

pays the penalty; even if the verdict is wrong, he has to serve his sentence. What about the man who is found not guilty but who has, in fact, served his sentence and has had to wait for eight years during which time his life has been substantially ruined? Should he not receive compensation? He has been humiliated, humbled, and put to expense. He has suffered a very considerable loss and surely I do not have to argue this point.

Let us look for a moment at the legal expense involved. I do not know how many times the man has been to court. It is true the Law Society has come to his rescue, and this has taken some of the burden from him or, at least, if it has not done that, it has given him some respite, because he will be able to pay the costs over a space of time. The costs have been very significant.

Initially there was the trial, then the first appeal, the case in the lower court involving Sharrett, and the motion in the Full Court of the Supreme Court with regard to his private indictment of Sharrett. In the latter case Mr. Gouldham not only had his own costs to pay but he was ordered to pay Sharrett's costs. In addition there was the second appeal. So it goes on, and I do not know whether I have covered them all. This will merely give an indication of the expense with which he has been faced so far as court actions, are concerned, but this is a mere bagatelle compared with the loss the man has really suffered.

From time to time I have said that the Parliament ought to offer leadership, which is something very different from taking a dogmatic and dictatorial stance. It is a very sad commentary when we acknowledge that a man has been denied justice but we are not prepared to do something about it. I do not consider this to be an idealistic outburst, but a realistic comment, and I certainly hope that something may result from it; that I may have contributed in some way towards this man's being compensated and granted an opportunity to obtain some recompense for the eight years of his life that he has lost.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Rushton.

BILLS (3): RETURNED

1. State Housing Act Amendment Bill (No. 2).
Bill returned from the Council with amendments.
2. Land Act Amendment Bill (No. 3).
Bill returned from the Council without amendment.
3. Bush Fires Act Amendment Bill.
Bill returned from the Council with an amendment.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE

SIR DAVID BRAND (Greenough—Premier) [10.53 p.m.]: I move—

That the House do now adjourn.

With your indulgence, Mr. Acting Speaker, might I just make some comment regarding the sittings of the House next week. As members would know, I was hoping that we would finish on Friday next, but it is fairly apparent we will not be able to do this. For my own part, I have two Bills to present to the House before the session concludes. They are important, having regard to the changes that we propose in the Stamp Office and the establishment of a separate Commissioner of Stamps in this State.

I regret that these Bills have been delayed and on that account I do not think we will be able to finish on Friday next. However, we propose to sit on Wednesday next at 2.15 p.m., as on Thursday, and we will adhere to the proposal to sit at 11 a.m. on Friday. If it appears that we cannot finish within reasonable time on Friday we will adjourn some time before tea and sit again on Tuesday and go on until such time as we finish.

Question put and passed.

House adjourned at 10.54 p.m.

Legislative Council

Tuesday, the 4th November, 1969

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

QUESTIONS (2): WITHOUT NOTICE

1. **PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**
Birthday

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I desire to address a question without notice to you, Mr. President. I understand it is your birthday today and, in addition to being your birthday, I believe you have covered yourself with glory in another respect?

Would you accept from me, speaking on behalf of all members of the House, best wishes for a happy birthday.

[Applause.]

The PRESIDENT: I thank Mr. Griffith and other members for their good wishes. Actually, I could go into quite a discourse as to whether or not it is my birthday because I am one of those oddities whose birthday was never registered.

I do not know whether I have covered myself with glory, but I do love rain. Being a rain lover has, perhaps, brought me good fortune. Once again, I thank members for their good wishes.

2.

FISHING

Tuna

The Hon. J. M. THOMSON asked the Minister for Fisheries and Fauna:

Has the Minister any information relating to facilities for the loading and unloading of tuna at the Port of Albany?

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON replied:

Yes. I am in a position to advise the honourable member that the Minister for Works, as a result of representations made by me to him some time ago, has now advised me that he has allocated upwards of \$30,000 for the construction of unloading facilities for tuna at Albany.

Members will recall discussions on tuna some time ago, when we visited the W.A. Marine Research Laboratories. It is hoped that the facilities will be completed in time for the ensuing tuna season.

QUESTIONS (2): ON NOTICE.

1.

SUPERPHOSPHATE

Trace Element Additives

The Hon. J. HEITMAN asked the Minister for Mines:

- (1) As superphosphate with a trace element mix of copper and zinc, or with copper, zinc and molybdenum, is twice the price of ordinary superphosphate, what price reduction is allowed to farmers when the mix is below the required standard?
- (2) Further to the Western Australian Chemical Laboratory report where-in reference is made to samples of fertiliser containing less than the required 10 per cent. of trace element additive required under the Fertilisers Act, from how many tons of—
 - (a) molybdenum fertiliser mix were the 15 samples extracted;
 - (b) zinc fertiliser mix were the four samples extracted; and
 - (c) copper fertiliser mix were the five samples extracted?
- (3) (a) Is it recognised that this under-supply of trace elements has a detrimental effect on crops and pastures; and
 - (b) if so, what is the solution?

- (4) Why should the cost of modifications to equipment to ensure greater accuracy in mixing the trace elements be passed on to the consumer?
- (5) Is it correct that farmers' payments are reduced for the delivery of under-grade wheat?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

- (1) The analyses indicate that the problem is one of evenness of distribution rather than any shortfall of trace elements in the consignment as a whole. Further investigations on distribution will be made by the Department of Agriculture.
- (2) (a) 140 tons (approximately).
(b) 7 tons (approximately).
(c) 48 tons (approximately).
Ten per cent. of the bags are normally sampled from a stack. The amounts above are the gross weights of the stacks sampled.
- (3) (a) As the problem is one of evenness of distribution it is not likely that there would be any detrimental effects on crops or pastures.
(b) Answered by (a).
- (4) The price of fertiliser is a purely commercial matter. Where a product is sold near its cost of production, increases on these production costs are passed on provided there is a ready market for the product.
- (5) Yes.

IMMIGRATION

Government Policy

The Hon. G. E. D. BRAND asked the Minister for Mines:

- (1) Has the Minister perused the article on page one of the *Daily News* dated the 28th October, 1969, entitled "Bid to send Asians here"?
- (2) If so, will he advise whether this plan would be acceptable to the Government of Western Australia?
- (3) Will the Government recommend to the Federal Minister for Immigration that the present policy, whereby only professional or highly skilled Asians are now acceptable, be retained?
- (4) Will the Government also take the necessary action to ensure that this present policy be retained until, at least, some progress has been made towards solving the problems associated with our present Aboriginal population?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

- (1) to (4) I have seen the article referred to and from inquiries made I understand that no official

approach has been made to the Commonwealth Government which is responsible for migration policy in Australia.

