

correct with regard to the possibility of a dollar loan being made available for rural production purposes. I shall quote an extract from the report in the newspaper because I regard the statements made therein as of vital importance. It contained the following:—

Australia's future help from the bank—

The reference there, of course, is to the International Bank—

—is likely to be conditional on Australia agreeing to take a larger part than she has in the last decade as one of the big food and raw material suppliers of the world.

Several factors are likely to impel the bank to make such a condition. One is that ability to meet the interest and to repay the loan will depend on a big increase in Australia's export income. This can be achieved only by expanding the export of primary products.

The bank, it is understood, takes the view that its advances should serve the purpose of simultaneously strengthening the economy of the country which receives them and of strengthening the world economy as a whole.

It is also reported that there are misgivings about a long term result of excessive industrialisation if promoted by further International Bank advances.

I take it from that report in the Press that if the Government puts forward a case—there is no doubt it could submit an extremely good case to the authorities—it should be able to obtain sufficient finance to enable it to purchase a number of heavy tractors that could be used to advantage, as I have indicated, by strengthening the economy of the Commonwealth and helping Australia to once more take its place in feeding the world.

In conclusion, I would like to inform members that yesterday morning I was provided with some figures covering a monthly period, and these I regard as definitely of the utmost importance. I assure the House that I am not unduly pessimistic in bringing the figures to the notice of members. They show that in February last compared with the position in February, 1951, in the Manjimup district there had been a further decrease of 50 per cent. in the production of butter fat, in Bridgetown a reduction of 66 per cent., and in Northcliffe a decrease of 33 per cent. I trust the House will agree to the motion.

Question put and passed; the motion agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT—SPECIAL.

THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT
(Hon. C. H. Simpson—Midland): I move—

That the House at its rising adjourn till a date to be fixed by the President.
Question put and passed.

House adjourned at 5.39 p.m.

Legislative Assembly

Friday 14th March, 1952.

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The SPEAKER took the Chair at 3.30 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTIONS.

NORTH-WEST.

As to Watering Points on Pastoral Holdings.

Hon. A. A. M. COVERLEY asked the Premier:

(1) What number of stations have received financial assistance for water conservation by bores or otherwise, and what was the total expenditure?

(2) On what stations has this development taken place?

The PREMIER replied:

(1) Payment to one station only for £1,205 19s. 4d., payment pending on a second station, or a total of £1,031.

(2) Bores have been allotted to stations as under:—Brooking, 1; Fossil Downs, 2; Mt. Amherst, 1; Denham, 1; Mt. House 3; Mornington, 2; Tableland, 2; Thangoo, 2; Leopold Downs, 2; Argyle, 2; Ivanhoe, 1; Meda, 1; Margaret Downs, 1; Cherrabin, 2; Christmas Creek, 2.

Further allotments to applicants have yet to be made, but depend on further information required from the stations.

In addition to the above, an allotment will shortly be made to Bow River Station to cover development of a spring, equipping and sinking of one well, and the development of an excavated storage.

LICENSING ACT.

As to Hotel Accommodation.

Mr. GRAHAM asked the Attorney General:

(1) What check is made in order to ascertain whether hotels make accommodation available to persons seeking it?

(2) How many people per night are able to be accommodated at the Great Western and Tower Hotels in Perth, respectively?

(3) What is the average number of persons provided with accommodation at each of these hotels during the past 12 months?

The ATTORNEY GENERAL replied:

(1) Immediately on complaint that accommodation has been refused, a complete check is made by an officer of the Liquor Inspection Branch of the Police Department.

(2) Accommodation available is as follows:—

Great Western Hotel—25.
Tower Hotel—39.

(3) Average number accommodated during past 12 months:—

Great Western Hotel—12.6 persons.
Tower Hotel—34 persons.

AIRPORT.

As to Use by Planes from Europe.

