Acts, and parts of others are picked out. I refer to one instance, because a case involving this Act happened a couple of weeks ago. The thought ran through my head as to what would happen in legal circles. In the second schedule it will be seen that the Simultaneous Deaths Act is to be repealed; that deals with cases where a husband and wife are killed simultaneously. I always wondered what the legal interpretation was, and I find that is included in the Property Law Bill before us where it is presumed that the elder of the two died first; so that matter can be sorted out. That is quite a simple explanation and it intrigued me.

I was interested to find that provision is made in a particular case referred to, where the unborn child carries privileges. In England such unborn children used to carry the right of inheritance, even though they were—to use a French expression—*ventre so mere*, or within the mother's womb. They carried the right of inheritance, but there was no right of purchase associated with such cases. That is being altered in the Bill before us. While unborn children retain the right of inheritance they also will have the right of purchase on their behalf, and this is considered to be legal.

I think that Bills such as this are a challenge, and are very valuable exercises to members. I regret I was only able to look at it in the last three weeks, and that I only examined parts of it. If I had taken the advice of the Minister when he introduced it last year I would have looked at it in the recess. Had I done so I am sure as a layman my knowledge of the law would be greatly improved. I am indebted to the many explanations given by Mr. Medcalf. It has made me resolve that the less I have to do with lawyers the better for myself; that is not to say I have anything against them. Lawyers' law and my knowledge of these matters are wide apart.

I support the legislation, because its main virtue is that it will make property law throughout the Commonwealth fairly uniform—uniform with the exception of Queensland which has still to move. It is nice to know that we have people like Mr. Adams who can give us the benefit of their legal training and experience by coming up with a Bill like this. I have much pleasure in supporting it.

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (North Metropolitan—Minister for Justice) [9.5 p.m.]: Naturally I am very pleased with the reception of this Bill, and I am grateful for the remarks that have been made by those who have addressed themselves to it. I do not propose to go on with the Committee stage this evening. As a result of the activities of the Summer School of the Law Society, and as Mr. Dolan indicated, a considerable amount of study has been done on the paper that was delivered by Mr. Adams. The Bill has also been circulated widely in circles which are interested in it.

As a result of this there are a few amendments which I will offer at the Committee stage. I thought it was desirable to enable members to deliver their second reading speeches to ascertain whether any other suggestions were forthcoming. At this point of time there are none.

I will proceed as soon as I can to place the proposed amendments on the notice paper so that members will have the opportunity to peruse them.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: Does the Minister think this Bill will be passed by the other House during this session?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: It is a very important piece of legislation. If it does not pass through that House during this session then it will be dealt with in July next.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: In that event it will have to go through both Houses.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: In that event it will have to. I would like to see it passed this session, and I will do my best to ensure that that happens. I am sure Mr. Adams will be very pleased with the reception of the Bill. I expressed my gratitude to him on the introduction of the second reading, and I do so again because this is a difficult and complicated piece of work on which he has spent a great deal of time in preparing and in giving to Western Australia the benefit of his knowledge and experience on this phase of the law.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

House adjourned at 9.8 p.m.

Legislative Assembly

Tuesday, the 1st April, 1969

The DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. W. A. Manning) took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

HIGH SCHOOL AT THORNIE*Provision: Petition*

MR. BATEMAN (Canning) [4.32 p.m.]. I present a petition from the residents and electors of the Maddington-Kenwick-Thornlie-Canning Vale-Cannington-Gosnells region, praying that the Government will reconsider the deferment of the building of a high school in Thornlie until 1971. This petition is signed by 653 residents and electors of the area.

The petition having been read,

Mr. BATEMAN: I move—

That the petition be received.

Question put and passed.

QUESTIONS (48): ON NOTICE**PROBATIONERS AND PAROLEES***Facilities at Kalgoorlie*

1. **Mr. T. D. EVANS** asked the Minister representing the Minister for Justice:
 - (1) What facilities are available at Kalgoorlie for supervising and assisting probationers and parolees resident in that centre?
 - (2) Are these facilities sufficient to meet the need?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

- (1) regular visits by probation and parole officers assisted by the services of honorary probation and parole officers resident in the district.
- (2) Yes.

ROE FREEWAY*Alignment through Canning Vale*

2. **Mr. BATEMAN** asked the Minister representing the Minister for Town Planning:

Is the Town Planning Authority satisfied with the alignment of the Roe Freeway through the Canning Vale area?

Mr. LEWIS replied:

Yes.

SWAN QUARRIES*Inspections and Findings*

3. **Mr. BATEMAN** asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health:

In view of his answers re inspection, by Public Health Department inspectors, of Swan Quarries at Orange Grove—

- (1) What were the findings of the inspectors as to the amount of free dust in the area?
- (2) Are inspections carried out during the night?
- (3) Does the Mining Act cover blasting in metropolitan quarries?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) Dust in the area has been measured over a period of five months. The readings were heavy, but were vitiated by the fact that a large proportion of the dust collected came from road traffic.
- (2) No, but observations have been made at evening.
- (3) Yes.

POLICE STATION AT CANNINGTON*Extensions*

- 4A. **Mr. BATEMAN** asked the Minister for Police:

In view of the rapid housing expansion taking place in the suburbs of the Canning area—

Is it anticipated extensions will be made to the Cannington Police Station?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

Yes, when funds become available.

COURTHOUSE*Cannington-Gosnells Area*

- 4B. **Mr. BATEMAN** asked the Minister for Police:

In view of the rapid housing expansion taking place in the suburbs of the Canning area—

Is it possible to build a courthouse similar to the Rockingham Courthouse in or attached to the Cannington Police Station to serve the whole Cannington-Gosnells area?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

No.

AVONVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL*Overcrowding*

5. **Mr. McIVER** asked the Minister for Education:

- (1) Is he aware of the overcrowding conditions that exist at Avonvale Primary School, Northam?
- (2) What action is to be taken by him to eliminate the problem?

Mr. LEWIS replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Two classrooms are listed for construction. It is hoped to erect these by the end of 1969 but this will be subject to the availability of loan funds.

WATER SUPPLIES*Booster Stations*

6. **Mr. McIVER** asked the Minister for Water Supplies:

- (1) Is it envisaged that additional water supply booster stations will

be constructed in and around the Northam area in the financial year 1969-70?

- (2) If "Yes," where will they be situated?
- (3) What staff will be required to operate these stations?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Meckering and Wundowie.
- (3) In the initial stages one man at each station during the summer boosting period. Eventually these stations will be on automatic remote control.

RAILWAY HOMES

Northam

7. Mr. McIVER asked the Minister for Railways:

- (1) Will any railway homes be constructed in Northam in the financial year 1969-70?
- (2) If "Yes," how many, and where will they be constructed?
- (3) If "No," will he give the matter strong consideration?

Mr. O'CONNOR replied:

- (1) This has not yet been determined.
- (2) Answered by (1).
- (3) Housing requirements at Northam will be examined in conjunction with other railway centres.

LAND

Rate Valuation

8. Mr. HALL asked the Premier:

Has the Government made any final determinations as to method of rate valuation, other than net annual value or unimproved capital value, in an effort to curb the spiralling price of land occasioned by speculators?

Mr. BRAND replied:
No.

BUNBURY HARBOUR

Works and Plans

9. Mr. WILLIAMS asked the Minister for Works:

- (1) What progress has been made on the works and plans for the establishment of the new Bunbury Harbour?
- (2) When is it anticipated work will commence on the channel, associated dredging, and realigning of the present railway to the power station, as proposed in the initial announcement, being stage 1 of the railway realignment?

- (3) Have plans been prepared for any part of the development; if so, could a copy of these be made available for public information?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) Diversion of the Preston River has been completed and a contract is in course for the replacement of State Electricity Commission water supply bores. Acquisition of land is in course.
- (2) Further work is contingent on firm decisions by likely users of the proposed new harbour facilities, and a firm date for commencement of further work cannot be given at this stage.
- (3) Plans are being finalised with a view to preparation of contract documents but as they are incomplete they are not available for public information at this stage.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Commonwealth Aid

10. Mr. DAVIES asked the Minister for Education:

- (1) Is he able to advise the manner by which the 1968 announced Commonwealth Government aid for school libraries will apply in this State; that is, will it be a straightout grant; will it be matched by the States; will parents and citizens' associations need to provide matching moneys?
- (2) What amounts are likely to be received by this State over each of the next three years?

Mr. LEWIS replied:

- (1) Commonwealth aid for secondary school libraries is in the form of a straightout grant.
- (2) \$677,200 per year—\$503,200 for Government schools and \$174,000 for non-Government schools—for the triennium ending December, 1971.

STRATA TITLES

Availability

11. Mr. GRAHAM asked the Minister representing the Minister for Justice:

- (1) In respect of what number of buildings have strata titles been issued?
- (2) In how many cases have applications for strata titles been deferred or rejected?
- (3) What are the principal reasons for the failure of applications to succeed?

- (4) What steps are proposed in order to make the legislation more workable?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

- (1) 17.
- (2) None by the Commissioner of Titles. However, some would have been deferred or rejected by local authorities whose prior approval of the plans is required before lodging in the Land Titles Office.
- (3) Failure of the buildings to comply with by-laws in force at the time of application.
- (4) Draft legislation is in course of consideration.

HOUSING COMMISSION HOMES

Qualifying Standards

12. Mr. TONKIN asked the Minister for Housing:

- (1) Is it the State Housing Commission or the Government which has laid down the following policy to establish an acceptable standard of rating upon which to withhold approval and final acceptance of applications to the commission for accommodation—
 - (a) applicant to establish a proven paying history;
 - (b) the domestic and garden standards to conform to commission requirements and based on average standards within the neighbourhood;
 - (c) an acceptable social behaviour by the family?
- (2) Whom does he expect should provide accommodation for applicants when they are refused help by the commission because they are unable to meet the commission's requirements under the policy stated above?
- (3) If the policy above referred to is contrary to Government policy, will he take immediate steps to have it altered so that the commission's administration will be in accordance with part II, section 8 of the State Housing Act?

Mr. O'NEIL replied:

- (1) (a) to (c) It has been the commission's policy since its inception to require applicants to have a reasonable paying history—unless adequate reasons are advanced—reasonable domestic and garden standards, and acceptable social behaviour.
- (2) The commission is not the sole provider of housing and it is considered that there is a greater

obligation to house those applicants who comply with the commission's requirements than to assist those who do not. However, it is pointed out that where an applicant appears to be prepared to make an effort to comply, under guidance and supervision, tenancies are granted.

- (3) The policy is not contrary to Government policy. The commission is required to repay principal and interest on loan moneys provided for its housing programmes. It could not meet its obligations if its tenants were not required to meet theirs.

KANGAROOS

Legislation to Prevent Massacre

13. Mr. HALL asked the Minister representing the Minister for Fisheries and Fauna:

As the kangaroo is featured in the Western Australian coat of arms, what legislation has the Government in mind to prevent the massacre of kangaroos for commercial purposes?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

A revision of the laws relating to the status and exploitation of all species of kangaroo is in progress. Reports and recommendations have been prepared and will be submitted to the next meeting of the Western Australian Wild Life Authority.

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

Erection and Cost

14. Mr. GRAHAM asked the Premier:

- (1) What buildings have been erected primarily for office accommodation for the Government or for quasi-governmental instrumentalities in the metropolitan area during the past 10 years?
- (2) What such buildings are currently under construction?
- (3) What further such buildings are approved or planned?
- (4) What is the financial cost, actual or estimated respectively, in each case?

Mr. BRAND replied:

- (1) Buildings erected primarily for office accommodation under the jurisdiction of the Minister for Works (including large additions)—

Fremantle Port Authority	\$	1,570,000
Superannuation Building, St. George's Terrace		3,095,000

	\$
New Government offices, Havelock Street	4,895,000
South Perth Department of Agriculture—additions to administrative block	120,000
Main Roads Department offices, Narrows Interchange	44,358
Buildings remodelled including additions to provide office accommodation. Work carried out by the Public Works Department—	
Mental Health Services, 3 Havelock Street—additions	57,000
Hale School conversion for Education Department	14,000
Old R. & I. Bank, Hay Street, conversion for Public Trustee	29,600
King's Park Board—office extensions	2,900
East Perth Girls High School, conversion for Police Department and Traffic Branch	30,000
Parliament Place, conversion for Education Department	22,000
James Street Police Traffic Branch, conversion for Education Department	12,000
Chief Secretary's Department, conversion for extra offices	32,000
Chemical Laboratories (Bentley), additions to office block	31,680
(2) Public Trust Office, Hay Street. Construction not started, but tender has been accepted	1,522,522
Fremantle Port Authority—North Wharf offices	100,000
Main Roads Department—new offices, East Perth	4,000,000
(3) Police Department, new building for administration and C.I.B.	3,800,000
State Engineering Works, new office block	120,000
(4) Answered above.	

TRIPLEX HOUSES

Site Requirements

15. Mr. GRAHAM asked the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government:

- (1) Is there any definition of a minimum area, block frontage, plot ratio, etc., governing triplex houses?
- (2) If so, will he give details?
- (3) If no definition, why not?

Mr. NALDER replied:

(1) Yes. Uniform General Building By-laws amendments were approved by the Governor in Executive Council on the 20th March, 1969, and are awaiting gazettal.

(2) The Minimum Lot Area of a Triplex Dwelling Site in a—

General residential Class 4 zone is 50 perches or 13,612.5 sq. ft.

General residential Class 5 zone is 48 perches or 13,068 sq. ft.

General residential Class 6 zone is 32 perches or 8,712 sq. ft.

The Minimum Effective Frontage of a Triplex Dwelling Site in a—

General residential Class 4 zone is 115 links or 75.9 feet.

General residential Class 5 zone is 115 links or 75.9 feet.

General residential Class 6 zone is 92.5 links or 61 feet.

The Maximum Plot Ratio of a Triplex Dwelling in a—

General residential Class 4 zone is 0.30.

General residential Class 5 zone is 0.35.

General residential Class 6 zone is 0.35.

The Minimum Setbacks from Boundaries of a Triplex Dwelling—

	Front	Side	Rear
General Residential Class 4 Zone	30-ft.	10-ft. per storey each side	25-ft.
General Residential Class 5 Zone	30-ft.	5-ft. per storey each side	25-ft.
General Residential Class 6 Zone	25-ft.	5-ft. per storey each side	25-ft.

Parking—

Two car spaces per unit to be provided in all zones; i.e. Zones, 4, 5, and 6.

(3) Answered by (1).

SEWERAGE EXTENSIONS

Belmont

16. Mr. TOMS asked the Minister for Water Supplies:

In what locality of the Shire of Belmont is the proposed amount of \$320,000 sewerage extension to be effected?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

The plan which I now ask to be tabled sets out the necessary information.

The plan was tabled.

COMMISSIONERS FOR DECLARATIONS

Number

17. Mr. TOMS asked the Minister representing the Minister for Justice:

How many commissioners for declarations were there in Western Australia for each of the years 1953, 1959, 1964, 1968?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

1953—2,949.

1959—4,175.

1964—5,509.

1968—7,246.