I am informed also that there has been no change in Commonwealth policy towards the acceptance of non-European persons as migrants to Australia.

METROPOLITAN REGION TOWN PLANNING SCHEME ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction and First Reading

Bill introduced, on motion by The Hon. L. A. Logan (Minister for Town Planning), and read a first time.

Second Reading

THE HON. L. A. LOGAN (Upper West—Minister for Town Planning) [4.47 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This is a short amendment to one subsection of the Metropolitan Region Town Planning Scheme Act dealing with compensation. Recent examination by the Crown Law Department of the section as amended last year indicates that the provision does not achieve the intended result and is capable of much wider interpretation.

In short, the compensation provision relating to the sale of land that is reserved under the provisions of the metropolitan region scheme is intended to protect the interests of the owner of land at the time it is reserved. Subsequent owners are expected to acquaint themselves with details affecting the land before purchasing. Such owners are, of course, protected by the provisions relating to development and compensation in the event of an adverse decision by the authority.

Whilst there have been no cases of exploitation of original owners by shrewd dealers, nevertheless the provision as it stands could be so used. The aim of this amendment is to ensure that only the person owning land at the time it is reserved under a provision of the scheme can receive compensation under the subsections relating to land that is sold at less than its market value. The amendment proposed is direct and I believe clear enough to avoid misinterpretation.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. W. F. Willesee (Leader of the Opposition).

MARKETING OF CYPRUS BARREL MEDIC SEED BILL

Report

Report of Committee adopted.

Third Reading

Bill read a third time, on motion by The Hon. L. A. Logan (Minister for Local Government), and returned to the Assembly with amendments.

MARKETING OF LINSEED BILL

Report

Report of Committee adopted.

Third Reading

Bill read a third time, on motion by The Hon. L. A. Logan (Minister for Local Government), and returned to the Assembly with amendments.

NORTHERN DEVELOPMENTS PTY. LIMITED AGREEMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Third Reading

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (North Metropolitan—Minister for Mines) [4.51 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a third time.

Members will recall that when this Bill was in Committee I said I would not ask the House to agree to the third reading, because I wanted an opportunity to check on a point raised by Mr. Wise. The point raised was really a twofold matter, and I shall deal first of all with the conveyancing of the actual agreement. I think I partly satisfied Mr. Wise on this question, although he stuck to his own point of view in respect of the correctness of the drafting of a certain clause.

I can say no more about that, except to point out, as I tried to do last Thursday evening, that there are two different people employed in presenting a piece of legislation of this nature. First there is the conveyancer who prepares the agreement, and then there is the Parliamentary Draftsman—to whom the prepared agreement is handed—who deals with the Bill accompanying the agreement, which becomes a schedule to the Bill.

In this case I think it is a matter of drafting form; but the important thing is to satisfy ourselves that the conveyancing of the agreement has been carried out in such a way as to satisfy the intention of the agreement. In this case there is no doubt that has been achieved.

The other point raised by Mr. Wise was in regard to where the amending words should appear in the agreement. Mr. Wise was of the opinion that they should occur before the words "Minister for Lands" and I contended that if the amending words were inserted before that passage they would become subject to the approval of the Minister, just as other words occurring before that point would also become subject to his approval. Mr. Wise then pointed out to the House that clause 7 (4) of the original agreement provided for a situation which, at that time, I seemed not to appreciate.

I have had an opportunity to look at the matter and I have conferred with the draftsman. Subclause (4) of clause 7 specifically exempts the cultivation and

processing of rice or other approved crop and associated depasturing of stock from being matters which require the consent of the State. If members look at the original agreement they will find this is so, because it reads—

(4) Without the consent of the State the Company shall not use or permit or suffer to be used the land comprised in a parcel for any purpose other than the cultivation and processing of rice or other approved crop and associated depasturing of stock.

This point has been discussed with officers of the Lands Department, who confirmed the position and pointed out that there is good reason for the provision in that the land is an intense cultivation area which is to be under irrigation, and is quite different from land the subject of the pastoral lease. The land in question requires the associated depasturing of stock to feed off the lush pasture in keeping with good farming practice. The point is that there is no conflict between the amendment which is made to the original agreement at a later stage and clause 7 (4) of the original agreement.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

LAND TAX ASSESSMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 29th October.

THE HON. W. F. WILLESEE (North-East Metropolitan—Leader of the Opposition) [4.56 p.m.]: This Bill is closely related to the succeeding Bill on the notice paper and, with your permission, Mr. President, I intend to deal in general terms with both measures. The first Bill is to amend the Land Tax Assessment Act; and the next is to amend the Land Tax Act, which is complementary to the first.

The legislation before us embodies three major principles. The first is an endeavour to remove or reduce the incidence of land tax and metropolitan region improvement tax to the benefit of the great majority of home owners. It is intended that those persons who own their homes will benefit directly; and, as promised by the Premier, the legislation is designed to curb in some small way some of the problems associated with land and housing within this State.

The Bill provides for a sliding scale to be used for land tax charges in the future. From the notes and the accompanying tables which the Minister supplied it can be seen that valuations range on a sliding scale from \$1,000 to \$400,000; and home owners whose land is valued at less than \$6,000 will be completely exempted.

This is a substantial reduction to those people, particularly bearing in mind the sharp rises in land tax and metropolitan

region improvement tax due to the valuation made by Taxation Department officials periodically each five years.

So we find that some people who have been paying quite a nominal figure for many years will be paying a greatly increased amount by comparison when they are faced with their revaluations. Under this scheme their payments will go up sharply if their valuation is over \$6,000 and there will be complete exemption from land tax and metropolitan region tax if valuations do not exceed \$6,000.

On reading this scale of figures my feeling is that perhaps it is unusual in the light of the legislation before us, because I was somewhat surprised to find that there was a complete lifting of charges upon those whose valuations did not exceed \$6,000. In the past all of us have been accustomed to paying some small amount of land tax and also a certain amount of metropolitan region improvement tax.

It would not have surprised me—and indeed I do not think I would have taken any point in opposition—had there been a minimum flat rate in relation to valuations up to \$6,000. However this is the manner in which the Government proposes to effect the legislation before us. The people concerned will be wondering what effect the legislation is likely to have, because they will know they have paid a small amount by way of land tax over the years and while there was a sharp increase recently they will now find that they are not to pay any land tax or metropolitan region tax at all.