Mr. HUTCHINSON asked the Premier:

(1) Now that the establishment of an oil refinery and a steel works has been launched in Western Australia, thus ensuring an era of progress not previously visualised, does he not consider that Perth's principal airport should become the aerial gateway to Australia for airliners from Europe and the United Kingdom?

(2) Has he yet made representations to the Federal Government in this regard?

(3) If so, what was the result?

(4) If not, does he not think that the time is ripe for the strongest possible representations?

The PREMIER replied:

(1), (2) (3) and (4) This matter is receiving consideration with a view to an approach to the Commonwealth Government.

EDUCATION.

(a) As to Woodwork and Domestic Science Classes.

Hon. J. T. TONKIN asked the Minister for Education:

(1) At what schools has it been necessary this year to deny training in woodwork or domestic science to children in standard six, for which classes such training was previously available?

(2) Will it be possible for any of these classes to receive training in woodwork or domestic science later on this year? If so, which classes?

The MINISTER replied:

(1) Domestic Science Classes—

Boulder—Two Std. VI classes out of three have been excluded to make room for extra secondary classes.

Kalgoorlie—About eight girls from East Kalgoorlie.

Mosman Park—The class formerly coming from this school has been replaced by a Cottesloe class.

Manual Training—The Superintendent of Manual Training is at present in the country. This information is not available until he returns to Perth.

(2) Many years ago when all but a few children left school at about 6th or 7th standard, it was customary for children in standard 6 and even 5 to receive instruction in manual training and domestic science. These children were usually 13 years of age or more in the 6th standard. However, nowadays the average child turns 12 in the year in which he is in 6th standard, and most children remain at school beyond the second year at high schools. It is therefore no longer considered necessary for children in 6th standard to take manual training or domestic science owing to their being younger in 6th than formerly. These subjects have become, in effect, "secondary" school subjects.

From a psychological point of view, it is an advantage that children starting on a secondary school course should find fresh interests and new groups of studies. Thus science, mathematics and languages are introduced at this stage and it is considered that this is the right time and stage in a child's life to introduce manual training and domestic science as new subjects. Members can be assured that children receive no less instruction in

these subjects than they did in former years. It is found, too, that young boys have not the physical maturity to profit to the fullest by manual training of the type under consideration.

The policy of the Education Department in future then, will be that these two subjects will be introduced as secondary subjects and will not be taught to primary school children, except in a few centres where time is available and then instruction will be given only to older retarded children in 6th standard.

(b) *As to Hall's Creek School, Occupation.*

Hon. A. A. M. COVERLEY asked the Minister for Education:

Will he indicate the date that the Hall's Creek school will be ready for occupation?

The MINISTER replied:

Though the erection of school buildings at Hall's Creek will be completed within the next two months, it is thought that the hostel will not be constructed before the end of this year.

(c) *As to School Extensions, Tuart Hill.*

Mr. W. HEGNEY (without notice) asked the Minister for Education:

As, on the 22nd August, 1951, he indicated that Treasury approval had been given on the 30th April, 1951, for the erection of three additional classrooms at the Tuart Hill school and on the 12th December that the work would likely be commenced in January of this year, will he—

(a) indicate whether tenders for such buildings have been called and, if so, with what result.

(b) If the reply to (a) is in the negative, can he say when tenders are likely to be called.

The MINISTER replied:

The hon. member gave me prior notice of his question and I am able to state—

(a) to the best of my knowledge, and according to the latest information I have, tenders have not been called;

(b) As to when tenders will be invited, my best course will be to advise the hon. member personally as soon as I can.

SWAN RIVER POLLUTION.

As to Waste Discharged from Brewery.

Mr. GRAYDEN asked the Minister for Works:

(1) What amount of waste matter has been calculated to flow from the drain leading from the Emu Brewery into the Swan River below Spring Street?

(2) What form of investigation into this source of river pollution has been taken, and what have been the findings?

(3) (a) What proposals to remedy this nuisance are being considered?

