

I think this matter should receive the consideration of the Government in the near future. I understand that a blueprint has been drawn up by the Public Works Department for such a scheme to be implemented, and I trust, in view of the situation that confronts the Government today, it will see fit to divert its attention in that direction with a view to making the scheme a reality.

The other matter to which I wish to refer relates to the supply of milk to the metropolitan area from the Albany, Denmark, and Mt. Barker areas. As members know, I have asked questions on this point, and it is a matter of concern that the 67 producers in the south coast region to which I have just referred are still denied the right to supply milk to the metropolitan area. While we have a surplus in the treatment plant at Albany of over 55,000 gallons of milk, it is ironical to find that new areas in the south-west part of the State are being brought in to supply the metropolitan area with milk. I refer particularly to Capel where 42 more producers have been included and on the 1st February next year I would venture to suggest that approximately 40 more producers in the Busselton area will be included.

These suppliers, along with other licensed producers from those areas, will be able to supply milk to the metropolitan area. We in the Albany district have from time to time made representations to the Milk Board for the opportunity to supply milk to the metropolitan area, in company with the producers in the south-west areas of the State, but our requests have been refused, and there is a great deal of resentment about it in the Albany district.

I think it is high time we looked at our Milk Act to see what can be done to overcome the problem that apparently exists so far as the Milk Board is concerned. I would say that the provisions of the Victorian and New South Wales Acts, under which the milk of all producers in those States comes under the one authority, are worthy of being incorporated in our legislation. In order that the whole industry may be treated fairly and equitably, I think all milk produced throughout the State should come under the control of the board. It is a matter that I would earnestly recommend to the Minister's attention.

The Hon. N. McNeill: If the board is the authority that is stopping this milk from coming to Perth, what difference would it make to vest all the milk in the State in the board?

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: Do you think there is too much monopoly control under the Milk Act?

The Hon. J. M. THOMSON: I think the present situation is entirely unsatisfactory and if we had a provision in our Milk Act to the effect that all milk produced in the

State should come under the control of the board, or be vested in the board, the situation that applies at Albany today would not exist. The producers at Albany and the other areas I mentioned, would be on an equal footing with producers throughout the rest of the State.

I know some people believe that vesting milk in one central authority is not desirable, or is something to be resisted. However, because there is an element of resistance, it does not mean that we should not proceed with such a scheme. In the interests of the industry generally I think such steps should be taken.

I can see that my time is getting short and I understand it is the desire, there being no more speakers on this debate, for the Minister to reply to members' comments this evening.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: May I tell you something? I now have insufficient time to do that so you can carry on for as long as you like.

The Hon. J. M. THOMSON: I am sorry.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: I do not want to cut you short.

The Hon. J. M. THOMSON: I appreciate the Minister's courtesy and his sentiments. However, I have made my contribution to the debate and, in company with other members, I hope the motion will be agreed to. I support it.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines).

*House adjourned at 5.07 p.m.*

## Legislative Assembly

Thursday, the 27th August, 1970

The SPEAKER (Mr. Guthrie) took the Chair at 2.15 p.m., and read prayers.

### QUESTIONS (37): ON NOTICE

1 and 2. *These questions were postponed.*

3.

#### EDUCATION

##### *Preschool Training*

Mr. RUSHTON, to the Treasurer:

- (1) Is he in a position to supply the Commonwealth and State Government contributions to preschool training in Western Australia for the years 1958-59, 1964-65, and 1969-70?
- (2) Has there been a recent review of the formula for Government financial assistance to the Kindergarten Association of Western Australia (Inc.)?

- (3) If "Yes" will he give an explanation of the new formula?  
 (4) If "No" when will the review be finalised?

Sir DAVID BRAND replied:

	Commonwealth	State
	\$	\$
(1) 1958-59	—	65,100
1964-65	—	136,600
1969-70	161,000	319,000
(2) A review is currently in progress.		
(3) Answered by (2).		
(4) Within two months.		