POULTRY INDUSTRY

Inquiry and Report

18. Mr. BATEMAN asked the Minister for Agriculture:

- (1) Has he received or read the circular from the Poultry Farmers' Association dated the 14th March, 1969?
- (2) If "Yes," can he advise the House who were the members of the joint parliamentary parties who in October, 1965, looked exhaustively into the poultry industry?
- (3) Was a report or recommendations made, and if so, will he table a copy of such report?

Mr. NALDER replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) and (3) A report was furnished, but as the committee was appointed by the joint parties of Government, it is not intended to table it.

This is similar practice to that in many other cases where a joint Government parties committee is appointed to report to the parties on any particular subject.

M.V. "KOOLAMA"

Trials, and Future

19. Mr. TONKIN asked the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Has the M.V. *Koolama* done—or been scheduled to do—trials between Darwin and Groote Eylandt for Lloyds, London?
- (2) Is the vessel to be slipped at Fremantle shortly?
- (3) Is it proposed to sell the vessel to Associated Steamships?

Mr. O'CONNOR replied:

- (1) No. The *Koolama*, in the normal course of her voyage round Australia, is carrying cargo from Fremantle to Groote Eylandt as she has done in the past.
- (2) The vessel is due for her annual dry-dock survey and will be slipped at Fremantle from the 30th April to the 8th May.
- (3) No; although I would say, in explanation, that consideration is being given to the disposal of the *Dorrigo*.

INDUSTRIAL FUMES, KWINANA

Inspections

20. Mr. TAYLOR asked the Minister for Labour:

In reply to my question of the 2nd October, 1968, under the heading "Factories and Shops Act—Work Safety as regards Fumes and Gas" he advised that routine factory inspections were made by factory inspectors in the Kwinana area and that over a period of approximately four months, three such inspections had been made. Would he further clarify his answer to my question of the 26th March, 1969, by advising on how many occasions since the 1st October, 1968, a factories inspector has visited the Kwinana area to check on matters of work safety where fumes and gas emissions are involved?

Mr. O'NEIL replied:

A routine inspection of factories in the Kwinana area has been made once since the 1st October, 1968. Since that date, no particular problem arose which warranted special visits.

WATER RATES

Charges to Pig Farmers

21. Mr. McIVER asked the Minister for Water Supplies:

- (1) Have the criteria for charging pig farmers water rates been altered recently?

- (2) Will he state the comparative charges per 100,000 gallons for fruit growers, poultry farmers, and pig farmers?
- (3) What is the amount of the increase, if any?
- (4) Will he consider removing any increase which has been placed on pig farmers?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) Yes. Published in the *Government Gazette*, on the 5th September, 1968.
- (2) The charges for fruit growers, poultry farmers, and pig farmers are identical and in accordance with the following scale:—
 First 60,000 gallons consumption in one year—20c per 1,000 gallons.
 Next 40,000 gallons consumption in one year—25c per 1,000 gallons.
 Next 100,000 gallons consumption in one year—30c per 1,000 gallons.
 Over 200,000 gallons consumption in one year—40c per 1,000 gallons.

Therefore the charge for water consumption of 100,000 gallons in one year in all categories is \$22.

Where water is allowed to fruit growers and vegetable growers for irrigation purposes, it is charged under classification No. 6 which provides for the first 60,000 gallons consumed in any one year at 20c per 1,000 gallons, next 40,000 gallons consumed in any one year at 25c per 1,000 gallons, and all water over 100,000 gallons at 27.5c per 1,000 gallons.

- (3) For pig farmers the increase has been from 27.5c per 1,000 gallons consumption annually beyond 100,000 gallons to 30c and to 40c per 1,000 gallons beyond an annual consumption of 200,000 gallons. In the case of pig farmers an annual charge of \$10 for each assessment has been replaced by a rate of 10c in the dollar on the estimated net annual value of the land.
- (4) No.

SEWERAGE EXTENSION

"C"-class Hospital, Carlisle

22. Mr. JAMESON asked the Minister for Water Supplies:

- (1) What was the cost of the sewerage extension to service the new Carlisle "C"-class hospital in Star Street, Carlisle?

- (2) Was this considered to be an economic extension?
- (3) Who made representations or requested this extension to be made?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) \$9,187.
- (2) Yes, as a contribution was made by Carlisle Hospital Pty. Ltd.
- (3) Mr. D. J. Sagers of Cleaver, Sagers and Associates on behalf of the directors of Carlisle Hospital Pty. Ltd.

LOTTERIES

Commission on Sales

23. Mr. JAMESON asked the Chief Secretary:

Is it the intention of the Lotteries Commission to adjust the commission on the 50c, \$1, and \$4 tickets when the sale of the 25c series ceases, to compensate agents for the loss of commission which must inevitably occur when the 10 per cent. commission on the 25c series concludes?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

No.

CIVIL SERVANTS

Superannuation: Updating of Entitlement

24. Mr. FLETCHER asked the Premier:

- (1) Adverting to previous questions regarding anticipated date of legislative action to update civil service pensions, was action promised to achieve updating in—
 (a) 1967;
 (b) 1968?
- (2) Is the matter still in the hands of—
 (a) a local committee investigating the subject;
 (b) a consulting actuary; or
 (c) both bodies?
- (3) If still subject to investigation, how much longer is it anticipated that those entitled will have to wait prior to satisfaction?
- (4) Can any legislation be anticipated this session?
- (5) Is he aware that hardship is felt in many instances as a consequence of protracted proceedings?

Mr. BRAND replied:

- (1) (a) In 1967 I indicated that the possibility of introducing an updating scheme would be fully examined. As an interim measure, pension increases were paid ranging from \$2 per fortnight.

(b) In October, 1968, I stated that an updating scheme, similar to that introduced in Victoria, had been investigated but that the results were not satisfactory in that over 50 per cent. of pensioners would not benefit. I further stated that we were seeking ways and means of getting a better result.

- (2) (a) No.
- (b) No.
- (c) No.
- (3) A scheme providing for increased benefits is expected to be finalised shortly.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) The interim increase in 1967 was designed to relieve hardship pending further investigation of benefits.

McCARREY REPORT

Anticipated Action

25. Mr. FLETCHER asked the Premier:

- (1) For what period of time has the McCarrey report been in Government hands?
- (2) Was a Cabinet subcommittee created to examine the recommendations?
- (3) If so, when and who comprises that committee?
- (4) Has any other committee or authority been charged with inquiry into subdivision procedures?
- (5) If "Yes," in respect of (2) and (4), when can we anticipate any action or recommendations from either source to effectively counter activities of private speculators?

Mr. BRAND replied:

- (1) Since January, 1968.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) On the 6th February, 1968, comprising—

The Minister for Lands
The Minister for Town Planning
The Minister for Works
The Minister for Housing.

- (4) Yes, the committee appointed by the Minister for Town Planning on the 24th June, 1968, for the purposes of examining ways of streamlining procedures for dealing with applications for subdivision. The committee was under the chairmanship of Sir Keith Watson.
- (5) A number of steps have been taken to implement aspects of both reports.

Recommendations in the McCarrey report for the release of more land from urban-deferred or rural classification and for an increase of taxation on unimproved land have been implemented.

Other action taken by the Government to increase the supply of building lots coming on the market will be outlined later this session. The recommendations of the Watson committee have been referred to appropriate Ministers for action. In some cases they have already been implemented. In others, necessary amendments to legislation will be introduced this session.

INDUSTRIAL FUMES, KWINANA

Inspections

26. Mr. TAYLOR asked the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

- (1) Is an inspector of the Department of Mines regularly employed in the Kwinana area to check on matters of work safety where fumes and gas emissions are involved?
- (2) If "No," on how many occasions since the 24th May, 1968, has a mines inspector visited the Kwinana area to carry out inspections for this purpose?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

- (1) Inspectors of mines are not appointed to a particular mining centre, but to a district. They travel constantly throughout their districts, visiting each mine as often as possible.
- (2) Two, and on each occasion all safety systems were checked and found quite satisfactory.

NEW UNIVERSITY

Siting

27. Mr. HALL asked the Premier:

- (1) Is he aware of the article appearing in *The West Australian* on the 27th March, headed "Seminar on New University"?
- (2) Has a final determination been made on the siting of a new university or university college?
- (3) If "Yes," what purpose would the seminar serve?

Mr. BRAND replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The new institution is to be located in the general area of the Somerville Pine Plantation, but the precise boundaries of the site have yet to be determined.

- (3) To inform those attending of new university development in other States and to discuss such matters as the type of new institution most appropriate for Western Australia.

RAILWAYS DEPARTMENT

Management Consultants

28. Mr. DAVIES asked the Minister for Railways:

- (1) Is there a firm of management consultants currently operating within the Railways Department?
- (2) If so—
 - (a) what is the name of the firm;
 - (b) what are the terms of the contract or commission;
 - (c) what will be the cost;
 - (d) how long will the work take?

Mr. O'CONNOR replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) (a) P.A. Management Consultants Pty. Ltd.
- (b) To devise new procedures for the evaluation of capital expenditure proposals.
- (c) \$8,000 plus travel, accommodation, etc., expenses directly associated with the assignment.
- (d) Approximately six months from the date on which the work was commenced.

INDUSTRIAL FUMES, KWINANA

Effect on Workers

29. Mr. TAYLOR asked the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

Further to my question of the 2nd October, 1968, on the same subject, will he advise—

- (1) On how many occasions since the 1st October, 1968, have—
 - (a) construction workers;
 - (b) company employees;
 at the Australian Iron & Steel plant at Kwinana been ordered to stop work because of the suspected presence of gas emissions?
- (2) During the same period and at the same plant, how many construction workers and/or employees have been treated for the suspected effects of gas?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

- (1) (a) and (b) cannot be segregated. Work has been stopped on 16 occasions in various sections.
- (2) Four men treated for suspected carbon monoxide poisoning. In each case no working time lost.

"READER'S DIGEST"

Lucky Number Contest: Legality

30. Mr. DAVIES asked the Chief Secretary:

Is it now possible to answer my question of the 22nd October, 1968, relating to *Reader's Digest* sales promotion?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

Yes. Answers to question of the 22nd October, 1968, are as follows:—

- (1) Yes. My department examined the lucky number contest distributed through the post by *Reader's Digest* to determine whether the contest was legal.
- (2) The matter was referred to the Crown Law Department who advised as follows—

It will require considerable research to decide whether this scheme is in breach of our Act (The Trading Stamps Act), and that "certain factual information must be obtained" before a breach of the Act could be proved against a particular company or person.

- (3) The Factories and Shops Department police the Trading Stamps Act and is under the control of the Minister for Labour.

WATER SUPPLIES

Harnessing of Rock Catchments

31. Mr. McPHARLIN asked the Minister for Water Supplies:

What surveys have been carried out, and what plans have been prepared, to harness the large rock catchments in the areas north, north-east, and east of the present boundaries of the Comprehensive Water Supply Scheme?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

Surveys have been undertaken of most major rocks in the areas mentioned and plans have been prepared for their future development as necessary.

A programme of harnessing the yield of various rocks has been in progress for some years and the rate of development is subject to the availability of finance and the district priorities. It is relevant to note that expenditure approximating \$430,000 will have been incurred on such projects over the past five years.

Country Dams: Filling from Comprehensive Scheme

32. Mr. McPHARLIN asked the Minister for Water Supplies:

Will he give consideration to the proposal that when a very large quantity of water overflows from storage dams in the metropolitan area during winter months, country shire councils in the drier areas be allowed to fill their town dams from the Comprehensive Water Supply Scheme during this period, thus saving a great deal of wasted water and ensuring adequate supplies for the maintenance of amenities in their townsites?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

Consideration has already been given to the proposal, but the current and projected increase in mining and agricultural consumptions on the Mundaring system—coupled with the limited available time for overhaul of pumping machinery, mains, and service tanks—precludes any real contribution in the short overflow season available.

Furthermore, the additional increased demand for water and a possible increase in headworks capacity will reduce considerably future overflow periods.

HOSPITAL AT DALWALLINU

New Building

33. Mr. McPHARLIN asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health:

- (1) What progress has been made toward the survey and siting of a new hospital at Dalwallinu?
- (2) When is it envisaged that a start will be made on the new building?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) Preliminary planning of the new hospital block will take several months to determine the exact area of land to be surveyed in detail.
- (2) No date can be stated as this depends on the completion of planning and the availability of loan funds.

HOUSING

Guilderton: Number Occupied

34. Mr. GRAHAM asked the Minister for Water Supplies:

Adverting to his replies to my question of the 27th March on the

provision of a water supply at Guilderton, will he advise—

- (a) the number of dwellings which are permanently occupied;
- (b) the source of his information?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (a) Twelve.
- (b) The Gingin Shire Council.

Emergent Cases

35. Mr. BRADY asked the Minister for Housing:

- (1) Is it a fact emergent cases are unable to get houses from the State Housing Commission for five or six weeks after being determined emergency cases?
- (2) Is it a fact emergency cases are being processed to decide which are the more emergent cases?
- (3) What is being done to relieve the present serious position?
- (4) How many are on the emergent list?

Mr. O'NEIL replied:

- (1) Yes, in some cases. There are currently 14 approvals which have been waiting over five weeks for housing. Delay is caused by unavailability of the particular size of accommodation required in an area suitable to the applicant's needs.
- (2) Yes. There has always been a wide range of approvals for emergency housing, some rating a higher priority than others. For example, eviction cases, and those involving medical and compassionate reasons, are deemed to have higher priority than cases approved for assistance ahead of turn on such grounds as excessive rentals or poor living conditions.
- (3) The present situation is not considered serious. The turnover of relet accommodation and new housing is reasonably meeting the situation. It is pointed out that of the approved cases 10 per cent. to 15 per cent. of the accommodation offered is declined.

(4) Midland area	....	1 pensioner couple
Perth area	...	33
Fremantle area	...	3
Total	....	37

INDUSTRIAL FUMES

Local Authorities' Powers

36. Mr. BRADY asked the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government:

- (1) Have shires and councils power under the Local Government Act to prevent—
 - (a) industrial concerns;
 - (b) quarries;
 - (c) brick works,from creating nuisances due to dust, noise, and fumes?
- (2) If "Yes," will he state the sections of the Act?

Mr. NALDER replied:

- (1) and (2) Yes. Councils may make by-laws for the prohibition, regulation, and abatement of nuisances under the provisions of section 228 of the Local Government Act.

RAILWAYS WORKSHOPS

Dental of Work

37. Mr. BRADY asked the Minister for Railways:

- (1) Does the contract recently allowed to Tomlinsons, Welshpool, mean the W.A.G.R. workshops will be denied work normally performed at the workshops?
- (2) What is the reason for work being given to a public company?
- (3) Are the W.A.G.R. workshops working to capacity?

Mr. O'CONNOR replied:

- (1) No. The contract referred to is for the supply of rolling stock under the Railway Standardisation Agreement (W.A.) No. 67 of 1961 and apart from normal W.A.G.R. wagon construction.
- (2) It is a requirement of the Commonwealth Government that public tenders be called for all rolling stock provided under this agreement. Capacity did not exist in the workshops to meet the required delivery period.
- (3) Yes.