(b) What are the difficulties in the way of their adoption?

The MINISTER replied:

(1) Approximately 200,000 gallons per day of liquid trade waste by two drains.

(2) Investigations have been made into—

(a) how wastes could be disposed of other than discharging into the river;

(b) what degree of treatment would be necessary before wastes could be discharged into the sewerage system;

(c) what purification should be undertaken if it is not found possible to admit wastes into the sewerage system.

(3) (a) Answered by (2).

(b) (i) Treatment of Emu Brewery wastes would depend on the method that might be adopted for dealing with wastes from the Swan Brewery, as both might ultimately discharge into the Mill Street sewerage pumping station.

(ii) Difficulty of finding space for treatment works.

(iii) Limiting capacity of existing pumps and rising main from the Mill Street sewerage pumping station.

HOUSING.

As to "Emergent Evictions."

Hon. J. T. TONKIN: asked the Minister for Housing:

What are "emergent evictions"?

The MINISTER replied:

Extreme hardship cases, the result of evictions other than those under the amended rent legislation.

HOSPITALS.

As to Alterations to "Woodside."

Hon. J. B. SLEEMAN asked the Minister for Health:

(1) Have the alterations to "Woodside" Hospital yet been commenced.

(2) When is it likely that "Woodside" will be able to take patients?

The MINISTER replied:

(1) No. Working drawings and specifications are in course of preparation by the Public Works Department.

(2) When the alterations are completed.

FREMANTLE GAS CO.*As to Charges and Profits.*

Hon. J. B. SLEEMAN: asked the Minister for Works:

(1) In view of his reply to a question on Wednesday in which he stated that the Electricity Commission has no authority to approve or disapprove of the increase charged by the Fremantle Gas Works for gas, is he aware that section 4 of the Gas Undertakings Act says—

The basic price for gas supplied by a gas undertaker shall be such sum per gas units as is from time to time determined by the Commission in accordance with the provisions contained in section five of this Act?

(2) Is he also aware that section 5 says—

The Commission shall, at the request in writing of a gas undertaker, and may, at any time of its own motion, enquire and determine what price or prices of gas would, if charged by a gas undertaker and having regard to all the other revenue of such undertaker, enable such undertaker to pay the standard rates of dividend, after making provision for—

(a) interest payable on loans;

(b) expenses under the prescribed headings properly chargeable to revenue...?

(3) Is he aware of the extra profits made by this company over the last 12 months?

The MINISTER replied:

(1) Yes.

(2) Yes.

(3) The Commission's function is to fix the basic price for gas but it is not empowered to fix the price charged to consumers. The Commission has meticulously discharged its obligations under the Act. The Company's balance sheets are supplied to the Commission.

RAILWAYS.*As to Replacement of Fremantle Bridge.*

Hon. J. B. SLEEMAN (without notice) asked the Minister for Works:

(1) Is he aware that in Colonel Tyde-man's report on the Fremantle Harbour, 1948, he states, in paragraph 91, vol. 2, that the railway bridge had only six years' useful life left, and must be renewed by 1954?

(2) Is he also aware that in 1925 a great tragedy was just averted on this bridge?

(3) What does the Government propose to do to see that the bridge is removed by 1954, and a new one built in order to protect the lives of the travelling public on the railways?

The MINISTER replied:

The hon. member gave me previous notification of his intention to ask these questions. The answers are—

(1) Yes.

(2) I heard something of it, but I am not sure that we just averted a great tragedy.

(3) The Government, through its engineers, will ensure that the degree of safety necessary in the bridge is maintained. The bridge will be replaced as soon as possible.

MINES REGULATION ACT.*As to Accident at Norseman.*

Mr. MOIR (without notice) asked the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

Is it the intention of the Minister to have an inquiry conducted under Section 32 Subsection (3) of the Mines Regulation Act into the circumstances attending the serious accident to Francis Harry Baker at the Iron King Mine, Norseman, on the 23rd February, 1952?