#### 4. HOUSING Kalgoorlie

Mr. T. D. EVANS, to the Minister for Housing:

How many applications for rental homes in Kalgoorlie are outstanding?

Mr. O'NEIL replied:

Pensioner couples	....	1
Married couples without children	....	5
Families	....	60
		—
		66
		—

#### 5. TRAFFIC LIGHTS

*Harborne Street-Grantham Street Intersection*

Mr. BERTRAM, to the Minister for Works:

On what date is it expected that traffic lights will be installed at the intersection of Harborne and Grantham Streets, Wembley?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

Installation of traffic signal equipment has commenced. Signals are expected to be commissioned in three to four weeks' time.

#### 6. TRAFFIC LIGHTS

*Harborne Street-Scarborough Beach Road Junction*

Mr. BERTRAM, to the Minister for Works:

In the interests of safety and convenience will he expedite the installation of traffic lights at the junction of Harborne Street and Scarborough Beach Road, Osborne Park, in order to remove the bad bottleneck in traffic—

- (a) in Harborne Street which is unable to enter Scarborough Beach Road; and  
 (b) in Scarborough Beach Road which is unable to enter Harborne Street,

which has worsened noticeably since Scarborough Beach Road became a priority road?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

Traffic signal control has been programmed for 1970-71.

Actual installation and commissioning of signals will depend on prior completion by the local authority of the channelisation and roadwork at the redesigned Scarborough Beach Road-Harborne Street-Frobisher Street intersection.

#### 7. EDUCATION

*North Perth Primary School*

Mr. BERTRAM, to the Minister for Education:

- (1) Referring to his answer to question 8 on the 25th August, 1970, when was the decision made to acquire the five houses referred therein?  
 (2) When was the first of the said five houses purchased?  
 (3) When is it expected that the last of the said five houses will become available to the department?

Mr. LEWIS replied:

- (1) September, 1968.  
 (2) May, 1970.  
 (3) Action to acquire is not being pressed unless the owners wish to sell.

#### 8. PERSONS PREJUDICED BY GOVERNMENT ACTION

*Ex Gratia Compensation*

Mr. BERTRAM, to the Treasurer:

- (1) On how many occasions has a Parliament or Government of this State made an *ex gratia* compensation payment to persons who have suffered injury and/or loss by reason of wrongful dismissal or any other wrong, error or omission done or made by a Government?  
 (2) Will he identify each case?

Sir DAVID BRAND replied:

- (1) and (2) A record of payments of this nature is not readily available. However payments in the last five years were:—

Recipient	Nature of Payment	Amount \$
1965-66—		
College of Civil Aviation Ltd.	Unauthorised use of published lessons	700.00
Various persons	Loss and damage to clothing	24.15
1966-67—		
A. Edney	Traffic accident	80.00
R. J. McKenzie	Recoup of travelling expenses	80.00
J. van Ooran	Traffic accident	24.00
1968-69—		
Various persons	Loss and damage to clothing	54.95
1969-70—		
Various persons	Loss and damage to clothing	57.50

## 9. POINT PERON-GARDEN ISLAND CAUSEWAY

### *Progress Report*

Mr. RUSHTON, to the Minister for Works:

- (1) Referring to his letter in *The West Australian* reported on the 16th July will he advise—
  - (a) the name and findings of the international consultants widely experienced in port development;
  - (b) the name and findings of the second overseas firm of specialist consultants investigating the effect of the causeway on movement of water;
  - (c) if final alignment of the causeway has been determined, and, if "Yes" what are the details;
  - (d) if the openings through the causeway have been determined and agreement reached between the Commonwealth and State, and if so, what are the details;
  - (e) if the company qualified to establish environmental standards for the water seabed and marine life within Cockburn Sound has been engaged and, if "Yes" which is the company?
- (2) Will he give the House a progress report on the causeway project?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) (a) Rendel and Partners of London and Perth. This is a lengthy report, a copy of which will be made available to the honourable member for perusal.
- (b) Sir Bruce White, Wolfe, Barry and Partners of London, England. Investigations are currently in progress.
- (c) and (d) Yes, in principle. It is understood the details will be presented by the Commonwealth Department of Works to a Commonwealth Parliamentary Standing Committee on public works at a public hearing on a date to be fixed.
- (e) Yes. Sheen Laboratories Pty. Ltd.
- (2) Detailed engineering investigation and designs are being proceeded with by the Commonwealth Department of Works and it is understood the details will be presented to a Commonwealth Parliamentary Standing Committee on public works at a public hearing on a date to be fixed.