LOTTERIES COMMISSION

Cost of Unused Tickets

38. Mr. DAVIES asked the Chief Secretary:

- (1) What was the cost to the Lotteries Commission of obtaining the 16 bound and nine unbound sets of 25c consultations which will not be used?

- (2) For what reason was it decided to cease these lotteries at No. 271 rather than use all printed tickets?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

- (1) \$3,384.
- (2) It was considered by the commission to be economically sound to terminate the sale of 25c tickets as soon as possible.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

Number on Conversion to Reflectorised Plates

39. Mr. JAMIESON asked the Minister for Police:

What was the total number of vehicle registrations at the time conversion to reflectorised plates began?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

Approximately 266,000 vehicles, including approximately 39,000 trailers and motor cycles, registered in the metropolitan area.

KELLERBERRIN DISTRICT HOSPITAL

Additions

40. Mr. McPHARLIN asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health:

- (1) With due regard to the excellent record of the Kellerberrin District Hospital in bed average and the keeping of two doctors for many years, what plans have been made to provide the very necessary additions which have been requested by the hospital board?
- (2) Will he state when the work will be put in hand?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) Preliminary planning is expected to commence shortly but priority must be given to projects for which funds have already been allocated.
- (2) No date can be stated as this depends on the completion of planning and the availability of loan funds.

NOISY SCRUB BIRD

Opening of Reserve to Public

41. Mr. HALL asked the Minister representing the Minister for Fisheries and Fauna:

- (1) As the Government has set aside the Casuarina Townsite, Two People Bay, as a reserve for the protection and preservation of the noisy scrub bird, is it intended to erect a protective fence around the area?

- (2) Will the reserve be opened to the public who desire to hear the call of the bird and, if possible, see it?
- (3) If the answer to (2) is "Yes," how will permission be obtained to enter the reserve?
- (4) Has a machine been installed for recording and compiling data on the bird's call and habits?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) The management needs of this reserve and the requirements of its rare fauna are still being investigated. The erection of suitable fencing will be undertaken if it is shown to be necessary.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) Public entry to the reserve will not be restricted in the foreseeable future, but visitors may be asked to comply with any measures additional to the ban on camping that may be shown to be necessary to protect the habitat

of, or to avoid undesirable disturbance to, the fauna.

(4) Yes.

SCHOOLS IN COCKBURN ELECTORATE Enrolments, Staff, and Classes

42. Mr. TAYLOR asked the Minister for Education:

With regard to the Medina, Calista, Rockingham, and Safety Bay primary schools will he advise—

- (a) the average annual enrolment;
- (b) number of staff—
(i) teaching,
(ii) administrative;
- (c) number of classes;
- (d) number of dual grade classes;
- (e) average number of students per class,

for each of the years 1961 to 1969?

Mr. LEWIS replied:

Primary Schools	Year	(a) Average Annual Enrol- ment	(b) Staff at 1st August (Full-Time)		(c) Number of Classes	(d) No. Dual Grade Classes	(e) Average No. of Pupils Per Class (as at 1st August)
			(1) Teaching Staff	(2) Adminis- trative Staff*			
Calista (school opened in 1964)	1964	80	3	....	3	3	27
	1965	108	3	....	3	2	34
	1966	128	4	....	4	4	31
	1967	253	5	....	5	4	42
	1968	453	12	....	11	4	43
	†1969	....	13	1	13	6	44
Rockingham Beach ...	1961	178	†	†	†	†	†
	1962	178	5	....	5	4	40
	1963	210	5	....	5	5	43
	1964	203	6	....	6	3	34
	1965	222	6	....	6	4	37
	1966	331	7	....	7	3	45
	1967	396	11	....	10	5	42
	1968	566	14	1	14	1	40
	†1969	....	17	1	16	2	34
Rockingham East	1961	83	†	†	†	†	†
	1962	76	3	....	3	2	27
	1963	70	2	....	2	....	36
	1964	55	2	....	2	....	28
	1965	43	2	....	2	....	19
	1966	39	2	....	2	....	20
	1967	48	2	....	2	....	22
	1968	48	2	....	2	....	24
	†1969	....	2	....	2	....	22
Medina	1961	679	†	†	†	†	†
	1962	770	17	1	17	1	45
	1963	821	19	1	18	1	46
	1964	764	19	1	18	....	43
	1965	764	20	1	19	2	40
	1966	780	20	1	19	1	42
	1967	830	21	1	20	4	40
	1968	879	21	1	21	2	42
	†1969	....	23	1	22	1	40

Primary Schools	Year	(a) Average Annual Enrol- ment	(b) Staff at 1st August (Full-Time)		(c) Number of Classes	(d) No. Dual Grade Classes	(e) Average No. of Pupils Per Class (as at 1st August)
			(1) Teaching Staff	(2) Adminis- trative Staff*			
Safety Bay	1961	107	†	†	†	†	†
	1962	124	3	....	3	1	40
	1963	124	3	....	3	1	41
	1964	153	4	....	4	3	36
	1965	157	4	....	4	3	41
	1966	201	5	....	5	5	39
	1967	254	6	....	6	3	42
	1968	432	10	....	9	4	47
	†1969	....	14	I	13	5	37

* These are non-teaching Headmasters.

† Figures for 1969 relate to February.

‡ Denotes that information is not available

TEMPORARY RESERVES

Port Hedland Area

43. Mr. BICKERTON asked the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

Will he supply a plan showing all temporary reserves held within a radius of 200 miles of Port Hedland?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

Plans as requested are tabled.

The plans were tabled.

GOLDMINING INDUSTRY

Assistance by Government

44. Mr. T. D. EVANS asked the Premier:

- (1) Is he aware of the present economic situation confronting the goldmining industry?

- (2) If satisfied that the said economic situation is such as to justify any action on the part of the Government aimed at relieving the position, would he have the following questions examined with such a view as aforesaid:—

- (a) Is it legally possible for the State Government, having regard to Commonwealth legislation and the Bretton Woods Agreement, to financially assist the industry in a direct manner;

- (b) Would it be financially possible for the Government to so assist;

- (c) What steps could be taken by the Government to assist the Chamber of Mines (Inc.) in its endeavour to attract to the mines work force additional skilled miners;

- (d) What assistance through the State Housing Commission in the provision of workers' homes could be given in accord with (c) supra?

Mr. BRAND replied:

- (1) Yes.

- (2) (a) I am not aware of any reason why this cannot be done.

- (b) Governments from time to time have assisted goldmines by way of direct loans, assistance for development, and dollar for dollar subsidy on drilling programmes.

A State Government with limited financial resources and heavy commitments in many directions must consider the extent to which assistance can be given.

The assistance given depends on the ore reserves, grade of the ore, and the economic life of the mine.

- (c) The Government has always co-operated with the Chamber of Mines (Inc.) in its endeavours to attract additional skilled miners. In the past, assistance has also been given by the provision of transport facilities and housing. Further assistance is provided through the School of Mines in the training of technical staff for mining.

- (d) The State Housing Commission recommenced building rental housing in Kalgoorlie in 1967 after a lapse of 13 years. Five rental homes were completed in December, 1967, and a further three rental homes and one purchase home were completed in November, 1968.

These homes were allocated to applicants whose income did not exceed \$3,259.73 per annum, plus \$100 per annum for each child under 16 years of age. In addition to the foregoing, the commission is

collaborating with the Department of Lands and also Local Government in opening up a new area for home building, both privately and on its own account. Eligible ex-service-men could apply for immediate assistance under war service homes legislation. A Kalgoorlie local authority has also contributed to the housing position by operating under sections 512 to 514 of the Local Government Act on land made available by the State Housing Commission.

STOCK EXCHANGE

Brokers and Stock Jobbers

45. Mr. BERTRAM asked the Minister representing the Minister for Justice:

- (1) How many share brokers are members of the Stock Exchange in Western Australia?
- (2) How many of said members are also stock jobbers?
- (3) How many stock jobbers are operating in Western Australia?
- (4) Does a stock jobber trade in margins?

Margin and Stock Jobbing Transactions

- (5) Is a person operating by way of a margin transaction when he buys and sells the same shares only depositing with his broker a sum sufficient to cover the risk of loss on that transaction; if not, what is meant by a margin transaction?
- (6) Does a person trading in margins normally become actually possessed of the securities the subject of the transaction; if "No," who does become actually possessed thereof?
- (7) Does the Western Australian Stock Exchange permit margin trading in securities?
- (8) If trading in margins does occur on the Stock Exchange of Western Australia what rules, if any, are there touching on the amount of margin money to be paid to the broker?
- (9) For each of the five years ended the 30th June, 1968, what was the actual, or, if this figure is not available, what was the estimated, value of—

- (a) margin transactions handled by brokers through the Perth Stock Exchange?
- (b) stock jobbing transactions handled by brokers through the Perth Stock Exchange?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

- (1) 29.
- (2) All.
- (3) The above 29 plus 4 member firms of The Stock Exchange of Melbourne that operate in Perth, and there are two stock jobbers known to be operating outside Stock Exchange membership.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) Yes.
- (6) No. The selling and buying brokers become possessed, in turn, with the buyer gaining possession only when the deal is completed.
- (7) Yes, but they are known as either "time contracts" or "option dealings."
- (8) In "time contracts" regulation 16 of the Rules and Regulations of The Stock Exchange of Perth requires payment of the difference between the contract price and the then current market price.
In "option dealings," under regulation 49 (a), payment must be made to the broker of a deposit of not less than 25 per cent. of the exercise price for the option.
- (9) (a) and (b). No estimate can be made.

By way of explanation, questions (2) to (9) are framed so as to relate peculiarly to the Stock Exchange, at London, or to other provincial exchanges in the United Kingdom, and it is not practicable to answer them precisely, in this State, because of differences in practice and technical terms used in all Australian exchanges from those in the United Kingdom. The expression "stock jobber," in English stock exchange parlance, means a stock exchange member who can only act as a principal. In Australian stock exchanges a member may deal as a principal and as an agent. For the purpose of answering questions (2), (3), and (4) a "stock jobber" is taken to mean a person who deals in stocks and shares on his own account.

NATIONAL FLAG

Use by University and Schools

46. Mr. I. W. MANNING asked the Premier:

- (1) Have the University and all schools in Western Australia been requested to fly the national flag?
- (2) Can he inform the House to what extent this practice is carried out?

Mr. BRAND replied:

- (1) and (2). Instructions to schools regarding the days on which flags are to be flown appear in the Teachers' Handbook—Item 13.11. At the University the flag is flown only on national and special days in accordance with the policy laid down by the Premier's Department.

Item 13.11 is as follows:—

13.11 Days on Which Flags Are To Be Flown at Government Schools.—Flags are to be flown at Government Schools on the following days:

*Last Monday in February, Australia Day Observance in schools.

*21st April, Birthday of Her Majesty.

*25th April, Anzac Day. Schools' Observance.

*1st June, Foundation Day of Western Australia.

Second Monday in June, Commonwealth Day.

10th June, Birthday of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh.

*24th October, United Nations Day.

*11th November, Remembrance Day.

14th November, Birthday of His Royal Highness, Prince Charles, The Prince of Wales.

On such other occasions as may be notified from time to time in "The Education Circular".

*On the days marked with an asterisk, a simple ceremony should accompany the raising of the flag. The suggested form of service is as follows:

(1) Song of Australia while flag is being raised.

(2) School Creed or Lord's Prayer.

(3) Brief talk on the significance of the day.

(4) National Anthem.

Notes in Regard to the Flying of Flags.—(1) Flags are flown at the mast-head except as shown hereunder in regard to Anzac Day and Remembrance Day.

(a) Anzac Day—Half mast until noon, then raised to the mast-head until sunset.

(b) Remembrance Day—At mast-head until 10.30 a.m. Half mast from 10.30 a.m. to 11.03 a.m. At mast-head for the remainder of the day.

(2) The flag should not be hoisted before 8 a.m., and must be lowered not later than sunset.

(3) It should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.

(4) Care should be taken to see that the Union Jack is flown correctly. To fly flag upside down is a sign of distress.

(5) Half masting. The flag is brought to the half mast position by first hoisting it to the peak for an instant and then lowering it slowly to the half mast position. The flag should again be hoisted to the peak before being hauled down.

GOVERNMENT CIRCULAR No. 17/87

Application to Fremantle Port Authority

47. Mr. TAYLOR asked the Premier: With regard to the subject matter of circular to permanent heads No. 17/87 of the 14th September, 1967, issued by the Public Service Commissioner's Office, would he advise—

(a) Whether such provisions apply to any employees of the Fremantle Port Authority;

(b) If "Yes"—

(i) what category of employees, if any, are excluded;

(ii) if any are excluded, what is the reason for their exclusion?

Mr. BRAND replied:

(a) Yes—to salaried officers only.

(b) (i) All staff other than salaried officers.

(ii) Answered by (i) above.

PERTH RAILWAY STATION

Lowering: Cost of Feasibility Study

48. Mr. BURKE asked the Premier:

(1) What was the cost to the State of the feasibility study made by De Leuw Cather & Company of the proposal for the lowering of the Perth railway?

(2) In the event of the W.A.D.C. project for the lowering of the railway not proceeding, will the State be liable for any moneys expended

by this or any other private organisation pursuant to the projected lowering of the railway?

Mr. BRAND replied:

(1) \$45,312.

(2) No.

QUESTIONS (3): WITHOUT NOTICE LAND

Rate Valuation

1. Mr. HALL asked the Premier:

In view of the answer given to question 8 on today's notice paper, would he agree to a Royal Commission on the subject of spiralling land prices and the activities of land speculators?

Mr. BRAND replied:

No, because a Royal Commission would not reveal any more than we already know.

RESERVES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Uses of "Ancillary Uses"

2. Mr. BERTRAM asked the Minister for Lands:

Will he state, by way of answer to this question, the uses reasonably envisaged by the words "Ancillary Uses" appearing in the Bill to amend section 13 of the Reserves Act, 1967?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

The uses reasonably envisaged by the words "Ancillary Uses" are ballet, opera, plays, as well as the performance of any other of the arts.

LAND AT MT. LAWLEY

Shire of Perth's Proposals

3. Mr. HARMAN asked the Minister for Lands:

Will he table the file dealing with the proposals put forward by the Shire of Perth for land adjacent to St. Annes Hospital, Mt. Lawley?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

The member for Maylands telephoned me this morning and asked me if I would table this file. I have it here, and I ask that it be tabled for 24 hours.

The file was tabled.

BANANA INDUSTRY COMPENSATION TRUST FUND ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 27th March.

MR. NORTON (Gascoyne) [5.3 p.m.]: It is most pleasing to have this Bill before us which, virtually, seeks continuation of

this legislation, and thus a continuation of the Banana Industry Compensation Trust Fund. Both the Act and the fund have proved to be very valuable to banana growers in Carnarvon over the past five years. Growers have had to call upon the fund twice as a result of cyclones, and I believe the fund has stood up reasonably well to the pressure that has been placed upon it.