The MINISTER FOR HOUSING replied: This matter comes within the jurisdiction of the local warden or of the registrar for the district.

LOAN FUNDS.*As to Commitments under Kwinana Agreement.*

Hon. J. T. TONKIN (without notice) asked the Premier:

I did not advise the Premier beforehand of my intention to ask this question because I thought that notice would be unnecessary as no doubt he has read the morning paper. Did he read, under the heading "Reduced Loan Money for States Likely," the following statement:—

All Federal fears about the state of the loan market have been confirmed to date . . . Premiers who hope for larger allocations in the next financial year may receive a more savage disillusionment at the next Loan Council meeting than they did last year when, in fact, they received a bonus on the original estimates.

Has he now any reason to believe that his Government will be in serious difficulty in view of its commitments under the agreement with the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.?

The PREMIER replied:

Of course I read the newspaper statement. It does not come from an official source and is the opinion of some person outside the Government, probably that of a newspaperman. I rather deprecate all the propaganda that is being spread about how short the loan market will be. Such talk, I believe, has a similar effect to the forecasts about depressions, in which some people seem to be so fond of indulging.

As to the future of loan money, this is a question for the Loan Council, which decides what amount of money shall be borrowed. Whether the money can be borrowed remains to be seen. The same statement in the newspaper says that the Premiers will be called together at an early date to discuss the position, and I am very pleased that this is intended, because I was going to contact the Prime Minister with a view to asking whether an early meeting of the Premiers could be called to discuss the future loan position and finance generally. To call us together in July, which is the usual date of meeting, is too late in the circumstances, and early action should be taken to arrange a meeting of Premiers.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: April is mentioned in the newspaper statement as the date.

MOTION—BROKEN HILL PTY. CO. LTD.

As to Use of Koolan Island Iron-Ore.

Debate resumed from the previous day on the following motion by Hon. A. R. G. Hawke:—

That, in view of the statement by the Minister for Industrial Development, as published in "The West Australian" on the 6th instant, wherein he announced the intention of the Government to lease under royalty the iron-ore deposits at Koolan Island, Yampi Sound, to the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited, this House is strongly of the opinion that no iron-ore should be taken from Koolan Island, except for processing within Western Australia, the House already being aware that the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited now controls 38 million tons of iron-ore at Cockatoo Island, Yampi Sound.

MR. BUTCHER (Gascoyne) [3.47]: I am deeply interested in this debate. Last night I listened with great attention to the remarks of the Leader of the Opposition, and I wish to say quite frankly that I agree generally with the substance of his remarks. Members will realise that I have tried to put up a battle for the North, which is an asset that belongs to this State. I claim to be as good an Australian as most men, but I am a better Western Australian than Australian, and it is my hope and desire to see the iron-ore from Koolan Island treated in a Western Australian furnace.

I also listened intently to the reply submitted by the Minister for Industrial Development and to his assurance that every facility would be granted for us to debate the question when the Bill is presented. I thought that would be the right time to discuss it, and I still think so, but there are certain aspects that I wish to bring to the notice of the House. Firstly, it is a condition of the proposed agreement with B.H.P. that the company shall spend

£3,000,000 on the establishment of a steel rolling mill in this State. While that is desirable, it is, in my opinion, not nearly enough. The company is alleged to have given an undertaking that such a mill will be merely the forerunner of a complete iron and steel industry to be developed in this State. This may be so or it may not, and, as a man of some mining experience, I should like to see things tied up in a commonsense manner.

Rather than that the company should be given these leases on the understanding that it will develop an iron and steel industry in the State, it has been suggested to me that it should merely be given an option to lease the island on the understanding that a steel mill will be established in the State, and that the option will not be exercised until the complete iron and steel industry is established in Western Australia. I think ten years would be sufficient time. I put that suggestion forward to the Minister. The option would be an inducement to the company to establish the mills, and an incentive to get on with the bigger project.