11.

## STAMP DUTY

### *Validity of any Commonwealth Legislation*

Mr. TONKIN, to the Treasurer:

- (1) Is receipt duty on the sale of goods produced in Australia still being received in a substantial amount?
- (2) As such money is not legally due to the Crown and there is little or no likelihood of Commonwealth legislation being passed which would make such payments exigible, should he not advise the people to stop paying the tax?
- (3) Is he aware that Mr. R. Anderson, Director-General of Australian Manufactures Association has said that even if Commonwealth legislation on receipts tax were passed probably it would be subject to challenge in the High Court under sections 51 and 99 of the Australian Constitution?
- (4) Has any of the legal advice which he has received had reference to the effect of sections 51 and 99 of the Australian Constitution on the Bill which has been introduced and defeated in the Commonwealth Parliament?
- (5) If "Yes" does it agree with the view expressed by Mr. Anderson of the Australian Manufactures Association that such legislation if passed would probably be suspect to challenge in the High Court?

Sir DAVID BRAND replied:

- (1) Such duty is still being received but the precise amount is not known.
- (2) There would be no point in advising people to stop paying duty until the issue of Commonwealth legislation is resolved.
- (3) According to a newspaper report Mr. Anderson simply said, "The Associated Chambers of Manufactures of Australia's legal advisers had not yet had an opportunity to study the legislation fully, but when they did they would consider whether the Commonwealth Government had conformed with the terms of sections 51 (11), 55, 92, and 99 of the Constitution."
- (4) No.
- (5) Answered by (4).

12.

## UNITED FARMERS AND GRAZIERS ASSOCIATION

### *Request for Moratorium*

Mr. JONES, to the Premier:

- (1) Has he received a letter from the United Farmers and Graziers Association requesting a declaration

10. *This question was postponed for one week.*

for a moratorium for the protection of holders of rural assets in Western Australia?

(2) If "Yes"—

- (a) when will the request be given consideration;
- (b) when will the organisation receive a reply to its letter?

Sir DAVID BRAND replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) (a) and (b) A reply will be forwarded shortly.

13. COLLIE POWER HOUSE

*Future Planning*

Mr. JONES, to the Minister for Electricity:

Will he advise the future planning for the Collie power house?

Mr. BOVELL (for Mr. Nalder) replied:

The small Collie power station will become a standby station. Staff will be gradually transferred to the Muja station.

14. EDUCATION

*Bus Transport: Collie-Bunbury*

Mr. JONES, to the Minister for Education:

- (1) Is he aware that four apprentices were involved in a car accident whilst travelling from Collie to Bunbury on Friday, the 26th June, to attend the Bunbury Technical School?
- (2) In view of the representations already made to him, the Minister for Labour, and the Apprenticeship Advisory Council from the parents of the apprentices and other Collie organisations, will he introduce an organised bus service?

Mr. LEWIS replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) It is not proposed to provide an Education Department school bus service. A driving allowance is payable for students travelling more than twelve miles.

15. RAILWAYS

*Section Line Results*

Mr. JONES, to the Minister for Railways:

Referring to my question of the 25th August regarding W.A.G.R. section line results, will he make the information available to me immediately it becomes available?

Mr. COURT (for Mr. O'Connor) replied:

I do not know the normal procedure with this information but I will discuss it with my colleague when he resumes.