It is distressing for producers of bananas to witness the great destruction that can take place following a cyclone and to realise that their income will virtually be cut off for the next 18 months, because it takes approximately 18 months for a plant to mature and for the banana crop to be harvested. Therefore this fund certainly helps to soften the blow in the event of disaster, and it also gives some financial assistance to growers who seek to re-establish themselves.

Although the Minister's main purpose in introducing the Bill is for the continuation of the Act, he has taken the opportunity to incorporate in the measure a few small necessary amendments. One amendment seeks to alter the definition of "case", which I will deal with, and there are various other consequential amendments, all of which relate to the amount of compensation that will be paid.

Another clause which is well worth introducing deals with the destruction of bananas and the assistance that will be granted following such destruction; and, all in all, the amendments are very satisfactory. I will deal with each as it appears in the Bill, but before doing so I would like to know what the Minister meant when, during his second reading speech, he said he had received a letter from the Carnarvon Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association asking for a continuation of the Act and for other amendments to it, but did not mention what the amendments were or whether they were included in this Bill. Also, he did not say at the time that he had received another letter from the other growers' association at Carnarvon; namely, the Market Gardeners' Association, which also wrote to him asking for the continuation of the Act, together with some amendments. Whether the Minister overlooked that letter, I do not know.

In any event, I have a copy of the letter that was written to him on the 30th November, 1968. During his second reading speech the Minister said the committee had considered the recommendations, and I think he used the words "the trust fund committee is of the opinion that its provision should be continued." Whether, by that, he meant that the committee had actually rejected the request for the amendment asked, I am not quite sure. That is, I am not certain whether he accepted or rejected it.

However, when we review the personnel of the committee as constituted under the provisions of the Act at present, we find

it is not very favourably disposed towards the grower, because the members of the committee at present comprise an officer of the Department of Agriculture, who is chairman; an officer of the State Treasury; and a member elected by the growers. Therefore, no matter what the growers may want to do, if the departmental officers are not in favour of a request put forward by the growers, there would not be much chance of its being approved.

In the Bill the Minister has taken the opportunity to seek an amendment to alter the membership of the committee by increasing it to four. He did not give any reason for seeking to increase the membership, but I would have thought he would have increased the membership to five, thus making an odd number on the committee. The personnel of the committee could then be an officer of the Department of Agriculture who could act as chairman; an officer of the State Treasury, and three elected representatives of the growers. When a committee comprises four members, a deadlock can occur quite frequently; and we find that one amendment seeks to repeal and re-enact section 14 of the Act to alter the method of voting. The proposed new subsection of section 14 reads as follows:—

A question arising at a meeting shall be determined by a majority of the valid votes of the members or deputies present.

It is very hard to see how one can get a majority of votes on any question if two members are voting for the question and two are voting against it. I take it that in such circumstances the motion would be resolved in the negative, and so there would not be much progress. I feel sure that this would undoubtedly be the position when the members comprised two departmental representatives and two growers' representatives who had totally opposite views on any subject.

In the deliberations of a committee it is not very satisfactory when a deadlock occurs on any question, and the only way to overcome such a position is to have odd numbers; unless, of course, the chairman has a casting vote, but this is not good procedure and is not provided for in the Act.

It is found that in most of the other committees which are appointed to advise on various compensation Acts, the Government's representative is always in a minority. For example, on the Bee Industry Compensation Committee there are two elected members, and one is a representative of the department, who is chairman. Beekeepers contribute to their fund in the same way as the banana planters contribute to the Banana Industry Compensation Trust Fund. However, they have the weight of numbers on the Bee Industry Compensation Committee to

oppose any matter that is considered, but regardless of the decision reached it has to have the final approval of the Minister.

When this Act was first introduced the capacity of the banana case used at Carnarvon was one and a-third bushels, but since the Act has come into operation, the size of the case has been reduced to one bushel. The reduction in the size of the case, for economic reasons and for easier handling, also assists in the general marketing set-up for bananas. The amendment seeking to reduce the size of the case to one bushel renders consequential amendments necessary, because the contribution made by a grower to the Banana Industry Compensation Trust Fund is dependent on the number of cases of bananas marketed.

So the Minister has taken the opportunity, with this Bill, to seek a reduction in the contribution to the fund. It was 20c, but the amendment seeks to reduce it to 15c, in proportion to the reduction in the size of the case. The Bill also seeks to reduce the compensation payable from \$2 per case to \$1.50, again in proportion to the reduction in the size of the case.

The Minister also seeks to amend section 27 by this Bill, which section was the subject of special amending legislation in 1964. I opposed that amendment, because I did not think its passing would result in producers being treated fairly. The 1964 amendment reads as follows:—

A grower is entitled to be paid compensation under this Act only in respect of so much of the loss suffered by him as exceeds twenty per centum of the value of the total quantity of bananas in course of production on his land at the time of the loss . . .

However, the amendment now appearing in the Bill seeks to allow an assessment to be made over various sections of a plantation, taking into consideration the age and maturity of the plants. So I take it that if this amendment is agreed to a grower will not be assessed on the basis of 20 per cent. loss over his total plantation, but in accordance with the individual sections of the plantation.

Another amendment seeks to extend the life of the Act for a further seven years, but I believe there should be at least two additional amendments in the Bill and I intend to try to have them agreed to in the Committee stage. I apologise to the Minister for giving him such short notice of my intention to move these amendments, but I received a copy of the Bill only last Thursday and I did not have an opportunity to consult the Parliamentary Draftsman until Friday afternoon, following which I did not receive the draft copies of my amendments until late this afternoon.

I believe this Act should be brought into line with other Statutes which grant compensation to producers, such as the Cattle Industry Compensation Act; the Bee Industry Compensation Act; the Pig Industry Compensation Act; and the Poultry Industry (Trust Fund) Act, all of which allow the producer the right of appeal against an assessment of damages for loss. This right of appeal is not contained in the Act at present under review, and I consider it should be brought into line with the Acts I have mentioned, so that any grower suffering loss can appeal against the assessment of damages.

In the last two claims for damages, planters received their assessments some considerable number of weeks after their losses had been assessed. I think this is unfair. The banana is a very delicate fruit and if it sustains any damage during a cyclone it deteriorates rapidly, and it is therefore, necessary for the planter, if he is to get on with his work quickly, to have everything cleaned up to enable him to get into production as soon as possible.

I feel that the banana planter should be advised by the assessors within 48 hours of the assessment of the damage as to the percentage of damage caused to a particular plantation. It should not be hard to do this, because when the assessors are compiling their daily returns it would only be a matter of filling out a form with the planter's name on it, together with the percentage of damage assessed, and delivering this to him the morning after to give him an idea of where he is going.

If this were done it would also give the planter an opportunity to assess the finance he could reasonably expect to obtain over the following month or two to enable him to carry on. This information would also be necessary in the event of his requiring financial assistance from a bank. I am certain if this were done it would create more harmony, because as time goes on a person naturally imagines his damage to be greater than it was at the time of the assessment. Damage can manifest itself as late as three or four months after a cyclone, but the damage in the case in question must be that which is visible at the time of the blow.

Accordingly, if a planter is given his assessment reasonably early, it will help him considerably, because he will know what he is up for. Apart from this, it will give him an opportunity, if he wishes, to make the appeal which I have suggested should be included as a provision in the legislation.

It is interesting to note that, in all the Acts through which I have looked, provision is made for an appeal by the producer against an assessment of damage;

and this includes compensation Acts dealing with pigs, cattle, and other things. Accordingly I feel the banana industry is entitled to a similar concession. In my opinion, and in the opinion of all planters, the continuation of the Act is well worth while and I support the second reading of the Bill. I trust the Minister will accept the amendments I have fore-shadowed.

MR. McPHARLIN (Mt. Marshall) [5.19 p.m.]: The member for Gascoyne has clearly shown that he has a thorough knowledge and understanding of the banana industry, and he admits that the amendments proposed in the Bill will be of benefit to the industry. From the information I have, I understand that these amendments were sought by the growers themselves. I am sure members will agree that the Government is to be commended for having consented to extend the legislation with amendments for a further period of seven years. This will be of great value and help in stabilising the banana-growing industry.

The member for Gascoyne has referred to the alteration of the case size and also to the reduction from 20c to 15c in the amount per case because of this alteration. The honourable member also referred to the committee, the number of members of which it is proposed to increase from three to four. The committee will now consist of a departmental representative, a representative of the Treasury, and two grower representatives. As I understand the position this was asked for by the growers themselves.

Mr. Nalder: That is correct.

Mr. McPHARLIN: If this is so, the provision complies with the wishes of the growers and I can see no cause for complaint in that respect. Further, mention was made by the honourable member to the reduction in the figure from \$2 to \$1.50 as a result of the alteration in the case size.

I think the most important amendment in the Bill concerns the proposal that the patch of bananas planted should be assessed separately instead of on the averaging system, which has hitherto applied. I understand the latter system did create some dissension among the growers, particularly where there were non-producing plants and producing plants on the same plantation which happened to be owned by the same person. By averaging over the lot it would mean a reduction in compensation. I am sure this amendment will be welcomed by the growers and that it will work to their advantage.

Whilst speaking to the chairman of the assessment committee I asked him whether it had ever been necessary to appoint an arbitrator in the case of a disagreement between the assessor appointed by the growers and the one appointed by the

Government. From what he said, I understand there has never yet been a disagreement making it necessary to appoint an independent arbitrator. If this is correct, I think it speaks well for the industry and it proves beyond doubt that there is a great deal of co-operation between the Government and the growers. From the information I have been able to obtain, I think the Bill is most commendable and I have much pleasure in supporting the second reading.

MR. SEWELL (Geraldton) [5.22 p.m.]: In supporting this Bill to amend the Banana Industry Compensation Trust Fund Act I would first like to commend the Carnarvon Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association and the member for Gascoyne for their initiative in having this legislation placed on the Statute book in the first place.

I have always been one who believed that there should be some form of insurance so far as producers are concerned, irrespective of what they might produce. I notice from today's news item that the Federal Government is considering putting forward a proposal to farmers generally for some such scheme. This, however, has not yet been outlined.

To my mind the Bill before us is quite an important one to the banana industry. The banana-growing industry at Carnarvon is important not only to the town and district of Carnarvon but also to the State of Western Australia.

Members will see that clause 3 of the Bill seeks to amend section 7 of the Act by providing for the election of another grower to the board. I think this is all to the good. I agree with the member for Mt. Marshall that this is a step in the right direction.

Clause 5 of the Bill amends section 19 by substituting for the 2s., or 20c, already provided for in the Act an amount of 15c. This is a reduction in the amount to be paid by the growers; and, correspondingly, the provision in clause 6 will reduce the amount from 20s., or \$2, to \$1.50.

According to the Minister's figures the fund now stands at \$88,751. This fund was started in 1962 and has been in operation seven years. The payments to the fund are made up of \$2 per case from the growers and \$1 per case from the Government. There is no doubt the fund itself is in a healthy position, and as the amending Bill proposes to give more stability to the industry generally, I have much pleasure in supporting the measure.

MR. NALDER (Katanning—Minister for Agriculture) [5.25 p.m.]: I thank members for the support they have outlined when speaking to this legislation. I assure the member for Gascoyne that if a reply has not been sent to the Market Gardeners' Association I will see that this is done.

Mr. Norton: I did not say that. You mentioned one association but not the other.

MR. NALDER: I will check the matter and see that a reply to the letter received from the association is sent. I would indicate here that I did receive propositions outlined by the two organisations, and that is why we have agreed to have a member elected from the growers. I do not know how this will work, but it will probably be on the basis of one being elected from each association. I sense that this is likely to be the position. This has been requested and we have agreed to accept the proposition.

I do not agree with the member for Gascoyne that we should have an odd number. This committee has worked very successfully under the Act, and to my knowledge there has not been a case of great disagreement making it necessary for a vote to be taken on any matter. The committee works under the Act which is detailed and therefore there are not too many disagreements. The requests made to me satisfy me that an equal number on the committee will not present a problem.

I urge the House to accept the proposition put up by the organisation. The growers have got together and have put this proposition forward, and they think it will work. Accordingly I urge members to accept this on the basis that the people concerned have successfully surmounted the problems associated with the Banana Industry Trust Fund Act, and they anticipate they will be able to continue to do so. I suggest, in the circumstances, that we accept the proposition as it is, because it is felt it will work quite satisfactorily under the Act with the two representatives who will appear on behalf of those who represent the whole of the banana-growing industry at Carnarvon.

Three points were made by the Carnarvon Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association which, in my opinion, and in the opinion of my advisers, it was not advisable to accept. It is as well for the House to know that, in consideration of the amendments required, some thought had been given to all the aspects of the problem. The request was that the election of a growers' representative—and this was one of the amendments proposed, but not accepted—be held within three months of a vacancy occurring.

This situation has not arisen previously and it is felt that the provision is not necessary. Suitable arrangements have been made, and it is considered that this is just another provision which it is not necessary to have in the Act. That is one of the reasons why the suggested amendment was not accepted.

The other amendment was that the balance sheet be published within three months of the end of the year. The committee, however, has arranged to make the balance sheet available to the organisation as early as possible; in some cases it might be earlier than the three months referred to. This arrangement has been agreed to and, accordingly, it is not necessary to legislate for it.

The other amendment has been put forward, and this was mentioned by the honourable member early in his speech. It concerns the reduction in percentage of loss borne by growers—that it be reduced from 20 per cent. to 15 per cent. I have said on a previous occasion that this would resolve itself into two questions. One would be that eventually, because of the position of the fund, it would be necessary, based on the experience we have had in the past, for the growers to pay an increased contribution. The other would be for the Government to add another amount to enable the scheme to float along in a reasonable financial state.

As a result of an amendment which has been accepted dealing with the area damaged, where plantings belonging to the one person in two different positions or on the same property, but plantings of a different year, the demands on the fund in future could be increased rather than decreased. However, we have agreed to this amendment because it has been suggested by growers that the position is a little unfair. Therefore it is considered to be a fair proposition that the first 20 per cent. of the loss be borne by the growers. I do not think we should depart from this unless the circumstances the industry might experience in the future would indicate that it might be necessary to amend the Act at that time.

It seems to me this situation has been accepted generally as a satisfactory one. The Act was brought into being in 1961 for the purpose of trying to stabilise the industry. The Government recognised the importance and value of the industry to the State and agreed to make a contribution towards the fund. Generally, satisfaction has been expressed by the majority of growers, although there have been one or two cases where some little dissatisfaction has been expressed. Because of this situation, I suggest we accept the position as it is.

The member for Gascoyne indicated that he proposes to move some amendments. As I have not had the opportunity of studying them, I suggest that we proceed to the Committee stage and when we reach the clause concerned, we can report progress. This will give me an opportunity to have a look at the proposed amendments, which can be discussed at a later sitting.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee

The Deputy Chairman of Committees (Mr. Williams) in the Chair; Mr. Nalder (Minister for Agriculture) in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 to 4 put and passed.

Clause 5: Amendment to section 19.

Mr. NORTON: I wonder whether the Minister would agree to report progress now so that we can ascertain where to insert my amendment in the Bill.

Mr. Nalder: I think that is a good suggestion.

Progress

Progress reported and leave given to sit again, on motion by Mr. Nalder (Minister for Agriculture).