It is interesting to see how many homes will be affected by this legislation. The number mentioned was in the vicinity of 125,000.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: That is an assessment.

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE: So the Bill before us is quite a substantial move in the direction to which I have referred. Some alleviation is to be given by way of reduced taxation to offset higher valuations. The question of whether valuations will rise or fall is, I think, at a most interesting stage and I would not attempt to take the line that these would rise sharply in certain areas. I would be inclined to think that the higher valuations—those around the \$10,000 mark in the last three or four years—may decline in the future.

I had hoped it would have been possible to establish a valuation of \$3,000 or \$4,000 in the outer suburbs, particularly if there is to be any success in this overall problem of controlling land prices. I refer, particularly, to the sale of blocks by the Rural and Industries Bank last Saturday. There was a definite indication that those valuations were acceptable and could be

within the scope of the younger married couples. This, however, is departing from the Bill before us.

There would be no point in my delaying the passage of the legislation as I see it. The fact that it provides a lowering of payments for householders, together with an increased tax on unimproved land, speaks for itself. This is a small attempt, but nevertheless an attempt, to control people who hold land simply for profit; I refer now to the speculators.

If as a result of this measure it is possible to release some of this land and make it available for home ownership so much the better. The Minister indicated that if this legislation was not the success the Government hoped it would be the Government would be prepared to go much further in the matter of unimproved land which happened to be lying idle.

The third point in the Bill deals with land owned by local authorities and an exemption is provided in such cases. I think the figure mentioned was a total of some \$25,000. That is not a major item but rather a matter of principle. My only thought on this is that if one businessman is established on a reserve belonging to the local authority and his competitor is established on private property, the one established on private property would, I feel, be disadvantaged. In this connection I think reference was made to theatres which were established on reserves. I merely put that forward as a theory.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: You are now talking about drive-in theatres?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE: One of the problems we have experienced with regard to the personal discomfort of paying land tax has been the very steep increase which has been thrust upon the people almost overnight as a result of revaluations. The Bill does not deal with any method of circumventing such a sharp rise.

However, I think we must see what effect this system of escalation will have on further revaluations of those areas not yet taken into consideration. If the application of this legislation is such that no material harm is done then much of the problem associated with the five-yearly revaluation will have disappeared. If the method of arriving at a valuation is the recent local sales then let us hope as time passes that the local sales will mean a decrease in valuations rather than the increase that has been evident over the past 10 years.

I think the legislation as it stands is worth a chance because it will certainly benefit many people. It will benefit a section of people who deserve consideration, namely, the home owner; and in its

extension from the other angle it will endeavour to prevent, to whatever extent might be possible, the activities of speculators who own unimproved land.

I do not suggest that the Bill will cure all our land problems, but I do feel it is a step in the right direction in providing alleviation of land tax and metropolitan region tax for many home owners in the metropolitan area.

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (North Metropolitan—Minister for Mines) [5.10 p.m.]: I am naturally very pleased and grateful that Mr. Willesee should have approached the Bill in the manner he did. I am sure it is perfectly true to say that it is not often a Government brings down a measure to provide relief from taxation. This Bill, however, certainly does just that.

As I indicated in my second reading speech, the measure is a result of an undertaking given by the Treasurer that the question of land tax would be looked into.

The Government considered the aspect of a small or nominal charge being made on the lower brackets but some difficulty was presented as to what this should be. If we had applied a small or nominal charge to those who now are not going to be charged anything, this would have resulted in assessments having to be sent out to the people concerned, and the cost of compiling the assessments, posting them, and collecting the money, would have eaten into the amount of the collections.

So after careful consideration the Government decided to embark on the formula that is now before us. As Mr. Willesee has so rightly said, the measure is aimed at giving relief to the genuine home owner and it seeks to recover land tax from those classes of people who are not subdividing their land as quickly as we would like them to.

I do not think there is any doubt that land prices are levelling out a little. As a matter of fact, I was talking to a gentleman from New South Wales shortly after the last sale of blocks at Karrinyup by the Rural and Industries Bank. I asked the gentleman concerned how these prices compared with the prices of similar blocks in Sydney. He replied that there was no comparison, and when I asked him to explain he said, "If we had blocks of land like these within seven to nine miles of the G.P.O., Sydney, the price would probably be three to four times as high as those paid this morning."

It is all very well for people to say that blocks of land can be bought in certain areas for such-and-such a price, but I think we must look at the geographical location of the blocks in and around Perth before we draw a comparison.

Mr. Willesee said the Bill does not deal with further rises in land values. I dealt with that point in my second reading speech and said if there were further appreciable rises—and we did not anticipate this—the question would again be reviewed. Once again I thank the honourable member for his support of the measure and commend the Bill 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.

Third Reading

Bill read a third time, on motion by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines), and passed.

LAND TAX ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 29th October.

THE HON. W. F. WILLESEE (North-East Metropolitan—Leader of the Opposition) [5.16 p.m.]: I do not intend to delay the House on this Bill, in view of the remarks I made on the previous measure, but I would like to draw attention to some of the statements made by the Minister when he introduced this Bill, to show the variety of problems associated with land. First of all, he said—

... there have been many encouraging signs that the land price spiral has been arrested. Land is being opened up and brought onto the market at a much greater rate than a year ago.

He then drew attention to another angle of the problem when he said—

Urban deferment has been lifted from thousands of acres of land which can now be subdivided and marketed as fast as services can be provided...

He went on to touch on the speculative activity at land sales and said that this has been noticeably less in recent months. He sounded a warning that the Government was determined to take all necessary steps to ensure an adequate, even an excessive, supply of building lots on the market and would continue to apply pressure to landowners who are reluctant to speed up the release of land for fear of depressing the price they would obtain.

The Minister drew attention to the fact that the Government was concerned at the new phase of speculative activity in rural land on the outskirts of the urban area—a further problem in this matter. He said that the confident assurances of promoters should not be taken as indicating planning intention, particularly when

planning for many of these areas is at a very preliminary stage. There is a very wise note of warning in those words.

He then went on to say that he wished to make it clear that the Government's intention was to make it unprofitable for people to hold land solely with the intention of profiting from future rezoning or the development of the surrounding area. He said—

We cannot get building blocks onto the market at a reasonable price if genuine developers are forced to pay high prices...

This is a very basic problem. It is true to say that many owners take advantage of this situation and ask a much higher price than should reasonably be expected.