16. *This question was postponed*

17. EDUCATION

*Survey: North-West*

Mr. NORTON, to the Minister for Education:

When is the education survey of the north-west to be carried out, and what aspects will it cover?

Mr. LEWIS replied:

The survey, which will be carried out in the near future, is to determine the best means of providing an adequate standard of secondary education for children in the north-west.

18. HOUSING

*Accommodation of Tenants According to Needs*

Mr. JAMIESON, to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) What action is the State Housing Commission taking to induce people occupying housing in size excess to their needs to transfer to smaller accommodation?
- (2) Should aged couples occupying such accommodation under rebate rentals opt to remain in these premises, will they be permitted to do so?

Mr. O'NEIL replied:

- (1) Tenants in accommodation in excess of their needs are encouraged to accept smaller accommodation.
- (2) Yes.

19. RURAL AND INDUSTRIES BANK

*Wheat and Sheep Farmers: Takeover of Debts*

Mr. H. D. EVANS, to the Minister for Lands:

- (1) In the last 12 months, how many requests have been received by the Rural and Industries Bank from wheat and sheep farmers to take over existing debts on properties owed to other institutions or individuals?
- (2) How many such proposals have been agreed to, and how many rejected?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

- (1) and (2) Information of this nature, which is part of the basis of bank/customer relationship, is a private matter and is confidential to the bank.

It has always been customary not to reveal the private banking system in Parliament because to do so is not conducive to good relationships. Banking, like a medical history, is a most confidential matter between the bank and its client.

Mr. Tonkin: That is the idea—keep the people in the dark.

Mr. Court: The bank would lose all its customers.

The SPEAKER: Order!

## 20. DAM

### *Preston Valley Irrigation Scheme*

Mr. KITNEY, to the Minister for Works:

- (1) Is he able to advise where the next dam in the Preston Valley irrigation scheme is to be sited?
- (2) Has the Commonwealth Government given any indication whether funds will be allocated to proceed with the scheme during the current financial year?
- (3) If "No" when is this information likely to be available?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) No. The next dam will probably be built on Thompson Brook but there are a number of alternative sites under consideration for which foundation investigations have not yet been finalised.
- (2) No.
- (3) The Commonwealth has given no indication when a decision will be made.

## 21. GRAIN ALCOHOL

### *Practicability Studies*

Mr. STEWART, to the Minister for Industrial Development:

- (1) What studies has his department made of the practicability of large scale alcohol production from wheat?
- (2) What were the findings with particular reference to use as an additive to petrol?
- (3) Are these studies continuing?
- (4) If not, why have they been terminated?
- (5) What other methods of producing alcohol are available and what are their respective advantages and disadvantages when measured against wheat?
- (6) Has any estimate been made of the price at which wheat would need to be supplied by farmers if no Government guarantees or subsidies were involved?

Mr. COURT replied:

- (1) The Department of Industrial Development has made some studies subsequent to the receipt of the paper by Mr. A. W. Humphries entitled "A Case for the Statutory Admixture of Grain Alcohol with Motor Spirit." There is no doubt that production of alcohol from wheat is technically feasible. Uncertainty does arise in the cost of alcohol production, and the contribution the sale of by-products could make to the economics of the scheme. The department's studies have revolved not so much on technical and cost factors, as the basic pre-requisites that would be necessary to establish the industry. These are:
  - (a) a guaranteed supply of wheat at a fixed price during a long term (20 year) period while the plant is amortised, regardless of market conditions during this period;
  - (b) sale of by-products at reasonable prices on a long term basis;
  - (c) agreement on an Australia-wide basis for statutory admixture of alcohol to petrol;
  - (d) provision for Government subsidy or increase in the cost of petrol to which grain alcohol has been added if found necessary;
  - (e) an investor willing to put up the very large amounts of capital required to establish an industry which could be vulnerable to market or political considerations under (a) to (d). This capital has been estimated at \$60 million to \$100 million but is subject to a lot of study before it could be adopted as a firm figure.
- (2) It was concluded that a major technical and economic study would be required to assess the beneficial effects of the scheme versus the likely costs. This would involve:
  - (a) technical, cost and pollution factors associated with alcohol production from wheat;
  - (b) the long term effect of the scheme in a period of fluctuating or uncertain demand for wheat in overseas markets;
  - (c) the benefits and penalties that could accrue to the farming community over this period;
  - (d) a cost/benefit analysis of the scheme versus other avenues of investment of the capital required for the scheme.