EXOTIC STOCK DISEASES (ERADICATION FUND) BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 27th March.

MR. H. D. EVANS (Warren) [5.37 p.m.] : This Bill may be regarded as a purely precautionary measure. Its intention is to extend the scope of operation of the existing Act; and the desirability of doing so can be measured proportionately to the extension of its application.

As the Minister pointed out when introducing the Bill, it will make compensatory provision for vesicular disease, for blue-tongue in sheep, swine fever and African fever in pigs, rinderpest in cattle, Newcastle disease and fowl plague in poultry, and rabies in any species, in addition to foot-and-mouth disease. It is virtually a re-enactment of the provisions contained in the existing legislation, with these desirable and valuable extensions.

We all hope its provisions will never have to be used. However, preparedness is essential, especially in regard to diseases such as those mentioned. While the risk of epidemics should not be exaggerated, at the same time, it should not be over-minimised. In these times of travel, particularly by air, the increased possibility of transmission of exotic disease becomes increasingly dangerous, and this tendency will increase still further in the future.

With this in mind, the necessity for a compensatory fund becomes obvious. It is not my intention to be critical of existing quarantine measures, or the procedures at the place of entry into Australia of persons or of goods. Indeed, the Commonwealth Government showed very commendable action when reports of a possible epidemic in New Zealand were brought into evidence not so long ago. As I have said, the reaction of the Commonwealth on that occasion was commendable.

However, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a letter from the Australian Dairy Farmers' Federation

submitted to Dr. A. J. Forbes, Federal Minister for Health. This letter expresses deep concern at the increased possibility of exotic diseases coming into Australia.

This submission deals specifically with the importation of brucellosis in non-pasteurised cheese, the increasing dangers of foot-and-mouth disease; it expresses deep concern at the landing of unauthorised fishermen on the northern coast of Queensland; it makes reference to the delay in the installation of incinerators at sea termini throughout Australia, not specifying any particular point of entry, and it also makes reference to the Commonwealth Government's legislation and policy in relation to prosecutions of people illegally importing meat products such as salami, bacon, and other meats.

The first comments were in regard to the experience of Mr. Roger Blowey, B.V.Sc., Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, residing in Devon, England, as follows:—

He arrived at Perth, W.A. at 4.30 a.m. on July 10th last per aircraft direct from England. When he asked to have his shoes fumigated at the airport he was told "You will be alright", even though he told them that he had milked cows (a 60 cow herd) at his parents place on July 7th wearing the same shoes that he requested to be fumigated, and had visited an abattoir in England within three weeks of leaving for Australia. He also told them he was going to work on Canobie Cattle Station in north west Queensland.

The second statement quoted is by Mr. Robert Martin, Yuill Road, Sale, and reads as follows:—

In answer to your letter of the 11th July asking my impression on quarantine administration I would like to say that I was amazed and greatly disturbed, particularly as there was an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Britain at this time, to observe how easily it was to transport people from one part of the world to another and at the same time the lack of in many cases, any inspection of luggage, also any questions as to what branch of industry a person was in, where you had travelled from or what place was to be your final destination.

He goes on to point out that he had twice been to New Zealand visiting dairy and pig farms and processing works, and had also been in Australia with a large number of stock breeders and similar persons.

The third submission was an observation made by Mr. I. P. Kennedy, Sandy Creek, via Kilcoy, Queensland. It reads as follows:—

After travelling through the Philippines, Japan and Hong Kong, I arrived by plane from Hong Kong via Manila at Brisbane Air Port and was

asked to fill in a questionnaire. I then presented myself for quarantine inspection. The only relevant question on the questionnaire that I can recall asked if I had visited any farm or abattoir while abroad, to which I answered, yes, Japan.

He then goes on to describe the quarantine precautions and gives his opinion of them, after which he states—

There was no inspection nor any precautions to eliminate possible disease taken, although I was only eight hours from one of the world's free ports where the street hygiene left much to be desired and disease from any part of the world could be in those streets. Disease could easily, in my opinion, have been brought into Australia.

As one vitally concerned with the beef industry, I live in constant fear that sooner or later the foot and mouth disease will come.

The final submission contained in this letter to Mr. Forbes is a request from this responsible body—The Australian Dairy Farmers' Federation, with some 40,000 members, including organisations in this State and is as follows:—

That, to ensure the exclusion of foot and mouth disease from Australia the Commonwealth Government be requested to introduce stricter regulations covering the entry of persons into the country, including the disinfecting of their footwear and to ensure that these regulations are enforced without exception.

The increased danger of exotic diseases also concerns a veterinary surgeon with whom I recently discussed this matter. His own experience is rather enlightening. On a Saturday afternoon shortly before leaving for Australia, this man, who was in the employ of the Ministry of Agriculture, was working on an outbreak of Newcastle disease in Cambridge, England. On the following Wednesday he arrived in Perth per aeroplane. Although he had been in very close contact with this epidemic—actually working on it—he was afforded no closer scrutiny than any other passenger on that plane. His shoes received no attention whatsoever, and he is of the opinion that a real danger exists.

The Minister very rightly referred to the effect on the economy that an outbreak of blue-tongue disease could bring about. In Australia we have a considerable number of nocturnal biting amphipods which could serve as host to this particular virus, and the prevailing climatic conditions would make it a very difficult disease to eradicate.

It is not my intention to be an alarmist in this matter but I do feel we must be realistic. This is just what this Bill seeks

to be realistic. It is realistic in the form of insurance it provides. The Minister pointed out that, except for the extension of the fund to all exotic diseases, this Bill is virtually a re-enactment of the provisions in the existing legislation. I therefore assume that the contributions to the fund which will be established will remain the same. I understand that to this fund the Commonwealth will contribute 50 per cent., the States contributing the balance in the proportions of: New South Wales, 20 per cent.; Victoria, 18.25 per cent.; Queensland, 20.5 per cent.; Western Australia and South Australia, each 10 per cent.; and Tasmania, the Northern Territory, and the A.C.T., 6 per cent. between them.

A major outbreak of disease would involve the country in considerable expense. Paragraph (a) of subclause (1) of clause 7 of the Bill indicates the sources of money for the fund, including periodic appropriations. I could not help wondering whether, to meet the total cost of an outbreak, the solution would simply be to expand proportionately the contribution of each State, or whether the Commonwealth would be prepared to contribute the additional amount required over and above its allocated proportion. The total cost could be very substantial indeed and could well be a burden on any of the States. I think this could legitimately be regarded as a Commonwealth responsibility. I hope the Minister will be able to clarify this point when he replies.

The passing of this Bill will repeal the Foot and Mouth Disease Eradication Fund Act of 1959, which was amended in 1966. I understand this measure was never actually proclaimed. Its powers are widely embracing and would not normally be required, and such provisions could be dangerous in the normal course of events, but highly desirable in the case of an epidemic.

I presume this Bill will be regarded in the same way and will be proclaimed if the necessity ever arises. I have no doubt that this and other matters have been discussed by the Australian Agricultural Council, and perhaps the Minister could refer to this point, too, when he replies at the conclusion of the second reading.

Some further provisions contained in the Bill are equally desirable, and one refers to the disposal of plant. In the case of an epidemic, buildings, properties, and a large amount of machinery and other equipment, could necessarily be purchased. Provision is made for their disposal and the return of the moneys obtained.

It is also interesting to note that adequate provision has been made for compensation and the appointment of a magistrate to determine any disputes. This provision is an improvement on the Cattle

Industry Compensation Act and, apparently, on the Banana Industry Compensation Trust Fund Act. That is quite a desirable point.

The extent of the powers for making regulations are only to be expected and I feel they are necessary. If these regulations are ever proclaimed it will be at a time of emergency, and time will be something nobody will have very much of. It will be far too cumbersome to go through the usual channels, and as a consequence provision for these emergency measures is most appropriate and I feel, once again, desirable.

I do not know whether operative legislation has been introduced in the other States or in the Commonwealth sphere. Perhaps the Minister would like to make reference to this to indicate to the House how far the overall passage of this legislation has gone. It is a matter in which, I think, we would all be interested.

I would like to conclude by saying that we on this side of the House support this measure fully. We also commend the Australian Agricultural Council, and the Minister and his officers for the part they played in this very comprehensive and forward-looking piece of legislation. We always look forward to seeing legislation which will minimise the chance of exotic diseases entering Australia, and we hope to see the passage of this legislation in the near future. Meanwhile, there is a large measure of comfort in the provisions of this Bill, and I support it.

MR. BATEMAN (Canning) [5.54 p.m.]: I would like to support the member for Warren who has quite obviously done a tremendous amount of research in connection with the Bill. It is not my intention to repeat what the member for Warren has said; that would be wasting time unnecessarily. However, I would like to mention—and perhaps this is on a different matter to that discussed by the member for Warren—that the public generally is very well protected from all forms of disease, especially in the meat trade.

Firstly, we have the Public Health Department which employs meat inspectors at all abattoirs to look after our interests and examine the carcasses of sheep and cattle. Secondly, we have the local authorities, which also employ health inspectors who, in the main, are meat inspectors as well. The meat which they inspect is for local consumption. We also have the Department of Primary Industry which employs health inspectors, not only in the abattoirs in the metropolitan area, but in the abattoirs right throughout the State. Those inspectors only examine the meat which is to be exported. Added to these safeguards the Department of Primary Industry provides veterinary surgeons to go round regularly examining livestock to see that they are free of disease before they are slaughtered.

Over and above all this I am sure we owe a little debt of gratitude to a service which many of us do not think very much about. I refer to the Commonwealth quarantine service. The Australian Commonwealth quarantine service is the most ruthless of its kind in the world. Of course, it should be because it is protecting the lives of everyone in this country. I refer to the quarantine service not only in Western Australia but in Australia as a whole, and this service is the envy of many other countries, because we have no exotic diseases at all. I think we would be the only country with no exotic diseases, and this speaks very highly of a service which is in contact with every country of the world in every 24 hours.

I would like to give a couple of examples of the ruthlessness of our quarantine service. If an aeroplane arrives with a plane load of passengers from a country where there is a known outbreak of smallpox, and there is one passenger who has not been inoculated against that disease, then every passenger on the plane, and the crew, has to be inoculated. The vigilance of this service was also brought to notice when the Olympic Games were held in Melbourne. The equestrian events were not held in Australia, but in another country, because the participants in the events would not comply with the rigid and stringent quarantine regulations which were applied by the quarantine service. Much political pressure was brought to bear on the quarantine service, but the service won the day and that was to its credit.

When aeroplanes arrive from various countries throughout the world they are fumigated, especially for mosquitoes. This is most important because mosquitoes can live for two or three days in the space into which the wheels are retracted. This could be sufficient time for the mosquitoes to transport diseases from other countries.

When reading through the Bill I noticed there was no mention of Rift Valley fever, which is rife in Northern Africa. It is an exotic disease and it is certainly one which we do not want in this country, because it would cause a tremendous amount of trouble.

I support, once again, the remarks of the member for Warren who has done a tremendous amount of research and has covered a lot of ground in his study of the Bill, and I support the measure.

MR. McIVER (Northam) [6 p.m.]: I also, wish to endorse the remarks of the previous speaker. This Bill is certainly one of merit and one from which I feel the primary producers of Western Australia will obtain great satisfaction. If an epidemic should happen to break out in our State, we will now have a situation that will give the farmers of Western Australia an assurance in relation to their stock.

We know that in Europe millions of dollars have been spent on foot and mouth disease, and agricultural experts in European countries which have been affected have had considerable worry in relation to combating the disease. However, here in this State we have excellent trained personnel who are looking at the various diseases in depth, and who are endeavouring to meet the challenge; and they are doing everything possible to eradicate those diseases and to prevent an outbreak of an epidemic.

I would like to point out to the Minister that I feel the Bill will strengthen the case for the upgrading of agricultural colleges, such as is happening at Muresk. I sincerely trust that when the transition period ends, the Department of Agriculture will not divorce itself entirely from the Institute of Technology, so that there will be a continuance of liaison between the two departments; because there is no doubt in my mind that great headway is being made due to the technical advice given by officers of the Department of Agriculture.

Whereas I feel a lot of technical advice can be made available by the Institute of Technology, I consider that in the Department of Agriculture we have officers with actual practical experience in combating these diseases for quite some time, and those officers are doing a very excellent job. I have no hesitation whatsoever in supporting the Bill.

MR. YOUNG (Roe) [6.2 p.m.]: I would like to support the measure before the House, and I agree fully with what members opposite have said regarding the possibilities of the introduction of exotic diseases into our vast stock industry in Australia. As the member for Warren pointed out, the introduction of disease could be disastrous in respect of the financial set-up within the stock industry.

We have seen hundreds of millions of pounds spent in England in connection with the 1966-67 outbreak of foot and mouth disease, and although the conditions in England are vastly different to ours, the same situation could arise here. I think this debate is taking on the shape that, perhaps, could have been taken last year when we debated the alterations to the Stock Diseases (Regulations) Act. The Bill is primarily to consolidate all exotic diseases under one compensation fund. Blue-tongue especially, which was not originally provided for, is to be brought under the compensation fund, and all exotic diseases are grouped together in one measure.

We find that provision has been made to cover all the enzootic diseases and the vesicular diseases, which means that we will now have complete cover with regard to diseases which can be brought into this State by virtue of our modern system of transport.

We have had, as the member for Warren mentioned, the unhappy situation of unauthorised personnel landing on our northern beaches, and we have vast numbers of animals roaming wild in the northern areas. In the event of those animals contracting diseases, it would be virtually impossible to stamp out the diseases. The vast herds of water buffalo, etc., that run around in our northern areas would have to be completely wiped out to contain any disease.

Therefore, I commend the Bill to the House. I think we are taking a step in the right direction in that the stock growers in this State will now be fully protected. The measure virtually brings us into line with what has been done overseas in this respect, and farmers can expect complete compensation from both the State Government and the Federal Government for any necessary destruction of their stock.

MR. NALDER (Katanning—Minister for Agriculture) [6.5 p.m.]: We have listened to members supporting this Bill, the subject matter of which has probably been discussed more in the last 18 months or so than any other type of legislation that has been introduced. It affects every Parliament in Australia, both Federal and State. I wish to state that this matter has been discussed by the Agricultural Council at a number of meetings and, without exception, general support has been forthcoming.

In the first instance, the Commonwealth Government has accepted the responsibility of catering for any situation that may arise with regard to quarantine, and this has been referred to already by several speakers.

I might mention before I proceed further that I noted the member for Warren quoted a submission that had already been sent to the Minister in charge of quarantine in the Federal sphere, so I do not think it is necessary for me to communicate with the Minister on that basis. He is fully conversant with the situation. I might also mention that Federal Ministers are represented at meetings of the Agricultural Council, and any advice which may be necessary as a result of our debates on this matter has always been available to the Federal officers who attend the Agricultural Council. So it is quite obvious that the situation referred to by the member for Warren and several other speakers with reference to the importance of quarantine is under rigid control.