I desired to mention those few points from the Minister's remarks to highlight the general and overall problem of land and housing. This legislation deals with one aspect of the problem, but it gives positive relief to certain people; and I sincerely wish it every success.

THE HON. N. E. BAXTER (Central) [5.20 p.m.]: I am one of those who were rather pleased to see this amending Bill come before Parliament. When one looks back on the past valuations of land within the State, one realises to what extent valuations have risen.

According to the Estimates the actual amount of land tax received during 1968-69 was \$4,892,454, and the estimate for this financial year is some \$7,217,000. This is quite a spectacular increase from one year to the next and naturally, of course, being such a spectacular increase, it is fast becoming a great burden on the people who must meet this land tax, particularly in the areas in which values on improved and unimproved properties have increased greatly.

It appears that this new proposal will work quite well in extending relief to the owners of lower-valued properties. However, some of those who own properties of higher values will be paying fairly heavy land tax, even when this Bill is passed. Naturally, the Government needs money for expenditure in all directions—for schools, hospitals, and everything else.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: And on lots of work in your province.

The Hon. N. E. BAXTER: Yes, and in many other provinces. The Government has been sympathetic in this matter and has seen fit to introduce amending legislation to give some relief. I hope that in the future some new method of valuation will be devised and introduced to obviate the revaluation system in this State which not only increases the cost to land and property owners, but also very often creates an inequity in the amounts contributed by landowners in rural and city areas.

The Government has endeavoured to do something about this matter, but it is a big task and takes quite a time to try to evolve a system to deal with a problem like this. The Government of New South Wales has tried to an extent to solve some of its valuation problems, and I believe that our ultimate aim should be to work not on improved or unimproved values, but on site values, to introduce a more equitable system in the valuation of our land and properties. With those remarks 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.

Third Reading

Bill read a third time, on motion by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines), and passed.

SWAN RIVER

Reclamation at Preston Point: Assembly's Resolution

That this House do resolve to approve, pursuant to subsection (1) of section twenty-two A of the Swan River Conservation Act, 1958-1966, the reclamation of an area of about 5.5 acres of the Swan River near Preston Point which area is shown in the plan deposited in the Public Works Department and marked P.W.D.W.A. 40970—DRG. No. 2 and therein coloured red, and as so shown in the copy of that plan laid on the Table of the House; and that the Legislative Council be requested to so resolve.

Motion to Concur

Debate resumed, from the 23rd October, on the following motion by The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon (Minister for Health):—

That the request contained in Message No. 49 from the Legislative Assembly, be agreed to.

THE HON. J. DOLAN (South-East Metropolitan) [5.25 p.m.]: Although this motion deals with a particular area of the river, I feel that I should make some remarks about reclamation and the river generally.

Sometimes we are inclined to become a little smug and say, "Oh well! We have so much and it does not matter if we take a little bit here and a little bit there." Let me first of all give members an idea of what has occurred in the area in which Parliament House is situated. The original reserve for Parliament House and its surroundings was 12 acres, but now it is only eight acres, that is, a third of the

original area has been taken, and there is the possibility that one of these days some more will be taken.

Although I was delighted that one of the proposals involving a big area of the river has been removed from the notice paper, this one still remains on our plate.

Last Sunday week, in company with my wife, I went for a drive around the river to see what claims some sporting bodies have which can be really justified; and I started by looking at the areas reserved for yachting clubs. Let me make it perfectly clear to members that I appreciate yachting. I like it myself, and in my younger days I did quite a good deal of it. Therefore from that point of view I have no criticism of yachtsmen, yachting clubs, or anything concerned with them.

My wife and I drove around the back of the University and there, for a start, we saw quite an area of land at Pelican Point devoted to yachting clubs. The first rebuff we received when we arrived at the gate was a sign, "Private Property. No Admittance. Members Only." In other words, "You are not wanted if you are members of the ordinary public. This is only for us." The sign was just a euphemism for, "Keep out." There we found quite a number of yachting clubs, including the Royal Perth Yacht Club of W.A., the Mounts Bay Sailing Club (Inc.), the Cruising Yacht Club, the Catamaran Association, and so on.

The next area we came to had the same sort of notice—"Members Only. No Admittance. Private Property." Again this means, "Keep out," and this notice was at the premises of the Perth Flying Squadron. That club has charge of its own particular area.

We went a little further and came to the Nedlands Yacht Club where the same signs were to be seen. This club has a big area reserved for members and, in addition, a dredge was operating in the river to provide a better area for moorings and so on. That club has plenty of space for its activities, whether these be associated with junior yachtsmen or the seniors.

My wife and I continued on and stopped in various places to have a look across the river to see what heritage we had. We made our way around Freshwater Bay and there we found the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club and the Claremont Yacht Club, both of which had the same sort of signs. "Members Only." Each club has a lovely area of the river reserved for it.

Let me once again say that I have no objection to these facilities being provided. I will come back to the point later on concerning whether or not we should call a halt to areas being set aside for the use of a privileged few.

From Freshwater Bay we drove further around the bay and the next place we came to was Keanes Point. If members

want to see a yacht club the members of which can afford big launches and so on, the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club is the place to go.

Keanes Point is one of the finest places on the river, but it is completely shut off and reserved for these people. It is not only that, but there is supposed to be parking space for members in these areas. Of course, more often than not, the parking places are filled up and the cars of those who belong to the clubs are parked outside in the area which the ordinary public would normally occupy.

In the bay itself, where the kiddies swim—and it is one of the best points on the river—one finds that dozens of boats are moored and are taking up more and more of the swimming area.

When we continued on around the river we came to the Mosman Bay Sailing Club, which is situated in another fine area. My wife and I then went to the top of the hill overlooking Freshwater Bay to what I consider is probably the most valuable site which any bowling club in the world could occupy; I refer to the Mosman Park Bowling Club. The club occupies a beautiful area right on the top overlooking Freshwater Bay, and I certainly do not begrudge it the site.

As my wife and I got out of the car and watched the hundreds of yachts sailing in the bay, I was reminded of the words of Sir Walter Scott—

Breathes there a man with soul so dead,

Who never to himself hath said,

This is my own, my native land?

I am sure that if anyone drives around the river and selects vantage points from which to look at the river, like myself, he would feel that not one square foot of the river should be taken away from now on.