MR. MAY (Collie) [3.51]: I view this matter as one of great importance.

The Premier: It is of great importance to Collie, I can tell you.

Mr. MAY: I shall come to that if the Premier will be patient. The Leader of the Opposition should be congratulated for initiating this discussion. It seems that the deposits at Cockatoo Island, that are being worked at present by the B.H.P., could more than supply the requirements of the Eastern States and an iron and steel industry in this State. This fact rather discounts the necessity at the present time at any rate, of tying up the Koolan Island deposits to the B.H.P. I have given the subject a lot of thought since the motion was introduced by the Leader of the Opposition, and it appears to me, and I know it does also to the man about town, that this is an attempt on the part of the B.H.P. to tie up our iron-ore deposits. Whether that is so, or not, remains to be seen, but in view of the fact that the deposits at Cockatoo Island are sufficient to cover both projects of the B.H.P. at present, there would seem to be no necessity at this juncture, to tie up the Koolan Island deposits.

In view of the experiments in connection with the coking of Collie coal that are going on at the present time, I feel it is quite unnecessary to tie up Koolan Island. If, as we anticipate, Collie coal will in the near future be found to be cokable, it will put a different aspect altogether on the position of the iron-ore at Koolan Island. Moreover, there is another point to be considered. We hope very shortly that we will be supplying the Goldfields with 150,000 tons of coal annually. I have said every year since I have been in this Chamber that when

that position comes about, the back loading of iron-ore from Koolyanobbing will totally alter the situation as at present applying to any iron industry in this State. I am strongly in favour for the time being, and until the present circumstances iron themselves out, that there should be no tying up of the Koolan Island deposits. I say this, having regard to what might be anticipated in this State as a result of the coking of Collie coal.

It would be a shame if iron-ore from Koolan Island were taken to the Eastern States for smelting and sent back here in billet form, if we have the possibility of having our own smelting works here as a result of the suggestions I have put forward from time to time in this House. We have a wonderful iron-ore deposit at Koolyanobbing, and it could be economically worked by back loading in the empty trucks from Kalgoorlie after the coal had been taken from them.

Mr. YATES: Who would establish the smelting works here?

Mr. MAY: The hon. member can work that out as well as I can.

Mr. Kelly: Who are the likely ones?

Mr. Griffith: Who do you think?

Mr. MAY: If the proposition is an economical one, and I think it is, there should be no fear in that regard.

The Attorney General: Even the existing one at Wundowie is not economical.

Mr. MAY: If the Minister wants to know something about Wundowie, I will tell him. When this Government took office, one of the first things it tried to do was to close Wundowie, and with that object in view an inquiry was instituted into the position there to find out whether it was an economical proposition. The report of the inquiry was of such a nature that even this Government could not close down Wundowie. In my opinion there should be another Wundowie operating now in this State.

The Premier: Another Government Wundowie?

Mr. MAY: Another Wundowie should be operating in the South-West portion of the State.

The Premier: Not a Government-sponsored one!

Mr. MAY: I would not like to urge the Government into socialisation, even though it did take over the Perth Electric Light and Gas Department. Getting back to the question under discussion, I feel that Koolan Island should not be tied to any private company for the shipping of its deposits. In my opinion there is any amount of iron-ore available at Cockatoo Island for the prospective industry of the B.H.P. in this State. For that reason and in view of what is likely to happen as a result of the present ex-

periments in connection with Collie coal, it is unnecessary to tie up the Koolan Island deposits.

Mr. YATES: I move—

That the debate be adjourned.

Mr. KELLY: I was on my feet before the hon. member.

Mr. SPEAKER: I saw the member for South Perth.