Although in some instances people who have come to Australia on official business, and who do not reside in this country, have expressed concern, and it has appeared to them—and maybe to those who have listened to the comments that have been made—that the quarantine regulations are not sufficient, I suggest

that they are. I have found from my own experience when entering this State on several occasions after visits overseas that the questions asked by quarantine officers indicate that there is sufficient coverage with regard to this aspect, and the answers given to the quarantine officers have obviously satisfied them.

It has been emphasised that there is a need to be strict in respect of all people coming to this country. That is a point which has been well taken, and I think everybody knows that it is the responsibility, not only of quarantine officers, but also of those people who have their interests in this country, to see that every precaution is taken.

We have been told in no uncertain terms by the Federal Minister that the Commonwealth Government will accept responsibility should a situation develop. This has been agreed to by the States, and I have no doubt at all that should a situation arise—and we all express the very sincere hope that it will not—the whole machine of the Commonwealth, and the States, will go into action at almost a moment's notice.

I think I mentioned last year that officers from every State went to Britain to obtain up-to-date experience on the action that would be necessary in the event of an outbreak of disease, and I think there was a conference of council members, plus the Standing Committee of the Agricultural Council, which represents all the officers in State agricultural departments, and other departments that have an interest.

I say with a great deal of confidence I have no doubt that in the event of an outbreak occurring, the machinery available in the whole of the Commonwealth will be put into action. The regulatory powers which are involved in this measure make it possible to take immediate action to quarantine any particular area, and there will be no if's or but's about it. I am quite convinced that the situation will be covered with a great deal of authority, and with efficiency.

As far as the position in other States at this point of time is concerned, I will endeavour to get the information for the honourable member and convey it to him at the third reading stage. I do not know which States have already passed similar legislation, but they have all agreed to do so, and I expect that during this year every State, and the Commonwealth, will pass similar measures.

The member for Northam made some mention of another matter which probably has some bearing on the Bill, and that is the interest that is taken by the Department of Agriculture in the position at Muresk. Of course, the Institute of Technology is fully responsible for the activity at Muresk. However, I can assure the member for Northam that if the institute,

or officers of the institute, request the co-operation of the Department of Agriculture, that co-operation will be forthcoming.

It has been one of the features of the Department of Agriculture that it has co-operated with every other department on request, and whenever we can help in any way we are only too pleased to do so.

I think I have covered the points that were raised. I thank members for their contributions to this valuable piece of legislation which, I hope, we will never be called upon to proclaim. However, should any situation that has been referred to during this debate develop, I think we will be fully prepared to meet it.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

Sitting suspended from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m.

In Committee, etc.

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

CATTLE INDUSTRY COMPENSATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 27th March.

MR. H. D. EVANS (Warren) [7.34 p.m.]: This is a Bill to amend the Cattle Industry Compensation Act, and it is consequential upon and complementary to the Exotic Stock Diseases (Eradication Fund) Bill with which we were dealing a short time ago.

The first point to note about this measure is that compensation previously covered by the Cattle Industry Compensation Act of 1965, where exotic diseases were involved, will now be encompassed in the provisions of the Exotic Stock Diseases (Eradication Fund) Bill. As I said, that measure has already been debated and a succession of complementary Bills will now come before the Chamber.

The amendments proposed in this Bill deal firstly with the compensation to be payable for loss through any enzootic disease. This previously was not the case and thus the amendment proposed is an extension of the compensation provision. The second point is that the fund will be able to be used to support the total vaccination programme which is now in operation—a vaccination programme applicable to any enzootic disease. The disease brucellosis is the main concern at the present time.

At the moment the vaccination programme is a voluntary one and, as such, a service fee is levied upon the farmer. If the programme is to be made compulsory, then it is expected that no charge will be made. Ultimately it is hoped that the disease to which I have just referred will, by compulsory slaughtering and compulsory vaccination, be completely eliminated.

The policy proposed by the legislation is in line with that adopted in the other States of the Commonwealth, and the progress of the policy in this State will be dependent to a fairly large extent upon what happens, particularly, in States like Victoria. The disease brucellosis is of far more consequence in that State, and the amount involved in its eradication will, as a consequence, be much greater there. I understand that the provision of funds for the ultimate programme will come from an agreement between the Commonwealth and the Eastern States. Until this time complete control measures cannot be undertaken. However, the initial stages will be commenced in Western Australia and to enable this to be done the moneys in the compensation fund are to be used. This is not unreasonable.

The farmers have made contributions to the fund and its total is something over \$500,000 at present. However, as the whole of the dairying industry will benefit it is not likely that there will be any great objection from that quarter to the proposals.

My information from the Farmers' Union indicates that the matter has been discussed fully by the three sections of the union which are closely involved; namely, the dairying section, the whole-milk section, and the meat section. Not one of these sections of the union, all of which are vitally interested, has any quarrel whatever with the intent of the Bill; they all favour it very strongly.

I believe subsequent discussions with the appropriate officers of the Department of Agriculture to iron out sundry administrative difficulties may be undertaken, but the provisions and intention of the legislation are soundly based.

To permit the provisions of this Bill to become effective, four amendments are involved. Two of these are of a purely mechanical nature. They simply serve, by way of definition and addition, to make the intention of the amendments clear; one updates the provisions of the Act by the substitution of the most modern enactment and makes due reference where appropriate. The final amendment deals with the change in policy and the intention of the extended use of the fund.

As this Bill is designed for the overall good of the dairying industry, I wish to express my support of it and commend it to the House.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

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

POULTRY INDUSTRY (TRUST FUND) ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 27th March.

MR. TOMS (Ascot) [7.42 p.m.]: This small amending Bill is similar to the one with which we have just dealt, in that it arises from the passing of the Exotic Stock Diseases (Eradication Fund) Bill. This measure, too, is complementary to that Bill.

I am sure those who were in the Chamber and had the opportunity to listen to the member for Warren when he spoke to the Exotic Stock Diseases (Eradication Fund) Bill could not fail to be impressed by the urgency and the necessity for the various measures being taken by the amending Bills with which we are dealing. Those of us who took the trouble to watch the scenes which were shown on T.V. during the foot-and-mouth disease epidemic in Great Britain would realise that every action possible must be taken to prevent the spread of such a disease in this country. So it is very pleasing, as far as I am concerned, and I am sure the same applies to other members of the House, to note that the Commonwealth Government has seen fit to take the necessary steps which are provided for in the Bills now before the Chamber.

Sometimes when I hear talk regarding the quarantine measures being taken in this country to prevent the spread of disease I wonder whether it would not be a good idea to tackle the problem at the source. We hear of people who arrive in this country by plane without their clothes being fumigated. I think it would be a good idea if we could spend a certain sum of money overseas, where these various diseases originate, to have the footwear of people boarding planes for Australia fumigated before the people are permitted to board the aircraft. This would be one means of preventing the spread of disease to this country.

That is just a suggestion. It may have been thought of prior to this but, if it has not, then I think something could be done about it. It is far better to prevent than have to take action later on to control a disease.

However, one of the amendments proposed to the Poultry Industry (Trust Fund) Act will provide for the inclusion of Newcastle disease and fowl plague in the principal Act.

It is encouraging, too, to see that in the second amendment provision is made to cover other diseases or other events which may occur in the industry. By this amendment the Minister will have power to cover the position. I think this is quite necessary, because even in our lifetime we have seen flocks of poultry wiped out almost overnight by some disease over which the grower had no control.

We on this side of the House commend the Bill. We trust that steps will be taken to have in readiness the army to go into action against diseases such as these, should they break out in this country. As far as we are concerned we will give this legislation our utmost support.

MR. BATEMAN (Canning) [7.46 p.m.]: I support the remarks of the member for Ascot, and I think this amendment is long overdue. I also think that some amendment to the Poultry Industry (Trust Fund) Act should have been made many years ago in respect of diseases such as psittacosis and leucosis and others which have resulted in poultry producers going out of business, in becoming bankrupt, and, in one case I know of, in being admitted to Heathcote because of mental strain. I know of one family not far distant from where I live—because there are 40 to 50 producers living in my electorate—that was keeping between 6,000 to 8,000 head of poultry. This producer was hit by leucosis and lost 4,000 birds. Not long after that other things went wrong and he was unable to meet the feed bills. Things went from bad to worse for him, and all this upset him so much that he had to seek medical attention.

It is a shame that this Bill will cover only Newcastle disease and fowl plague, which are exotic diseases. It is a pity that every year this State loses hundreds of thousands of birds and many poultry farmers go to the wall.

Mr. Nalder: They do not lose many birds through diseases. Weather conditions make a greater contribution to the losses in Western Australia.

MR. BATEMAN: That is very true, but with the modern sheds in use today, which are fitted with sprinkler systems and water sprays, the loss from weather conditions is not very great, compared with the loss through diseases. Once these diseases strike they do so with lightning speed, and in a matter of 24 hours thousands of birds are literally lost.

It would be a great shame if these exotic diseases did get into this State, because the egg and poultry industry is one of the most important industries in Western Australia. We all eat eggs in one form or another, whether or not we know it. Some of us might not like eggs, but we eat them in custards, cakes, biscuits, and many other things. The same applies to poultry.

It would be a great pity if an exotic disease should break out in this State, because the diseases that are encountered here at the moment cause enough havoc. There is not much more I can say on this measure. I commend it, and all I can do is to hope and pray that the vigilance of the officers of the departments concerned

will ensure that the introduction of exotic diseases will not eventuate. I support the Bill.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

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

METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY, SEWERAGE, AND DRAINAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL, 1969

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 27th March.

MR. TAYLOR (Cockburn) [7.52 p.m.]: The short Bill before the House seeks to amend the Act in only two particulars, and in neither instance does this side of the House intend to take issue. In the first place, the Bill contains an amendment of a definition to bring about differential rating of properties described as residential, and thus enable flat sites and others to receive this differential rating.

The second proposed change refers to the manner of repaying loans to the board. At present there is provision for money to be borrowed and repaid at the conclusion of the term for which it is borrowed. The Act is to be amended to allow such loans to be repaid during the currency of the loans. This, of course, will be advantageous to the board and the Treasury, in that it will enable money to be obtained at a cheaper rate on the loan market. As I mentioned, these two amendments are minor ones, and they will increase the efficiency of the board. There is no objection from this side of the House to the measure.

MR. W. A. MANNING (Narrogin) [7.53 p.m.]: I wish to say a few words on the Bill, and to congratulate the Minister for introducing it in such a short space of time. It was only during the first period of the present session of Parliament that I brought this matter to the notice of the Minister by way of a question. I pointed out there was an anomaly in that where a person occupied a flat or a home unit, and decided to vacate it and let it to someone else, the rates on the property increased by 50 per cent. or more. That was entirely an anomaly, and I feel the Minister has done an excellent job in remedying the situation in such a short space of time.

I also support the other amendment in the Bill, which will enable the board to raise money on the same basis as local authorities have, for some time, been able to raise money. This will bring about an improved situation in the raising of funds by the board, because this is the way in which many organisations, and indeed private people, do desire to lend their

money. This is decidedly a move forward, and I support the Bill and commend the Minister for his action.

MR. ROSS HUTCHINSON (Cottesloe—Minister for Water Supplies) [7.54 p.m.]: I would like to thank the member for Cockburn and the member for Narrogin for their support of this small Bill. It is true that the measure is before the House at this time because the member for Narrogin brought to my notice, by way of a question in the first period of this parliamentary session, an anomaly in regard to differential rating in the Act.

When—as the member for Narrogin pointed out—it was appreciated, and after I had given thought to the matter, that there was a degree of unfairness existing in the Act in respect of tenants of flats and home units—as distinct from owner-occupied flats and units—I decided that legislative alteration should be made.

At the same time the opportunity was taken to place before the House the other amendment in the Bill to enable the board to repay a loan in a different fashion from the one that is stipulated, although the one stipulated remains in the Act. The only change is to enable part of the loan capital to be repaid periodically.

I thank both members for their support, which is quite heartening.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

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

BRANDS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 27th March.

MR. SEWELL (Geraldton) [7.58 p.m.]: The measure before the House is a small one, and all it seeks to do is to correct something which has apparently been done illegally by the owners of pedigree and stud goats, in using brands and tattoo marks, which they are not entitled to use, because stud goats were not included in the original Brands Act.

We are all familiar with the many jokes about goats—the four-legged variety and the two-legged variety. We also know that in Western Australia the pedigree goat is coming more and more into its own, because of its value in the production of milk. We are also aware that some stations, particularly those in the Lower Murchison, have been overrun by the ordinary or common goat. As I understand the position, some people are going in for the breeding of goats.

I have heard that on one station, about 4,000 goats are rounded up each year. This Bill will not have any effect on goats such

as those, because they are of the ordinary or common variety which are used for export to Singapore. Some of them are killed and boned at the abattoir at Fremantle, while others are shipped alive to Singapore and other centres to our north as food supplies for the people there.

I know that stations in the East Gascoyne and the Lower Murchison have, in the last few years, been responsible for a lot of money being brought into the State through the herding and selling of these goats.

For the information of those members who have not studied this Bill or the Act, the provisions of the Bill will allow the breeders of stud goats to brand them with a registered fire brand, or by tattooing the ears, the same as is allowed under the Act with regard to sheep and suchlike animals. I have pleasure in supporting the Bill.

MR. H. D. EVANS (Warren) [8.1 p.m.]: The member for Geraldton has adequately described the provisions of the Bill so I will therefore content myself with supporting his remarks and, likewise, the Bill.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

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

STATE HOUSING ACT AMENDMENT BILL, 1969

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 27th March.

MR. GRAHAM (Balcatta — Deputy Leader of the Opposition) [8.3 p.m.]: The Opposition has no quarrel to find with the principle embodied in the amendment in the Bill, although in consultation with the Minister it is agreed there is a necessity for some amendment to be made to the Bill.

No-one could quarrel with the proposition that the General Manager of the State Housing Commission should *ipso facto* be a member of the commission, or board as it is generally referred to within the commission itself.

The Minister in his Bill goes on to provide that in the absence of the general manager he, the Minister, may appoint a deputy from the State Public Service. Obviously he intends that if, for any reason, the general manager is not available, then some other responsible officer of the State Housing Commission may be appointed as the deputy. The Minister pointed out that there was great advantage in having a senior officer of the commission available and able to play his part

in the discussion with the representatives from the several organisations which constitute the State Housing Commission.

However, under the terms of the Bill as it is worded, it would be possible for the Minister to appoint the Chief Clerk from the Department of Agriculture, a draftsman from the Mines Department, or an officer from anywhere within the State Public Service. Obviously that is not intended, and as things are at the moment there is provision for officers of the State Public Service to be appointed to the commission. But the Minister is not satisfied with that—and with this I have no quarrel. He wants specific reference made to the general manager. Therefore, with respect to the deputy, surely we should be equally specific and provide that in the absence of the general manager then some other officer of the commission should be chosen by the Minister to take his place.

I repeat that the Minister agrees with this viewpoint and therefore it requires only a simple amendment to give effect to it.