We drove around a little further to a point directly opposite where I live. Here a large area is taken up by industry in the form, first of all, of a sugar refinery. Further around there are other big factories including the State Engineering Works and a superphosphate works. These industries block off a large area of the river and consequently block off a view which would be just as good as one would find along many other points on the river.

We continued on, crossed the traffic bridge, turned, and made our way to the site which is the subject of this motion where it is proposed an area shall be taken from the river and handed over to an organisation. The organisation will, I suppose, develop it in its own interests and, doubtless, those who are concerned would be quite happy with the prospect.

As one leaves the traffic bridge, one finds wharves, and moorings for boats, in the form of piles and girders, built nearly all the way around to the Leeuwin. There

are many jetties, rooms for sailing clubs, and so on. After passing all these, one reaches the point which is at issue here; namely, Preston Point.

I have wonderful memories of Preston Point long before there were yachting clubs or anything else established in the area. It was a favourite place for prawning. Many a time I have taken one end of a prawning net at Preston Point. After we had caught the prawns, we cooked them on the shore.

Motions of this nature take away more and more of the river with the result that the ordinary member of the public is able to enjoy much less of the river.

When one looks down from the top of Rocky Bay, one is convinced the river is gradually being spoilt. It is all very well to mention, say, the very low tide at Karrakatta bank at Point Walter. However, it is a wonderful sight even if there are only six inches of water, and it is a thing of beauty. That will no longer be the case.

As one makes one's way around the foreshore in a car, one finds there is a very narrow land passage between the water's edge and the fence of the Leeuwin; that is, the naval establishment. The naval establishment is there for all time and I suppose we will never get rid of it. I imagine one would be met with a very cool reception if one suggested to those in charge at the Leeuwin that some of the territory should be taken in order to make the road wider or to make space available for a yachting club. Apparently we consider that land to be more sacrosanct than our river.

I have been all over our own country from Darwin in the north to the southernmost tip of Tasmania, and from east to west. No capital in Australia has anything to equal our river. The only place that does approach it—and where, I think, those in authority have a keen appreciation of what an expanse of water means to citizens—is Hobart where the bay and the river are really something worth while.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: I thought Sydney Harbour had a rather good reputation.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: It did once, but the harbour has become filthy. With some developments which have taken place on some of the islands, Sydney is gradually losing the beauty it had once when Governor Phillip first went there.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: It is not a bad slab of water.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: If Governor Phillip were to come back now and look at Sydney Harbour, he would probably break down and weep because what was once a thing of beauty is that no longer.

In Hobart one finds that the thinking is rather different from the thinking here. In Western Australia the view taken by yachting clubs is that there is only one place for their clubs and that is down on the river's edge. The Royal Hobart Yacht Club, which every year promotes what is probably the greatest open water competition—namely, the Sydney to Hobart yacht race—has its headquarters in the city. When the yachts have finished their racing and have been anchored in Constitution Dock, as soon as the yacht club members have cleaned themselves up they go into the city to their club, which has every facility. I have been in the club on many occasions and I suppose it would bear comparison with anything in Western Australia.

Units of the Australian fleet seem to have two commitments each year. One would find units of the fleet in Port Phillip Bay at the moment. They probably came in last weekend and, generally, they stay in the bay for a few days or until the following weekend. This is one commitment which they have always had; it is traditional.

The other commitment of some units of the fleet is to be in the bay in Hobart on the 26th January every year when a wonderful regatta is held which is, I think, the greatest day of the year in Tasmania.

What a different idea they have from us. The position here is that whenever a yachting club wants something—whether it is facilities for juniors or anything else—a proposal is put forward to take some of the river. Why not go back from the river? I know that in the area between the traffic bridge and the Leeuwin there is space under the shelter of the cliffs, back from the river. As a matter of fact, I remember one occasion when I approached the Minister for Works and was successful in having a small area of land made available for the Sea Scouts. The Sea Scouts found it very convenient. An old Army hut was renovated and they made it into a clubhouse, in which they stored their boats. It was only necessary to take the boats across the road to put them into the river. If they wanted to anchor the boats there were plenty of anchorages.

In order to overcome difficulties which are associated with the Licensing Act and so on, today the position seems to be that juniors can no longer occupy space which the senior club wants for its members and, consequently, they have to have an area alongside. Surely, though, the juniors can use all the other facilities that are available. They should be able to use the same anchorages on the sailing water as the seniors. If headquarters are wanted, all that is necessary is to build

them on the land. Do not let us spoil our river. I consider it has been spoilt quite enough.

The Preston Point area was one a thing of beauty. Today, as one drives around, one sees only a collection of buildings. I am not saying that the buildings are not kept in a fair state of repair, but I am referring to the number of buildings in the area. There is the Aquarama, a marina, the headquarters of a rowing club, and the headquarters of the Swan Sailing Club. The Preston Point area is not the place it once was.

I do not live in the past, but I consider we must look very carefully at these propositions and make sure that, wherever possible, anything necessary is placed back from the river so that the river is left in its natural state of beauty.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: What does the honourable member think of the reclamation in the area of Burke Drive?

The Hon. J. DOLAN: That was not reclamation of the river. I could enlighten the Minister.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: I did not say it was. I asked what the honourable member thought of the reclamation there.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: That was not so much a question of reclamation of the river as the cleaning up of swamp land. As a matter of fact, I can remember when we went there for picnics over 40 years ago. There was a jetty at Attadale where we would tie up the launch or the yacht—whatever we were using on the day—and go along to an area which was known, when I was young, as cow dung flat. It may be a little indelicate to mention it, but the whole of the area along from Attadale was known as that. Today one finds magnificent houses overlooking Burke Drive.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: It was a swampy portion of the river.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: There was once a dairy on the area of land between Burke Drive and the river. This land was eventually bought by land developers who improved it. In the days I am referring to one had to be very careful where one put one's head down if one wanted a rest after lunch on a summer's afternoon. I am in agreement with this kind of improvement. However, let us look at the other side of the picture.

One can start at Point Walter and go all the way to Applecross, where there is a swimming club below the Majestic Hotel. There is not a recognised swimming beach for children all the way around once one has left Point Walter. I am all in favour of providing facilities for youngsters of the future.

The area that was mentioned in another motion is the outlet for the Booragoon area which is expected to accommodate

250,000 people in the next 20 years. This population is confidently anticipated, and firms such as David Jones are spending \$500,000 on development. This means that 250,000 people will be channelled into and spread throughout that area—namely, into Alfred Cove—and there are no facilities for them.

Although yachtmens need facilities, I maintain there are many places where yachting facilities can be provided without taking away more of Preston Point.