Motion put and a division taken with the following result:—

Ayes	19
Noes	13
Majority for	6

Ayes.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. Nimmo
Mr. Butcher	Mr. Oldfield
Dame F. Cardell-Oliver	Mr. Owen
Mr. Doney	Mr. Thorn
Mr. Grayden	Mr. Totterdell
Mr. Griffith	Mr. Watts
Mr. Hearman	Mr. Wild
Mr. Hill	Mr. Yates
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Bovell
Mr. McLarty	

(Teller.)

Noes.

Mr. Graham	Mr. May
Mr. Guthrie	Mr. Moir
Mr. Hawke	Mr. Rodoreda
Mr. J. Hegney	Mr. Steeman
Mr. W. Hegney	Mr. Tonkin
Mr. Johnson	Mr. Kelly
Mr. Lawrence	

(Teller.)

Pairs.

Ayes.	Noes.
Mr. Mann	Mr. Nulsen
Mr. Cornell	Mr. Marshall
Mr. Perkins	Mr. Styants
Mr. Manning	Mr. Hoar
Mr. Ackland	Mr. Needham
Mr. Brand	Mr. Sewell
Mr. Nalder	Mr. Coverley

Motion thus passed.

Sitting suspended from 4.2 till 5.6 p.m.

BILLS (2)—RETURNED.

1, Oil Refinery Industry (Anglo-Iranian Oil Company Limited).

2, Industrial Development (Kwinana Area).

Without amendment.

ADJOURNMENT—SPECIAL.

THE PREMIER (Hon. D. R. McLarty—Murray) [5.7]; I move—

That the House at its rising adjourn to a date to be fixed by Mr. Speaker.

HON. A. R. G. HAWKE (Northam) [5.8]: I do not propose to speak for very long on the motion, but naturally enough I oppose it because there is still unfinished business on the notice paper—one item—and on that item we had two speeches yesterday when the Government applied the gag, despite the fact that the Premier had given a solemn assurance across the floor of the House that the matter would be debated. He gave that assurance without any qualification, and

without any suggestion that he would allow two members to speak on the motion and then apply the gag.

Today we saw an extraordinary performance in connection with the motion. The Government allowed it to come on again for discussion, obviously only for one purpose, namely, to give the member for Gascoyne an opportunity to make a speech upon it. Immediately he sat down one of the Government supporters rose to move the gag, but a member on this side was on his feet at the same time, and he was given the call, and made a short speech on the motion. Then the Government supporter in question moved the gag. Amazingly enough, the application of the gag at that stage was supported by the member for Gascoyne who had had the opportunity a few minutes before to speak to the motion. In other words, he took full advantage of an opportunity to speak upon the motion himself, and then voted to prevent any other member in the Chamber from having an opportunity to speak upon it.

Mr. Kelly: That is the democratic principle!

Hon. A. R. G. HAWKE: I said practically all I wanted to say about the Government's actions and attitude in this matter when I spoke last evening. All I desire to do now is to refer to a claim made by a Government spokesman in the House last night to the effect that this is not the time for members of the Legislative Assembly to debate and decide a question as to whether the Koolan Island iron-ore leases should be handed over to B.H.P. There can be no more suitable time. This is an extraordinarily urgent matter, especially as the Government has already committed itself to the company to hand over the Koolan Island iron-ore leases.

Government speakers in connection with the motion have tried to assure members of the House that they will have full opportunity to debate the agreement when it comes here in legal form in August, September or October of this year. That assurance is not worth a snap of the fingers. We know that when the agreement comes to this House in Bill form next session it will be a vital Government proposal. It will be a Bill upon which the Government will stake its fate as a Government; upon which the Government will stand or fall, do or die; and so there is no doubt that when a Bill is brought into Parliament House on that basis the Government supporters are bound beyond any shadow of a doubt, to stand by the Government rather than to cast a vote and wreck the Government, which wrecking, of course, would bring about quickly a general State election for Legislative Assembly seats.