I have no other comments to make on the Bill, although no doubt it would be possible, having regard to the fact that it deals with the administration of the State Housing Commission, for one to take advantage of the opportunity to speak at length in regard to the many virtues and failings and shortcomings of the State Housing Commission, and from that in regard to the housing situation, generally. However, there is a motion in the name of my Leader, which no doubt will be debated tomorrow evening and anything I might have said this evening can be deferred until then. With those comments I support the second reading.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee

The Deputy Chairman of Committees (Mr. Williams) in the Chair; Mr. O'Neill (Minister for Housing) in charge of the Bill.

Clause 1 put and passed.

Clause 2: Section 9 amended—

MR. GRAHAM: For the reasons previously outlined, I move an amendment—

Page 2, lines 25 and 26—Delete the passage "employed in the Public Service of the State, not being a member."

This amendment I feel explicitly gives effect to what the Minister has sought to do.

MR. O'NEIL: I have no objection to the amendment as proposed. In my second reading speech I indicated that if approval were given for the Minister to appoint a deputy in place of the general manager, then it was my intention that that deputy would be a senior officer of the State Housing Commission. It is also true that

as worded this clause would give power to the Minister to appoint any officer in the Public Service to be a deputy for the general manager. It is further true that I have had consultations with the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and we have agreed that this amendment is the appropriate one. I therefore suggest that the Committee support it.

Amendment put and passed.

Clause, as amended, put and passed.

Clauses 3 and 4 put and passed.

Title put and passed.

Bill reported with an amendment.

RESERVES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 27th March.

MR. TOMS (Ascot) [8.11 p.m.]: In 1967 when an amendment to the Reserves Act was before the House, certain conditions were laid down in the Bill. However, it has apparently been felt that they did not adequately cover the desires of the City of Perth; or the amendment may have been challenged in some way. This prompted the member for Mt. Hawthorn to ask a question without notice today to ascertain what ancillary uses would be involved. We received the information that it would not only be a concert hall but would be open to ballet, opera, and plays as well; in other words, the performance of any other of the arts.

The word "opera" worries me a little because I do not want Western Australia to have the experience of Sydney in this matter. However, this side of the House offers no opposition to the amendment. We believe no harm can be done by agreeing to it, because it merely broadens the scope of the previous provision.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

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

POISONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 19th September.

MR. BATEMAN (Canning) [8.15 p.m.]: The amendment will bring about a widening of the Poisons Act, 1964-1967, with particular reference to schedule 8, and specified drugs. Specified drugs are regarded as being in need of the same patterns of control as are narcotics, such as marihuana (cannabis)—which is produced from Indian hemp—hashish, and other drugs; opium poppy, which gives opium and morphine; and coca leaves, which give

snuff and cocaine. These are all narcotics. Heroin, too, is a narcotic. Although these specified drugs are somewhat different in their effect on human beings, some of them produce hallucinations. One of the most potent of these drugs is LSD which stands for lysergic acid diethylamide of which this amendment will bring about a greater control.

I would like to point out the dangers of LSD. Before I do so, I wish to mention that not only in this State, but in every other State in Australia, as well as right throughout the world we seem to put the cart before the horse. What I mean is that we put people in prison because they take LSD. We fine them an enormous amount of money because they swallow or take a drug of some form or other. Taking a drug is far different from peddling or carrying a drug. The people who do that should be penalised. However this should not apply to the unsuspecting; that is, to those who may have taken a drug through circumstances which sometimes may be beyond their control. I am thinking of people to whom doctors have given drugs in order that they might lose weight. I am sure our good friends on the other side of the House would agree that some of these drugs could be addictive.

I am absolutely certain that fining a person is the wrong approach to the problem. It is just too easy to fine some people who are addicted to drugs, but those people are in a shocking state. Their minds are in a shocking state; their bodies are in a shocking state; and to fine them does not solve the problem at all. Surely there must be other ways of approaching the problem. I feel very strongly about this. Surely we should be able to educate these people.

I have in my possession some books which are part of the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth year high school curriculums on health education. These books are used to teach children on matters of health. The susceptible age is from 14 to 17 when young people will "have a go" at this sort of thing. The books aim to teach the children the problems associated with smoking and with drinking alcohol. The children are not told that they should not do those things, but what they can expect if they do. Surely to goodness we could add another little section to the curriculum which is already in our schools explaining the effects of taking these various drugs. This would not be too much. It would not take Dr. Mossenson and his staff more than a week to organise.

Mr. Craig: It is being done.

MR. BATEMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I would ask your permission to quote from a report, "LSD" which is teacher resource material for health education classes in senior high schools in America. I have

been fortunate enough to obtain a copy of this pamphlet. I would like to quote from it briefly, as it would take too long to quote in detail. The Sheriff of the County of Los Angeles, California, says—

Narcotics and dangerous drugs have long been the subject of concern for the public in general and law enforcement in particular. A new and startlingly menacing stigma for mankind is LSD.

Whispered tales and shouting headlines have dramatized the effects of LSD, a mystery drug so potent that a single pound of the preparation could turn every person in Los Angeles County into a psychotic.

LSD was discovered by accident. Doctor Albert Hofmann, a Swiss biochemist, is credited with the first synthesis of LSD in 1938. I will not quote most of what he said, but I would like to mention this, namely—

"Last Friday, April 16th, in the midst of my afternoon work in the laboratory, I had to give up working. I had to go home because I experienced a very peculiar restlessness which was associated with a slight attack of dizziness. At home I went to bed and got into a not unpleasant state of drunkenness which was characterized by an extremely stimulating fantasy. When I closed my eyes (the daylight was most unpleasant to me) I experienced fantastic images of an extraordinary plasticity. They were associated with an intense kaleidoscopic play of colours. After about two hours this condition disappeared."

Doctor Hofmann concluded that he had either swallowed or absorbed through his skin some of the chemical with which he had been working. To test this conclusion, he later returned to the laboratory and swallowed 250 micrograms of LSD, with similar results. He did not realise that he had prepared the most potent hallucinogen ever discovered and that his tiny dose actually represented over ten times the amount (20 micrograms) now known to produce hallucinations. The microgram is the smallest unit of weight and represents one millionth of a gram.

Later on, it says—

EFFECTS OF LSD

LSD generally takes effect in 45 to 60 minutes. Some users smoke marijuana while awaiting the effect of the drug and claim that a combination of the two permits the user to obtain a higher state of mind and a great experience, a bigger "kick."

Auditory and visual hallucinations occur, time and depth perception are distorted, subjective time stands still,

music may have "scent" and sound have "colour," the drug may cause loss of identity and control, and disorganization of the mind.

For some users, colours swirled and fixed objects seemed to move; for others flowers opened and closed, walls breathed, and ceilings swayed. For still others, faces changed shape remarkably, things the eyes saw assumed an importance beyond its ordinary meaning.

These phenomena are spectacular, but they are overshadowed by a still greater transformation. On very small doses of LSD, this larger effect may simply amount to a feeling that one's self or one's world is strangely different.

Increasing amounts may cause depersonalization—the motion that one is split into two or more entities.

One person tried to jump off a bridge since he believed his mind and body to be separate and that, even if his body should die, his mind would live on.

So, the report continues. Later on it says—

A 36-year-old secretary who was given LSD in a therapeutic experiment found that she could not control her thoughts. She believed that she was in the Garden of Eden, became increasingly preoccupied with ideas of religion, and developed a desire to take off her clothes in public. She was committed to a mental hospital.

A psychologist was given LSD on three occasions and for weeks acted out grandiose plans. One was to take over Sandoz Laboratories in order to secure the world supply of LSD.

One boy under the influence of LSD told his mother, "I have to watch my thoughts, I might think myself dead."

After his third treatment, a patient developed an overwhelming feeling that he was turning into a monster. "I had long since died. Now I was to be born into a sparkling new world."

"It was the most terrifying day of my life!"

The report says—

The reactions may continue for several hours and then diminish. The person usually returns to normal within 8-12 hours, however, sporadic feelings of well being, depression or anxiety may recur spontaneously for some time later.

LSD, as typical of most hallucinogenic drugs, may affect individuals differently. The drug's effect is greatly exaggerated from that of alcohol and is 1,000 times more potent than marijuana.

Later on, it says—

Nathan Adler, lecturer in criminology at the University of California, spoke on marijuana and LSD at a meeting of the California State Psychological Association in San Francisco. Mr. Adler stated, "These drugs can make people into zombies," and added that the use of LSD may trigger psychotic responses which in turn may result in violent acts.

The report says—

HOW TO IDENTIFY LSD

LSD is odorless, tasteless and colorless in its pure form and as such, it is possible for an unsuspecting person to take or be given the drug without his knowledge.

A ten year old boy accidentally ate a sugar cube containing LSD. The child had a severe reaction with colored, visual distortions, hallucinations, and anxiety. These reactions lasted for three days. When the boy returned to school a week later, book pages wavered and interfered with his reading. While looking at the darkened television screen, he would become upset because he saw movements even though the set was turned off. Some days he would be normal and on others he re-experienced the visual illusions. One month after the incident, he still saw light halos with closed eyes. The child had to be hospitalized.

WHO USES LSD?

The report says—

Illicit LSD users can be classified in four major groups:

- (1) People who are primarily and preferentially narcotic drug addicts, but who will use the hallucinogenic drugs occasionally for "kicks" or "curiosity." These persons usually take the hallucinogenic drug after a "fix" of their own addictive drug. At the present time this group is in a decided minority.
- (2) The "professional potheads," who have had extensive experience with various drugs—carefully avoiding the highly addictive opiates. The drug most commonly used by this group is marijuana. Although these people enjoy the euphoric experiences produced by smoking marijuana, they also tend to seek sensory stimulation and distortions associated with the hallucinogens. These persons usually take drugs while in a group gathering.

- (3) A number of people use hallucinogens repeatedly over a sustained period of time to the exclusion of all other drugs. These people tend to take the drugs in order to attain some personal "soul-searching" goal, increased sensitivity to nature, "closeness to God," and other esoteric experiences.

- (4) Probably the largest single group of persons using LSD would include the so-called intellectual, pseudo-intellectual, artistic and literary persons, and the beatnik varieties, on and off the college campuses. This group generally enjoys the pleasures of belonging to a "superior" social group, and its LSD users look down upon the mundane existence of ordinary people who have not experienced the effects of their "consciousness expanding" drug.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I do not think the honourable member should continue in this way. I thought he was going to give a number of quotations from the report.

Mr. BATEMAN: I intended to, but I feel very strongly about this matter. I am almost to the end of the report. However, if the ruling is that I should not proceed, I will not.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think that is sufficient.

Mr. Hall: Can the honourable member tell us how it affects the Beatles?

Mr. BATEMAN: The point is that LSD can be obtained so easily from any grocer's store and any corner garage, and from various florist shops. That is what I intended to quote, because reference to this appears at the end of the article which I have mentioned. However, so be it!

I have said, and I say it again, that the answer to the problem is to educate people on the dangers of taking LSD. Unsuspecting lads at universities and high schools with a slight knowledge of chemistry would find no difficulty in producing LSD from simple or common materials. As I have said, they could go to any garage and obtain what they need. I could do that, and I have no knowledge of chemistry.

Nevertheless I could go and purchase certain materials and I could produce LSD. I will not say what those materials are, because of the presence of the Press. Nevertheless, having obtained the materials, I could produce LSD in a short period of time.

Mr. Graham: Hours or days?

MR. BATEMAN: Hours! Once again, I wish to impress upon members of this House, as strongly as I can, the need for educating the particular age group I have mentioned.

I would like to refer to clause 6 of the amendment which refers to the seventh schedule of the Poisons Act. This schedule refers to the most highly dangerous poisons used for industrial purposes. For instance, 1080 rabbit poison is just one of those poisons. With the highly toxic poisons used by crop spraying firms, a greater degree of control is necessary.

It is very good to see that the Public Health Department feels so strongly about the thousands and thousands of tons of toxic poisons which are spread, willy-nilly, over the crops; and, because of that concern, this form of legislation has been brought about. Under the new legislation the crop sprayers will be controlled through the installation of a machine with the result that a poison of a more granulous nature will be sprayed over the farms. The reason for the use of the machine is that it will mean that there will be a better control of spraying.

The planes fly fairly low and on a windy day the dust, which is very fine, will blow from one person's property to another person's property. The dust settles in water troughs, which are used for cattle, and in private water supplies on the farms. Of course the sheep drink the water. For example, DDT is a cumulative poison and would stay in the bodies of animals. These animals are subsequently eaten by human beings, and who knows what effect that could have on us?

Various sprays are advertised in the paper and elsewhere as being harmless to babies. It is said that a certain product will kill flies, but not the baby. However, if one sprays long enough, it will kill the baby.

If it will kill flies it will most certainly have a deleterious effect on human beings if enough of it is ingested over a period of time. This is only common sense. The Americans feel very much the same way, and in the United States many books have been published on the subject with such titles as *Silent Night* and *No Birds Sing*.

Therefore, this is a matter which must be investigated. In seeking to control the use of poisons on the farm, this is most important legislation, because such poisons, especially when an easterly is blowing, can be widely spread, and they settle in horse troughs, sheep troughs, and the dams from which sheep drink. Therefore I consider this legislation to be most essential, and I support the Bill.

MR. FLETCHER (Fremantle) [8.31 p.m.]: For reasons I will make known, I also support the Bill. The member for Canning has gone to considerable lengths to inform the House of the real dangers

that exist in the taking of drugs or the ready availability of drugs, and he has also pointed out how simply drugs can be manufactured. This legislation seeks to obviate these dangers in that the Governor, by Order-in-Council, may declare any of these preparations to be dangerous and bring them within the ambit of this legislation.

I will not reiterate anything that was contained in the Minister's second reading speech, but I will mention that events cast their shadows in respect of drug taking, drug peddling, and, generally, in respect of drug handling. I will not read to the House in full the many extracts from the Press that I have before me, but anyone who cares to examine the headlines of newspapers published not only in this State but in other States, will realise the extent of the increase in drug availability in Australia. For example, the *Queensland Telegraph* of recent date had the following headline in large print:—

Major Drug Ring Broken. Man sent to jail, girl fined \$300.

The magistrate who heard this case was reported as having said that he was concerned that this practice was going on "at our back door." The article also contained the following:—

Detective Sergeant Linthwaite said that Drug Squad detectives had seized three lots of cultivated cannabis in the past six weeks, and it appeared that stronger measures were needed to stamp out "this growing evil in the community."

The Press report also stated that when detectives raided the farm on which the drugs were found they discovered 1156 bushes of cannabis between 6 in. and 6 ft. high planted in rows on a seven-acre site.

If that can happen in Queensland it can happen here, but this legislation could prevent it. I know there has been controversy in the Press recently on whether cannabis is as dangerous as is alleged. It is argued that cannabis is no more dangerous than alcohol, and no more habit forming. However, I also noticed comment in the Press recently on marihuana being strengthened with dangerous or habit-forming drugs. If the harder drugs can be controlled, the marihuana thus treated will not be made available for the purpose of creating more addicts.

Since the Bill seeks to control the availability of hard drugs, or those drugs declared to be such by the Governor by Order-in-Council, we have some prospect of controlling the use of marihuana. In glancing at these extracts of newspapers which I have before me I notice another headline which appeared in the *Queensland Courier Mail* on the 11th January last.