Such a study was beyond the resources of the department and it was considered that the study could best be done under Commonwealth Government auspices. The Minister for Agriculture and myself had discussions with the Farmers Union of W.A. (Inc.). As a result of these discussions the Minister for Agriculture wrote to the Minister for Primary Industry to see whether the Commonwealth Government would make the necessary study which could be considered later at a meeting of the Agricultural Council.

(3) Not on a major basis—for reasons stated above—but we keep closely in touch with any new information or developments we can locate.

(4) Answered by (3).

(5) Ethyl alcohol can be made from a variety of raw materials. Low value by-products such as molasses from the sugar industry and sulphite waste liquor from paper pulp production have been used as a source of alcohol. Cereals, (corn, oats, rye, rice, barley, grain sorghum and wheat) and potatoes have all been used for alcohol production.

The choice between these raw materials would depend mainly on their price and availability and the value of by-products produced. A further source of alcohol is its preparation synthetically via a petrochemical route. In the U.S.A. in 1935, 90 per cent. of industrial alcohol came from fermentation plants. By 1963 90 per cent. was synthetic alcohol produced by a petrochemical route.

(6) Prices that could be paid for wheat to produce alcohol for addition to petrol without a subsidy or addition to petrol costs have been calculated using Mr. Humphries' estimates as a basis. As Mr. Humphries has emphasised, however, the figures quoted in his study are not firm. Even using these figures, Commonwealth Government subsidies are indirectly involved via bounties on fertilisers used in wheat production. Apart from these factors, the cost of alcohol, and hence the price at which wheat could be purchased for alcohol production, is highly dependent on markets, prices, and constancy of prices for the by-products produced. No answer can be given with confidence at this stage in view of these uncertainties.

With your permission, Sir, I will table an answer given to a question regarding this matter in an-

other place today, because members interested in grain alcohol will find the two worth reading.

*The paper was tabled.*

## 22. APPRENTICES

### *Indenture of Partly Trained Migrants*

Mr. FLETCHER, to the Minister for Labour:

(1) Is he aware—

(a) that many migrants have served part of an apprenticeship in their country of origin prior to arrival in Australia;

(b) that some are accepted if the period is sufficient to have acquired the necessary competence to pass a trade test in this State;

(c) that potential tradesmen are lost if the degree of competence is not reached as in (b)?

(2) Is there any scheme whereby a migrant who may, for example, have served three years of any apprenticeship in his country of origin be indentured in this State until qualified?

(3) If not, will the reaction of the craft unions and employers be sought to achieve such a purpose?

Mr. O'NEIL replied:

(1) (a) Yes.

(b) Persons who have terminated apprenticeships prior to migrating to Western Australia and wish to continue their apprenticeship in this State are treated similarly to Australian residents who transfer from another State of the Commonwealth to Western Australia. On application for registration of an apprentice, with a claim for credit on account of time served in the home country or other Australian State, arrangements will be made for the Western Australian trade examiners of the Western Australian Industrial Commission to examine the applicant for the purpose of assessing the extent of the credit which is allowable.

(c) They are lost only if an employer is not available to undertake the training or employment.

(2) Answered by (b) in question (1).

(3) Answered by (2).