So when the Bill comes before the House next session will not be the time; it will be too late, especially for members on the Government side who feel in their own hearts that the intention of the Government to hand over Koolan Island iron-ore to B.H.P. is wrong and is something which should not be done. Now is the right time! The fact that Government supporters have assisted in gagging further debate upon this motion, the fact that they have assisted the Government to prevent a vote being taken and a decision being given makes it absolutely certain, beyond any possibility of change in the future, that if the Government brings to Parliament next session a Bill to hand Koolan Island iron-ore leases to B.H.P., it will be carried by a majority of members of this House, because a majority of members here are supporters of the Government. So I condemn wholeheartedly the attitude and action of the Government, the members of which have shown that they are absolutely afraid to allow even their own supporters to vote at this time upon my motion.

THE PREMIER (Hon. D. R. McLarty—Murray—in reply) [5.15]: Of course, the Leader of the Opposition has reiterated what he said last evening and complained about unfair treatment. I do not think that even he expected such publicity as appeared on the front page of this morning's copy of "The West Australian." So from that angle I think he did extremely well. I took some objection to the heading in the paper this morning where it said that Mr. Hawke fears a scandal. That would make the people of this State wonder what was happening, particularly those who did not read all of his speech. There is no scandal associated with this agreement because, as I have said, it is not yet finalised. It will become public property and must be ratified by this Parliament.

Mr. W. Hegney: B.H.P. property.

THE PREMIER: It must be ratified by this Parliament so there is nothing underhand about it; it will be an open book for everybody to see and express an opinion.

Mr. Kelly: An open book with a sealed cover.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: I do not mind the Premier censuring "The West Australian" newspaper.

THE PREMIER: The hon. member has expressed fears that B.H.P. will not establish a fully integrated iron and steel industry in this State. The Government is using every possible effort to see that that is done, and it will be the company's constant endeavour to work and plan towards the establishment of an integrated iron and steel industry in Western Australia. The company undertakes to carry out research, in collaboration with the Government, into the use of Western Australian coal in primary furnaces for the conversion of iron-ore into pig-iron.

I think members know that for many years successive Governments have tried to do something to interest companies in the establishment of a steel industry in this State. All the Governments' efforts have failed; they have made no progress at all. I do not think anybody in Western Australia expected that a steel industry would be established here but now we are well on the way, and this State is to have an industry which in the end will undoubtedly prove of tremendous value to it. But with those other companies, what has been the attitude? Always the same attitude to the Government—pay! Put in huge sums of money and then we will come and take a risk! No certainty that they would come then, but always to the Government—pay! pay! pay!

As Treasurer of this country I am pretty sick of paying out to a number of these ventures, and if we get a company, or any concern, that will come to this State and say, "We will do the paying. We will establish a great industry in this State without cost to the Government," is it any wonder that the Government receives it with enthusiasm and gives it every encouragement? What will this industry cost the State? As I said, it will not cost us anything, but we do know that this company will spend millions of pounds.

Mr. Kelly: Do you not think we owe something to posterity?

The PREMIER: We are looking after posterity. I can assure the hon. member. That has been taken into consideration.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: It is a pity the Premier did not speak to the motion.

The PREMIER: I will reply to the Leader of the Opposition now. I did not intend to speak to this motion, but being the mover of it I suppose that I have a right to reply.

Hon. J. T. Tonkin: I am not denying that, but with the information at your disposal it is a pity you did not speak to the motion moved by the Leader of the Opposition.

The Minister for Education: There were two and a half hours or more of speeches on it last night.

Mr. Yates: They are never satisfied.

Mr. Kelly: What is there to be satisfied about?

The PREMIER: Reverting to the financial aspect, the Government's only obligation involving any material expenditure will be the dredging adjacent to the wharves. The wharves are to be constructed by the company and this work is estimated to cost between £200,000 and £250,000.

Mr. May: This is the agreement that did not exist!