It has been suggested, of course, that the river will be improved by taking away this area of land. I cannot see this. At the moment, there is a narrow channel down the river in Rocky Bay and alongside the cliffs on the North Fremantle side. There is only one way in which the river would be improved; namely, by dredging a channel across where the buildings are now proposed. There is no other way it could be done. If the channel which is proposed is built then probably half these places will be swept away by the current.

I feel we have gone far enough so far as reclamation of the river is concerned. I am all for cleaning up swampy places on the river's edge, and for providing swimming facilities, such as those which have been provided at Maylands and in other areas.

Sometimes people refer to development as reclamation. However, if one takes the area on the other side of the Causeway, for example, this is not a question of river reclamation. It is the filling in of dirty swamps which have never been any good. By putting rubbish and fill on the top it has been made into wonderful parklands and sporting fields. I go along with this kind of thing but not with these other propositions.

When speaking to a motion such as this I think one must take into consideration the fact that the river in its natural state is a thing of beauty. From what I knew of the river years ago and from what I see today, we seem to be doing our best to take away from the river that description of it. I cannot go along with the proposition. The time has arrived, I consider, when we must voice our thoughts on these matters. The tendency should be for yachting clubs and rowing clubs to establish their headquarters back from the river. Provided there are sufficient anchorage facilities in the area members can easily go a short distance to get their boats.

If anybody likes to stand on the side of a highway on a Saturday or Sunday he will see big launches and yachts of all kinds being carried on trailers or on the tops of cars which are making their way to various resorts. Much of this kind of thing can still be done.

People could launch their boats and their yachts at the river, and, when their activities have concluded, load them onto their

vehicles again and take them home. Further, should they require to do any maintenance on their craft they could do that in their spare time during the week. Those are the views I hold.

I was delighted, of course, that one of the motions for proposed reclamation of the river received short shrift. At one time I was under the impression that a body such as the Swan River Conservation Board took the initiative in respect of any development that was required in respect of the river, but that does not appear to be the procedure that is followed now. The initiative seems to be taken by some interested body which puts forward a proposal to the Minister, and the opinion of those people whom it may affect is asked for afterwards.

I can recall when big power lines were to be put across Blackwall Reach, and the Swan River Conservation Board was dead against the proposal. At that time, of course, the board's proposal was not progressive. It appears that a proposal is progressive only when the Government agrees with it, and when proposals come forward with which it does not agree it is considered they are not progressive.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: It is not a matter of whether it is progressive; it is a matter of what a lot of people desire.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: I do not think a lot of people would want to spend \$130,000 on a reclamation scheme.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: You realise, of course, that the dredge would cost that amount just standing without carrying out any dredging operation.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: After reading the contents of the report made by the Metropolitan Region Planning Authority, and studying the map at the back of that report, one will find that the authority has put forward certain propositions, but has made no mention of the Preston Point reclamation proposal.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: No more than it mentions the whole of the Narrows Bridge reclamation area.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: The Narrows Bridge reclamation work was performed a long while before this report was published. Therefore, anything that would have been proposed after that would have been fully examined by the authority.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: I think the Minister's interjection circumscribes that; that is, if there is money available the proposition is good, but if no money is available it is bad.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: Thanks for the interjection, which I think is quite appropriate. I have said all I wish to say on the matter. I oppose the motion and I hope the House will not agree to it.

THE HON. J. G. HISLOP (Metropolitan) [5.48 p.m.]: I do not think we have any right to criticise the members of the

Swan River Conservation Board. During the last three or four years, on those occasions when I have been invited to travel by boat up the river to its source and back again I, together with other members who have accompanied me on such trips, have seen large areas, in close proximity to the banks of the river, which have been reclaimed and made into recreational areas for the enjoyment of both adults and children. I cannot outline exactly what the board has done at the moment but had I been given until tomorrow morning, I may have been able to do so.

However, I suggest that what the board has done in the past should be continued in the future. Since the previous chairman of the board retired last year, I think we have been left out of the picture, to some extent, in the way of boat trips up the river. I therefore suggest that whenever any members of the board are making any inspection trip of the river in a good boat an invitation be extended to some members of Parliament to accompany them so that they may see the work that has been performed by the board.

There is no doubt that with the expenditure of money the board has been able to improve the river foreshores and there has been a definite tightening up in regard to policing the activities of river craft. I feel sure that the public has come to accept the work that has been done by the board because more people are now using the river and, further, more people are able to navigate the upper reaches of the river which was not possible previously.

The Swan River Conservation Board has done a great deal of work on the northern shores of the Swan River and there is still much work ahead of it. I wonder how many people realise the reason for there being such a large area of playing fields available on the Perth foreshore which have been built up as a result of reclamation. The result of this work can be seen everywhere and I think we should take our hats off to the members of the board, and be more appreciative of what they have done.

I have travelled around the Australian coast four or five times, but I have never experienced anything that could equal a boat ride down the Swan River. Therefore, if we continue to foster its conservation we will be able to say to ourselves that we have done something worth while. The courtesy that has been shown in the past by the Swan River Conservation Board could not be equalled anywhere. Instead of trying to discredit it, it would be better if members of Parliament, in small parties, were given the opportunity to travel along the river from its source down to the Fremantle Traffic Bridge. I therefore suggest to the Leader of the House that he might approach the Swan River

Conservation Board with a view to inviting small groups of members of Parliament to board a launch to make trips up and down the river.

Members of the board must frequently make boat trips on the river to inspect a particular spot, and if some members of Parliament were permitted to accompany them they would be able to see the work that has been accomplished by the board along the banks of the river. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to be invited to make my fourth trip on a boat up the river so that I may view the improvements that have been made.

I am certain that if we allow the Swan River Conservation Board to continue the work it has performed in the past, the river will be transformed into a thing of beauty. I repeat it was truly magnificent to travel in a boat from the river's source right down through Perth and Melville Waters and to witness the excellent work that has been performed. I would like to spend a great deal more time on a boat travelling along the river accompanied by members of the board to see what other work it has done since my last trip.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. F. R. H. Lavery.

RESERVES BILL

Receipt and First Reading

Bill received from the Assembly; and, on motion by The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon (Minister for Health), read a first time.

Second Reading

THE HON. G. C. MacKINNON (Lower West—Minister for Health) [5.57 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This is the usual Bill which is introduced towards the end of this part of the session each year in order that the great bulk of proposals affecting reserves may be incorporated in a single measure. The notes and lithographs covering these proposals are available but I shall explain them briefly to members.