23. *This question was postponed.*

## 24. NATIONAL PARKS

*Acreage: Percentage of State*

Mr. COOK, to the Minister for Lands:

- (1) Defining a national park as "A spacious area essentially natural or primitive in character and containing scenery or natural wonders so outstanding that their preservation intact and in perpetuity is essential for the benefit, enjoyment and inspiration of the people", (National Parks and Nature Reserves in W.A., page 30), would he accept that 5 per cent. is the internationally accepted minimum area which should be reserved as national parks?
- (2) If not, would he advise what he considers a reasonable percentage would be?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

- (1) and (2) National parks cannot be considered in isolation. Flora and fauna, public open space, recreation reserves, etc., serve similar purposes. The objective of the Government is to provide adequate reserves for public needs which cannot be assessed on an arbitrary area percentage basis.

## 25. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

*Land Acquisition: Naval Base*

Mr. TAYLOR, to the Minister for Industrial Development:

Further to his answer to question 16 of the 25th August that lot 481 Dooley Street and lots 494 and 495 Lionel Street, Naval Base, were not purchased by the Department of Industrial Development—

- (a) did the department negotiate the purchase of any of these blocks on behalf of a private company;
- (b) is he aware that three lots in this area were shown in the Kwinana Shire rate book as being transferred in June this year by their owner to the department and that lots 494 and 495 are still shown in the shire rate book as owned by the department;
- (c) if "Yes" will he enlarge upon his reply to the above question?

Mr. COURT replied:

- (a) A land agent representing the owners of lots 481, 494, and 495 approached the department and, at the request of a private company, purchase on its behalf was negotiated.

Transfer to the company was direct from the previous owners with cash settlement arranged by the company's own solicitors.

- (b) and (c) No, and if they are shown in the Kwinana shire rate book the entries are in error. The correct method of determining ownership is to search the relevant certificates of title and not shire rate books.

## 26. LOWERING OF VOTING AGE

*Legislation*

Mr. BURKE, to the Premier:

- (1) Will he assure the House that legislation foreshadowed in the Governor's speech to give 18-year-olds a vote will be introduced in time to allow them to vote at the forthcoming State elections?
- (2) If not, why not?

Sir DAVID BRAND replied:

- (1) Yes; this is the intention.
- (2) Answered by (1).

## 27.

## HOUSING

*Stirling Towers*

Mr. BURKE, to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) What price did the commission pay for the block of flats known as Stirling Towers in South Street, Perth?
- (2) How many flats were acquired, and what is the number of bedrooms in each?
- (3) What type of construction is being used?
- (4) Is the contractor subject to State Housing Commission inspection during the construction stages?

Mr. O'NEIL replied:

I think the flats to which the honourable member refers are in Smith Street, and that there has been a misprint in the question.

- (1) \$935,000 to be paid by instalments during construction.
- (2) Twenty-four three-bedroom and fifty-five two-bedroom.
- (3) Reinforced concrete.
- (4) The contract is under the supervision of private architects and consulting engineers, and will also be inspected at intervals by the State Housing Commission during construction.

28. **INDUSTRIAL STRIKES  
AND STOPPAGES***Man Days Lost*

Mr. WILLIAMS, to the Minister for Labour:

- (1) What were the total number of man days lost through industrial strikes and stoppages in this State between the 1st July, 1969 and the 30th June, 1970?
- (2) What were the main reasons for the strikes and stoppages?

Mr. O'NEIL replied:

- (1) The total number of man days lost through strikes and stoppages in this State involving stoppages of one day or more of workers employed under State jurisdiction, was 79,044.
- (2) Wages and over-award payments, working conditions, and dismissal of workers.

29. **INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION  
ACT***Secret Ballots*

Mr. WILLIAMS, to the Minister for Labour:

- (1) Since the 1st February, 1964, have the provisions contained in section 36P. of the Industrial Arbitration Act been implemented, i.e., court-ordered secret ballot?
- (2) If so, when and for what reason was the ballot ordered?
- (3) If not, why not?

Mr. O'NEIL replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) Answered by (1).
- (3) Not known. This is a matter entirely within the discretion of the court.