The PREMIER: The company will pay rates to the Harbour Trust, for cargo handled over the wharves, which will cover the annual charges including interest and

sinking fund on the expenditure I have mentioned. The Government, therefore, does not have to spend any money, other than that to which I have referred, to have this large industry established and to give future employment in this State. Surely that alone should be some comfort to members of this House. Now the hon. member has put his own price on the ore this company is going to deal with and he estimates that it is worth £100,000,000, and states that that is the price which the Government is going to pay. How he arrived at his estimate I do not know. My information is that there are 20,000,000 tons on Cockatoo Island and 30,000,000 on Koolan Island, above water.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: The Premier should have a look at the official publication of the Mines Department.

The PREMIER: What is below water, I do not know; what it would cost to get, I do not know either. I do know that at Koolyanobbing we still have 70,000,000 tons of high-grade ore comparable to that at Cockatoo Island.

Mr. Kelly: You have not the Indian Ocean alongside.

The PREMIER: The hon. member said it would be the year 2,000 before B.H.P. would use up the leases which it has, but I find that Broken Hill at present is using 3,500,000 tons and it is expected that it will be up to 5,500,000 to 6,000,000 tons shortly.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: They have large iron-ore deposits in the Eastern States.

The PREMIER: They have at Iron Knob in South Australia, but they are making a big hole in them. Dealing with iron-ore, we have not given it all away—Koolyanobbing is reserved to the State.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: How much do you think it would cost to bring Koolyanobbing iron-ore to Perth or Bunbury?

The PREMIER: This will establish within the State a fully-integrated iron and steel industry. We have had proposal after proposal in regard to the establishment of a steel industry in Western Australia. The hon. gentleman knows this perfectly well and he agreed that Brasserts and the Yampi Sound Mining Company should mine the ore and pay us only 6d. a ton royalty; there was to have been no embargo upon them at all; they could have shipped it all out of Australia.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: That is not correct.

The PREMIER: It is. They could have shipped it all out of this State.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: If the Premier consults the Minister for Industrial Development he will find that that applied to only portion of Koolan Island.

The PREMIER: At the present time we have B.H.P. operating; there is nothing to stop them operating and there is nothing

to prevent the Yampi people or the Koolan Island people from operating as well, and all they would have paid would have been 6d. a ton. I feel that that iron-ore should be used in Australia; used by the company that produces the cheapest steel in the world and, I am informed, also the best steel in the world.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: That would also allow B.H.P. to send iron-ore outside Australia; so it is not worth a thing.

The PREMIER: There was talk about monopolies. There are two kinds of monopolies; one kind that can be harmful and the other which can do good. I do not think anyone in this House will disagree that B.H.P.'s work in Australia has not only been good for the B.H.P. people themselves, but it has been good for the Australian nation.

Members: Hear, hear!

The PREMIER: I wish members here could have an opportunity of visiting Cockatoo Island or Whyalla in South Australia to see the conditions under which the employees of B.H.P. work.

Mr. May: It was forced from them.

The PREMIER: Never! There is a desire on the part of B.H.P. to give its employees the best conditions possible, and I would be happy if we could give our people the same conditions. So from every angle this company should be en-

couraged into this State and, if monopolies become harmful, Parliament can deal with them; I have no doubt in that regard at all. What would be the use of carrying this motion? What earthly good could it do? I believe it might do a lot of harm. We have heard the Leader of the Opposition. I told him last night that we would note what he has said. I am not going to give him any promise that his suggestions will be embodied in the agreement.

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: It would not be accepted.

The PREMIER: What would not?

Hon. A. R. G. Hawke: Any promise or assurance.

The PREMIER: Why does not the hon. member tone down a bit? As I say, I am not going to give him that assurance. There is no scandal about this agreement, political or public. It will be an open book and members of the House will be able to have their full say; they will be able to give it every consideration and I am satisfied that when it comes to Parliament it will be accepted, and the people of Western Australia will hail the agreement with great satisfaction.

Members: Hear, hear!

Question put and passed.

House adjourned at 5.30 p.m.