The first provision refers to Class "A" Reserve No. 9914 at Broome, which is subject to a 999-year lease, No. 402/42, held in trust by the Mayor and Councillors of the Broome Shire Council. Clause 2 of the Bill provides for the cancellation of this lease and for the reclassification of the reserve from Class "A" to Class "C." The local shire desires to have this area available for a shopping area and civic centre in conjunction with adjoining Reserve No. 8519, which was reduced from Class "A" to Class "C" in the 1967 Reserves Bill.

The next proposal refers to "A"-class Reserve No. 12636 at Anglesea Island, Bunbury, which is vested in the Bunbury

Town Council. It is necessary to excise an area from this reserve so that it may be used for purposes of "Bunbury Harbour Extensions" which are essential. The Town of Bunbury is in agreement with the proposal.

The next clause refers to Class "A" Reserve No. 15927 at Bunbury, which is set apart for recreation with the board of management being the Town of Bunbury. The Town of Bunbury has requested that this reserve and adjoining areas which form what is known as Queens Gardens, should be amalgamated into a composite reserve for "Recreation and Parking" and vested in the council. To tidy up the area, it would be necessary to excise 2.3 perches from this reserve and include it in the Bunbury Yacht Club, Lot 361, and incorporate this land in Lease No. 184/153; also to change the purpose to "Recreation and Parking," cancel the board of management, and vest the whole area in the Town of Bunbury in trust with power to lease for a term not exceeding 21 years.

Clause 5 provides for the change of purpose of Class "A" Reserve No. 25337 at Denmark from "Park (Pioneer Park) and Kindergarten Site" to "Park (Pioneer Park), Kindergarten and Boy Scouts Hall Site." The Shire of Denmark has requested the change of purpose to enable a boy scouts' hall to be built on this reserve.

Under clause 6, the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River has requested better access roads to the ocean in the Flinders Bay area. A minor adjustment to the boundaries of Class "A" Reserves 25141 and 24653 is necessary. This clause provides for the excision of an area from Reserve 25141 and to include the area in Reserve 24653.

The next proposal relates to Class "A" Reserve No. 22429 at Peel Estate, Rockingham, which is set apart for "Recreation and Parkland." The Shire of Rockingham requests half an acre for a pound yard. This clause provides for the excision of an area for this purpose and the area to be vested in the Shire of Rockingham.

The next clause provides for the cancellation of "A"-class Reserve No. 997 at Lake Clifton. This reserve is set apart for "Camping and Recreation" and the National Parks Board of Western Australia has requested that Reserve No. 997 be included in the Yalgorup National Park, "A"-class Reserve No. 11710. Reserve No. 11710 is vested in the National Parks Board for the purposes of a national park.

Clause 9 refers to "A"-class Reserve No. 4379 at Malcolm, which is set apart for a racecourse and is held under Certificate of Title Volume 204, Folio 139, and leased to the Malcolm Racing Club for a period of 99 years. This club has not functioned for many years nor has the reserve been used as a "Racecourse." This clause provides for cancellation of the lease and the reserve and for the land to be incorporated

in Reserve No. 7521, which is set aside as "Commons" and is under the control of the Leonora Shire Council.

Clause 10 provides for the cancellation of Class "A" Reserve No. 24689 at Ravensthorpe and for the area to be reserved again for recreation and vested in the Shire of Ravensthorpe. The council's request is for the area in this reserve to be amalgamated with adjacent land for a site for "Bowling Green, Golf Course, and a Club House," with power to lease to the bowling and golf clubs. An attractive sporting complex would be provided. This reserve is at present set apart for "Camping," but adequate facilities are already provided in Ravensthorpe for the travelling public.

Clause 11 provides for the change of purpose of Class "A" Reserve No. 1313 at Totadgin Rock, Merredin, from "Water and Stopping Place" to "Water and Conservation of Flora and Fauna." The request came from the Department of Fisheries and Fauna and the Public Works Department has no objection as long as the reserve remains vested in the Minister for Water Supplies.

The next proposal provides for the excision of half an acre from Class "A" Reserve No. 27107 at Albany for the purpose of leasing the area for a "Commercial Fishing Station." Reserve No. 27107 is at the present time set apart for "Town-site Extension (Albany) and National Park" and contains 5,335 acres. The Department of Fisheries and Fauna supports the application.

Clause 13 provides for the excision from Class "A" Reserve No. 29151 at Horrocks Beach, Northampton, of approximately 2 acres 1 rood 25 perches, and for the land to be included in Reserve No. 29152. Reserve No. 29152 has been reserved for a "Caravan Park" but is now built on to capacity. The Shire of Northampton requests portions of the adjoining reserve No. 29151, set apart for "Camping and Public Recreation," to be included in Reserve No. 29152 (Caravan Park).

The next proposal provides for the excision of six-tenths of an acre from Class "A" Reserve No. 27956 at Two People Bay for the purpose of leasing as a "Commercial Fishing Station." At the present time, Reserve No. 27956 is set apart for "Conservation of Fauna—Noisy Scrub Bird" and contains 11,460 acres. This applies to only six-tenths of an acre for a commercial fishing station. The Department of Fisheries and Fauna supports the application.

The Hon. E. C. House: What advice did you get on that? Did you consult anybody else? The Albany Shire for example?

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: I would imagine that was done, but I would not know for sure. This will be only a small

station, and used during the salmon season. It will be there for a short time only for the heading and gutting of the salmon during the salmon season. It will be under fairly strict control as to the disposal of waste, and so on. The station will comprise only a little shed on the beach and the fishermen are fishing for only a short season, as the honourable member would be aware.

The Hon. E. C. House: I did not realise it was just on the edge of the beach.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: Yes, that is where it will be placed. I have no doubt many members have seen similar fishing stations.

The Hon. E. C. House: I have seen them at Bremer Bay.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: Under Clause 15, the Shire of Cranbrook requests control of Class "A" Reserve No. 21534 at Cranbrook for recreational purposes. This clause provides for the cancellation of Reserve No. 21534 and for the land to be revested in Her Majesty as of Her former estate and removed from the operations of the Transfer of Land Act, 1893, and vested in the Shire of Cranbrook for recreation. The Royal Agricultural Society is in favour of this recommendation. Previously Reserve No. 21534 was set apart as "Agricultural Show Grounds."