30. **WOOL***Rail Freights*

Mr. GAYFER, to the Minister for Railways:

As the figures given under the new method of charging freight on wool seem to indicate a 5 per cent. to 7½ per cent. increase, will he have the whole matter of freights on wool investigated with a view to returning to the pre-prosperity loading rate which applied in the late 1940's and early 1950's?

Mr. COURT (for Mr. O'Connor) replied:

The bale rates under the new proposal were designed to maintain parity with the revenue obtained under the existing charges. If the

existing wool pattern is maintained it is expected that the variation will be within 1 per cent. and not 5 per cent. to 7½ per cent. Prior to the bale rate proposals wool freights were examined specially and it was found that our charges are favourable in comparison with other States as the following table shows—

Corrigin to Fremantle—Distance 221 miles.

	Bale Rate. \$	75 Bales. \$
221 miles—		
New South Wales	3.68	276
Victoria	2.80	210
South Australia	2.40	180
Western Australia	2.15	161.25

When a general review of the freight rates was conducted in 1965 the industry was considered specially and virtually no increase in the wool rates was made. Should changed circumstances in the future lead to a review of freights the state of the industry will be considered.

I should add that when the previous answer was given to the honourable member, I think two distances were quoted: one of 185 miles as well as this one of 221. If he wants the rates for the other mileage I can arrange to obtain them for him.

31. **HOSPITAL***Wooroloo*

Mr. DAVIES, to the Minister representing the Minister for Health:

- (1) Has transfer of the Wooroloo Hospital to the Prisons Department been completed; if so, when?
- (2) What facilities have been retained for public use?
- (3) Where were the patients who had to be moved accommodated?
- (4) What staff were retained at Wooroloo?
- (5) Were alternative positions offered to redundant staff; if so, what are particulars of offers and acceptance?
- (6) To what extent have available hospital facilities been used?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) Yes; on the 5th March, 1970.
- (2) A nine bed hospital is available with outpatient facilities.
- (3) Principally to the Homes of Peace, and Sunset Hospital. Some patients were found accommodation at various country centres requested.



- (4) Eleven staff continued in employment at the Wooroloo District Hospital and thirty staff transferred to the Prisons Department.
- (5) Generally, all staff, except those who chose to resign and married domestic staff living locally, had opportunity to be placed in other employment, including employment with the Prisons, Education and Medical Departments. Rights and privileges of employees have been adequately safeguarded.
- (6) The bed average of the Wooroloo Hospital is approximately five.

### 32. LOCAL AUTHORITIES

#### *Deferred Rates: Government Assistance*

Mr. COOK, to the Minister for Agriculture:

- (1) What assistance will the Government provide to shire councils who have to defer rate collections from farmers, but still have to maintain essential services?
- (2) If approaches have been made—
  - (a) what assistance has the Government given to the shires;
  - (b) which shires have approached the Government; and
  - (c) how much and/or in what form was the assistance?

Mr. BOVELL (for Mr. Nalder) replied:

- (1) As the Commonwealth Government has refused to assist with drought relief measures the full cost of these measures has to be borne by the State Government, which leaves it with little capacity to assist shire councils.
- (2) (a) Nil.
- (b) and (c) The Country Shire Councils' Association has suggested that the Government make short term loans to councils to meet deficiencies in rates but recognises that there may be problems in such a scheme. A number of shire councils have also made similar representations.

### 33. DELAWARE POTATOES

#### *Exports, Costs, and Returns*

Mr. COOK, to the Minister for Agriculture:

Would he supply the tonnages, gross returns and expenses for grade one delaware potatoes exported to Darwin, Eastern States and overseas from each of the three pools in 1967-68 and in 1968-69?

Mr. BOVELL (for Mr. Nalder) replied: Potatoes exported to Eastern States are forwarded on consignment, while overseas exports are sold (F.O.B.) Fremantle.