It reads, "Two Young Addicts jailed over Purple Hearts." Another one in *The Australian* on the 18th October, 1968, reads, "Tenfold Rise in Drug Addicts Seeking Aid." I could read the pertinent paragraphs following this headline, but there is no need to. Another headline appearing in *The West Australian* of the 17th December, 1968, reads, "LSD Warning in Unesco Report." Another one on the 28th March, 1969, in *The West Australian*, reads, "Drug Addict was still a Schoolboy."

I think the quotation of those headlines is sufficient to demonstrate to the House the danger of the incidence of drug-taking and drug-peddling spreading in this State, and as a consequence the introduction of legislation of this nature is very desirable. There is another aspect which is relevant to the dangers of LSD which were pointed out by the member for Canning. He said that the dangers took this form and that form, but members will have read in the Press recently how an American jumped from a multi-storied building while under the influence of LSD and landed on top of a car. Stangely enough, instead of killing himself he killed the occupant of the car. This is not the sort of thing that will happen every day, but that man found he could not fly after all. The report of that incident, however, demonstrates the dangerous effect of drugs on the mind, and so the Minister's Bill is very desirable for that reason alone.

Another aspect which is worth mentioning, which is the principal reason for my rising to my feet—this may or may not be pertinent to the Bill—is that I have seen pharmaceutical drugs made available too readily to university students, particularly those in the Faculty of Medicine. I have seen them in my home as a consequence of having a son who is in the sixth year of medicine this year. Even when he was only of junior status he brought home drugs marked "poison," and to be made available only on doctor's prescription. I admit they were safe in his hands, but they were made available to students by the firms who manufacture them and dispense them to the various outlets. They are thus made available to young people who are still university students. I believe this practice to be entirely wrong and dangerous.

What type of drugs they were, I do not know. It is reasonable to assume they were not habit-forming, but if poisonous drugs are available to university students it is conceivable that some types of habit-forming drugs are also available to university students from the same sources. I mention this only in the hope that such loopholes may be closed. I look upon the subject of drugs very seriously, as obviously the Government does. I do not know whether it is the problem of the Minister for Health or the Minister for Police, but

I know that published in *The West Australian* of today's date is the following report:—

Magistrate A. G. Smith yesterday criticised Western Australia's legislation on drugs.

He said in the Perth Police Court that there was a loophole in the laws relating to the buying and selling of drugs by chemists.

"At present chemists have to keep a record of all the drugs which go out of their shops on prescription," he said.

"However, they are not compelled to keep a record of the drugs they buy from distributors.

These are the same distributors that distribute samples to university students. I mention this Press report in the hope that if this legislation cannot adequately deal with this pressing problem, the Minister for Police in his capacity on some subsequent date may be able to close that loophole. With those few remarks, I support the Bill.

MR. CRAIG (Toodyay—Minister for Police) [8.39 p.m.]: The Bill is not my responsibility, but that of my colleague who is handling the legislation in this House for the Minister for Health in another place. However, as the member for Fremantle has pointed out, this is a matter that concerns both the Minister for Health and myself as the Minister for Police; it possibly concerns the departments that come under my jurisdiction more, because the policing of the legislation is their responsibility.

The Bill, of course, seeks to bring about more effective control of drugs of addiction, and as the member for Fremantle has pointed out, and as reported in the Press this morning, a magistrate was mildly critical of the loophole that exists in the control of these drugs. I admit there is such a loophole. This applies to the control of drugs manufactured in Australia, and also there is no control in the trading of drugs between the States.

This was one matter which was dealt with at the recent Ministers' conference I attended. At the conference it was hoped that we would develop our thinking towards more effective control of drugs of addiction. That conference was held a couple of months ago and since then there have been two technical officers' conferences held and another one is to be held in about a week's time. That is to be followed by a ministerial conference in May, after which we hope to get uniform legislation between the States to close this loophole which has been referred to by the magistrate in this State.

I would like to speak at length on drugs. I have not had the opportunity to do so since my return from overseas late last

year when I was given the opportunity of seeing how vital and how important it is to Australia that we do everything possible to eliminate this curse, scourge, or blot that could grow among members of our community who suffer from drug addiction. I support wholeheartedly what the member for Canning said; namely, the solution lies in greater education on the question of drugs, and we are planning to develop this type of education.

I also consider that possibly there is no need to fine people who try the minor drugs such as marihuana and so on. They should be punished or treated by other means, but we have to provide a deterrent in the first place. The public must know that it is an offence to partake of drugs, no matter how minor or how hard the drugs may be. It is all right for certain groups of people to say that marihuana is only a mild drug and is not a drug of addiction, and is no worse than cigarette smoking. This is where the danger lies, because people who start to partake of marihuana advance to the harder drugs. They go from marihuana to LSD and further up the scale until finally they finish up taking heroin and injecting the drug by the needle.

Mr. Davies: Is any research being done on this subject?

Mr. CRAIG: Plenty! If the honourable member would care to read them I can produce numerous books on the subject. People should be informed of the dangers of drug taking and prevented right from the start from even trying to partake of a drug. I know it is difficult to impress this upon intelligent young people, because they like to form their own opinion on whether a drug is good or bad for them, or whether it is evil or not. They like to try it for the sake of kicks, or to see whether it will have an adverse effect on them, and this is where the danger lies. I have had this proven to me over and over again in America, Canada, England, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, and Hong Kong.

I have spoken to people who have been through the treatment; people who have gone through what is called "withdrawal." If some members could only see some of these addicts going through the agony of the various stages of "withdrawal," I feel sure they would do everything possible to prevent persons taking even minor drugs such as marihuana. I spoke to a highly-educated young negro in Los Angeles who had been through his fourth withdrawal. He was convinced that he had at last been cured completely. The reason why he had fallen by the wayside after his first withdrawal was that he had returned to his family; both his mother and father being drug addicts.

He told me he had no desire to see his mother and father again. He stated that although it was hard for him to deny himself visiting his mother and father he knew that if he did so he would become a drug addict once more. He told me that he commenced taking drugs after attending parties where he was called upon to partake of drugs and unless he did so he was called "chicken" by other members of the party. So he advances up the scale, and this is where the danger lies.

I recall a talk I had with the governor of a very large prison. I will not, however, mention the country in which the prison is situated. The governor of this prison had three sons, the eldest of whom was 23. At the time there was a lot of publicity about drug addiction and the like. The sons of the governor were attending university and he asked his boys if they had ever tried marihuana. They said they had and, of course, after saying that he appreciated their honesty he asked them why they had done it, to which they replied they had done it for kicks; to see what effect it would have; to see whether the effect would be adverse or not.

Fortunately for the boys and their father it was decided not to pursue the matter further and the whole question was dropped. I think the member for Fremantle referred to the fact that other drugs were being mixed with marihuana and put out for smoking purposes. This brings us back to the point raised by the member of Canning; that is, that so much of the problem can be resolved by education.

We must do this, and this is the responsibility recognised by the States. So far as the police are concerned, we have a special drug squad which has been in operation only since last June, since when there have been 70 or 80 convictions for drug taking. This shows how serious the problem has become in Western Australia.

Mr. Brady: Would the Minister tell us where the various places of peddling are?

Mr. CRAIG: If the honourable member will help me in this matter he will be helping the State and the people of Western Australia. I would not, however, like to comment on that aspect. What I have said shows how serious the problem is. I quite frankly say that I was rather complacent about this problem a couple of years ago; I did not think it existed in Western Australia, or in Australia for that matter. I do not believe that an increase in the penalty is the answer.

When I was in one country in Europe I discussed this question with the officer assigned to me. He said that the complacent attitude to which I have just referred was his attitude at the time, because he did not think the problem

existed in his country. He went on to say that it was with them overnight, and this is what happened.

In Los Angeles there are thousands of these drug addicts, or junkies, or hippies, call them what we will; there are thousands of them in the streets and they cannot be handled. I refer now to both males and females. The city gaol in Los Angeles is the largest in the world; it handles 3,000 inmates. I saw them all filing in one after the other. The gaol admits 500 of these people a day. One can see them filing up and down the escalators, going into the cookhouse, and so on. There are about 30 buses which take these people from the gaols to the courts to be sentenced.

I am talking in this manner to show how serious the problem is, because a lot of people say it is not a serious problem. The day I left London I picked up a newspaper which, fortunately, I have in my case; I have been carrying it around with me and have used it on many occasions to illustrate the problem. It is a Sunday paper called *The People*. This particular edition is dated the 15th September, 1968, and in it there is an article headed, "How Long Must We Stand For This?" In a public toilet in the heart of London some equipment relating to drugs was collected and I would like to quote some figures in this connection, as follows:—

Twenty-one hypodermic syringes, 22 replacement needles, one bottle labelled "cocaine", five empty pill bottles, one tin of vitamin tablets, two empty cartons of methedrine . . . this picture on the right looks like a collection of debris at the end of a hard day in a busy hospital ward. In fact, it is a picture to shame us all.

For these grisly items were all collected in a single day at a public lavatory in the heart of the greatest city in the world—London!

And so the article goes on. What I saw in so many of these institutions which cater for these types of people made me realise the tremendous financial cost imposed on the Governments of the countries concerned—and this could be the case in Western Australia—to rehabilitate the people, and this rehabilitation was not always successful.

In the institutions in Hong Kong there are 6,000 of these addicts in the course of rehabilitation. We know we will never reach that stage in Western Australia, because the taking of drugs in Hong Kong was legal at one time, though this is not the case now.

As I said earlier, I do not like the necessity to have to fine what I would call less serious offenders for taking a minor drug like marihuana, but we must provide a most serious deterrent to stop people taking these drugs of addiction. The time will

come when this problem will grow despite our efforts to overcome it. The problem will grow and, when that happens, we will have to look very seriously at the possibility of treating these people separately by methods divorced from those employed today.

Mr. Bateman: Would you seriously consider educating them?

Mr. CRAIG: I mentioned this earlier as a possible solution. There are, however, so many people whom it is futile to try to educate, because they wish to try their own methods. This, of course, can be applied to censorship and to so many other things. I am now referring to the more intelligent people; and, getting back to the point I was making, I feel we must employ specialised treatment in an endeavour to help such people.

After all is said and done, they are not criminals, although there is a relationship between drug addiction and crime, because if these people reach the stage where they are on the needle and it is costing them \$30 a day for a shot and they are unable to work, they must obtain the \$30 by stealing it.

I might point out that one cannot leave one's case on the ground at any airport without putting one's foot on it, because there is the distinct fear that it will be stolen. The only place where one can do this with any degree of safety is Amsterdam. There is a relationship between crime and drug addiction, and accordingly we are faced with a twofold problem.

I would have liked to say a lot more, particularly on my experiences; what I have seen; and the discussions I have had with various people on this problem, but at this point I feel we must provide a strong deterrent in the early stages, before the problem reaches a magnitude with which we cannot cope. If it does reach that magnitude we will have to change our attitude in regard to our treatment of offenders. At the moment, however, let us provide a very firm deterrent together with a system of education, as referred to by the member for Canning.

MR. ROSS HUTCHINSON (Cottesloe—Minister for Works) [8.55 p.m.]: I am inclined to feel, Sir, that there is little reason for me to rise to my feet. I am indebted to those members who have spoken to the Bill and I believe that each member who has spoken, including my ministerial colleague, portrayed very clearly indeed some of the evils of drug addiction and the very real necessity for legislation of the type that is before us at the moment.

I, too, believe that education is a very important method by which to treat the taking of drugs of addiction, but it is not the only way because, as the Minister for Police has pointed out, many young folk start taking drugs with their eyes wide

open. They do it for kicks; to try to find out what it is all about. They plunge into the taking of drugs in a somewhat naive fashion knowing the consequences in the event of their getting hooked.

Mr. Fletcher: Do you think they graduate from alcohol?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON: I do not think so; I would be inclined to say that those who drink more perhaps do not touch drugs, although I do not deny there is possibly some link between the two. I do feel, however, that we must endeavour by every means at our disposal to provide a deterrent, to control drugs, and to make them difficult to obtain. The fines in question do not apply only to the addicts but to those who are pushing and supplying the drugs illegally. This is the important thing.

The legislation provides for imprisonment as an alternative to fines, and there are certain other restraints which will be placed on those concerned in an endeavour to cure them.

I have taken note of what was said by the member for Fremantle concerning the ready availability of drugs to medical students and the fact that some distributors of drugs are apparently allowed considerable latitude in giving to people sample drugs which are not marked in any way.

Mr. Fletcher: They were definitely marked, "Not to be made available without a doctor's prescription."

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON: I will certainly have this matter conveyed to the Minister for Health and see what we can do to close the loophole. I am pleased that the Bill has received such ready support and I thank members for their contributions.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee

The Deputy Chairman of Committees (Mr. Williams) in the Chair; Mr. Ross Hutchinson (Minister for Works) in charge of the Bill.

Clause 1: Short title and citation—

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I might point out that clause 1 requires an amendment in lines 8 and 12.

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON: I move—

Page 1, lines 8 and 12—Delete the figures "1968" and substitute the figures "1969".

Amendments put and passed.

Clause, as amended, put and passed.

Clauses 2 and 3 put and passed.

Clause 4: Section 22A added—

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON: I move—

Page 4, lines 17 and 27—Delete the figures "1968" and substitute the figures "1969."

Amendments put and passed.

Clause, as amended, put and passed.

Clause 5: Section 23 amended—

Mr. DAVIES: My objection is to the use of the word "commissioner," in that he will have power to do certain things which I believe should rightly be done by the Minister. This clause amends the portion of the Act which allows a pharmaceutical chemist, a medical practitioner, or a dentist, to handle drugs in relation to their professions, but under the amendment proposed in clause 8 of the Bill the Commissioner of Public Health will have the right to revoke that authority.

In other directions I have had trouble with rights that have been allocated to civil servants and, whilst this man is no doubt properly fitted for his position, it is a tremendous power to give him. I should think the Minister would have a different approach altogether and could properly assess a situation reported to him by the commissioner and that in nine cases out of 10 he would support the commissioner. I would like to hear what the Minister has to say.

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON: That was a thoughtful contribution by the honourable member and I thank him for it although I do not subscribe completely to his view.

I think all of us realise that under the Health Act the Commissioner of Public Health, who must be a qualified medical practitioner, is charged with great duties and responsibilities. I believe it is right and proper that these powers should reside in the hands of a qualified man rather than in the hands of a layman Minister, even though he would be able to accept the advice of the commissioner. In regard to these particular duties and responsibilities, the Minister has the final power, but it is better for them to be delegated to a qualified person.

In almost every other avenue I can think of, I would be inclined to agree with the honourable member that the clause would be better phrased if the word "Minister" were inserted instead of the word "Commissioner", but on this occasion I do not.

Clause put and passed.

Clauses 6 to 8 put and passed.

Title put and passed.

Bill reported with amendments.

MOTOR VEHICLE (THIRD PARTY INSURANCE) ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Order Discharged

MR. BRAND (Greenough—Premier) [9.6 p.m.]: I move—

That Order of the Day No. 14 be discharged from the notice paper.

Question put and passed.

Order discharged.

House adjourned at 9.7 p.m.