The next proposal provides for the change of purpose of Class "A" Reserve No. 7535 near Katanning from "Conservation of Indigenous Flora" to "Conservation of Flora and Fauna." The Department of Fisheries and Fauna has made this request in order to develop the necessary management programme for the protection of fauna within this reserve.

The next proposal grants permission for the City of Fremantle to lease portion of Class "A" Reserve No. 6066 to the Australian Wool Bureau for a period of 20 years. Reserve No. 6066 is held in fee simple in trust for the purpose of "Cemetery." The subject portion has been leased twice previously to the bureau for five-year periods. My colleague (the Minister for Local Government) approves of the lease. Substantial buildings are erected on the land.

Clause 18 provides for the excision and cancellation of 27 acres and 37.7 perches from "A" class Reserve No. 12083. This reserve is at South Kalamunda and is set apart for the purpose of "Public Education Endowment" and held in fee simple by the trustees of the public education endowment. The Public Works Department has requested portion of this reserve for a high school site and the trustees are in agreement with the proposal. The portion of the reserve cancelled will be revested in Her Majesty and

then reserved for the purpose of "School-site." I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. W. F. Willesee (Leader of the Opposition).

WHEAT INDUSTRY STABILIZATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Receipt and First Reading

Bill received from the Assembly; and, on motion by The Hon. L. A. Logan (Minister for Local Government), read a first time.

Second Reading

THE HON. L. A. LOGAN (Upper West—Minister for Local Government) [6.8 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

The purpose of this Bill is to implement a decision that the price of wheat for stock feed may be fixed at a price lower than that fixed for wheat used for human consumption.

Under the Fifth Wheat Stabilisation Plan, which will operate until the 1972-73 season, the guaranteed price for the 1968-69 season was fixed at \$1.45 per bushel free on board for fair average quality bulk wheat. The guaranteed price applies to a maximum of 200,000,000 bushels of exports; it is adjusted in each year of the plan according to movements in cash costs. The adjustment in the guaranteed price is calculated by index methods and the price for each season is normally announced each year at the end of November.

The home consumption price for 1968-69 was set at \$1.71 per bushel for fair average quality bulk wheat free on rail at ports. This price is subject to annual adjustment by similar amounts as is the guaranteed price. Therefore, up to the present time there has been one home price only for wheat irrespective of its intended use.

There are prospects of a good harvest in the Eastern States and doubts have arisen as to the adequacy of storage facilities over there because of a drop-off in wheat exports and a consequent build-up of stocks. The Minister for Primary Industry has authorised the Wheat Board to finance storage to a maximum of \$10,000,000—equivalent to 60,000,000 bushels storage—in those States that required it. He has also indicated that all above-quota wheat should be in storage by the middle of next year.

Nevertheless, it was recognised by the industry that, in view of the general surplus situation, which could continue for some time, the price for feed wheat should be reviewed. The Australian Wheat Growers' Federation considered that feed wheat at \$1.71 per bushel was not at a competitive level and requested that the domestic

price of wheat sold for other than human consumption be reduced from \$1.71 per bushel to a level not below the price corresponding to the guaranteed free on board price of \$1.45. The guaranteed price of \$1.45 per bushel free on board corresponds with a price of \$1.413 free on rail at ports.

The Australian Wheat Board, being aware of the likelihood of across-border sales in over-quota wheat, considered that a reduction in the home consumption price of wheat, for uses other than for human consumption, to be a step towards preventing across-border sales, which, if they did occur, would present a threat to the orderly marketing of wheat within Australia.

This Bill permits the minimum price of feed wheat to be varied to allow for quality differences.

Where the board sells wheat intended for the manufacture of food for human consumption, and the manufacturing process results in by-products not used for human consumption, the board may grant a rebate to the purchaser with respect to the amount of wheat equal in weight to the weight of by-products other than for human consumption. Under this provision, a flour miller will pay \$1.71 per bushel for the proportion of wheat which is converted to flour but only \$1.413 per bushel for the proportion which is processed to stock feed and the like or into industrial products.

I propose now to place before members figures indicating the situation which has arisen as a result of recent large harvests and the subsequent slowing down of sales—

Year	Pro- duction	Local Con- sumption (a)	Exports (b)	Stocks (c)
	(m. bus.)	(m. bus.)	(m. bus.)	(m. bus.)
1965-66	260	92	208	16
1966-67	467	89	256	80
1967-68	277	100	256	52
1968-69	538	100	198	260
		(Est.)		(Est.)
1969-70	436		200	
	(Est.)		(Est.)	

(a) All uses. Year ended 30th November of second year referred to.

(b) Includes the grain equivalent of plain white flour.

(c) As at 30th November of second year referred to.

Assuming that the estimated Australian wheat yield this season and estimated export sales prove to be accurate, there is likely to be more than 400,000,000 bushels of unsold wheat in storage when the 1970-71 crop is ready for harvest.

It is submitted, therefore, that this two-price system now proposed will enable the requisite control to be exercised over both prices and movement of wheat used for stock feed purposes and by this order in the industry may be better maintained. I commend the Bill to members.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. S. T. J. Thompson.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE: SPECIAL

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (North Metropolitan—Minister for Mines) [6.14 p.m.]: I move—

That the House at its rising adjourn until 3 p.m. tomorrow (Wednesday).

Question put and passed.

House adjourned at 6.15 p.m.

Legislative Assembly

Tuesday, the 4th November, 1969

The **SPEAKER** (Mr. Guthrie) took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

BILLS (4): INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

1. Taxation (Staff Arrangements) Bill.

2. Stamp Act Amendment Bill.

Bills introduced, on motions by Sir David Brand (Treasurer), and read a first time.

3. Marketing of Eggs Act Amendment Bill.

4. Wheat Delivery Quotas Bill.

Bills introduced, on motions by Mr. Nalder (Minister for Agriculture), and read a first time.

QUESTIONS (18): ON NOTICE

1.

HEALTH

Psychiatrists

Mr. DAVIES asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health:

(1) Is there a shortage of qualified psychiatrists in Government employment?

(2) If so, by what number do they fall short of the approved establishment?

(3) Can any shortage be attributed to the lower salaries paid in this State as compared with salaries paid in other States?

(4) Have there been protracted negotiations with the Public Service Commissioner on the question of salaries?

(5) When is a decision likely to be reached?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

(1) Yes.

(2) 10.

(3) Salaries would have been one of the factors involved.

(4) No. Existing salaries for psychiatrists were fixed by agreement between the Public Service Commissioner and the Civil Service Association dated the 8th October,