Prices of potatoes sold to Darwin fluctuate with Eastern States markets. Proceeds from sales to merchants who export to Darwin are included in the general pool receipts and separate figures are not available. Any expenses incurred in F.O.B. and Darwin sales are absorbed into general pool expenses.

	1967-68 Tonnage	Gross Returns	Expenses
No. 1 Pool—			
Eastern States	2,375	220,119	88,630
Export	381	17,145	...
Overseas Export	...	(F.O.B.)	...
Darwin	142	Not available	...
No. 2 Pool—			
Eastern States	2,434	178,811	100,870
Overseas	1,528	68,760	...
Darwin	145	(F.O.B.)	...
No. 3 Pool—			
Eastern States	5,269	461,348	183,768
Overseas	2,863	128,835	...
Darwin	414	(F.O.B.)	...
	1968-69 Tonnage	Gross Returns	Expenses
No. 1 Pool—			
Eastern States	4,613	427,849	104,472
Overseas	337	15,165	...
Darwin	178	(F.O.R.)	...
No. 2 Pool—			
Eastern States	3,760	291,078	162,056
Overseas	1,040	74,205	...
Darwin	160	(F.O.B.)	...
No. 3 Pool—			
Eastern States	928	50,470	24,190
Overseas	6,676	300,420	...
Darwin	203	(F.O.B.)	...

34. *This question was postponed.*

35.

### MINING

#### *Over-pegging*

Mr. KITNEY, to the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

- (1) Is it correct that where there is over-pegging of mining claims on a temporary reserve and no objection is lodged the lease is granted to the first person or company to register the claim?
- (2) Does this also apply in the case of a mining tenement or claim on pastoral lands?
- (3) In the event of a person or company being deliberately over-pegged and obliged to lodge an objection, who is responsible for legal and other costs involved?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

- (1) Assuming that the honourable member is referring to pegging of a mineral claim on an existing temporary reserve, it is usual to

grant to the first one who correctly pegs the ground, provided he establishes that he was already *bona fide* prospecting on the particular ground when the temporary reserve was created.

- (2) Yes, it is usual to grant to the first one who correctly pegs the ground, but the Minister for Mines still has discretion in the matter.
- (3) No provision is made in the Mining Act or the Regulations thereunder for the Warden to award costs to either party in such a case.

36.

### MINING

#### *Pegging Ban: Approval of Claims*

Mr. MOIR, to the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

- (1) What was the number of mineral claims recommended for ministerial approval by the wardens and awaiting approval by the Minister at the time the ministerial pegging ban was instituted?
- (2) What number of mineral claims in this category had been approved by the Minister when the pegging ban was lifted?
- (3) What number of mineral claims recommended for ministerial approval by wardens are awaiting approval at the present time?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

- (1) This figure is not readily available and in order to obtain this information it would be necessary to conduct a search of all office registers throughout the State.
- (2) During the period of the ban 4,623 were approved.
- (3) Answered by (1).

37.

### CONSERVATION

#### *Checks and Controls*

Mr. RUSHTON, to the Minister representing the Minister for Fisheries and Fauna:

- (1) Will he give a summary of the checks and controls available and actively used to ensure our air, waters, and wildlife are managed efficiently for the protection and safety of our environment and effective conservation?
- (2) Will he illustrate this work by a number of examples?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) and (2) The preservation of a healthy and aesthetically satisfying environment is maintained and safeguarded by legislation enacted in many Acts of Parliament and administered by various Ministers and their Departments.

The following are some of these Acts:

Health Act;  
Radioactive Substances Act;  
Clean Air Act;  
Traffic Act;  
Town Planning and Development Act;  
Local Government Act;  
Water Drainage and Sewerage Acts;  
Rights in Water and Irrigation Act;  
Pollution of Waters by Oil Act;  
Swan River Conservation Act;  
Native Flora Protection Act;  
Fisheries Act;  
Fauna Conservation Act;  
Forests Act;  
Land Act;  
Parks and Reserves Act;  
Soil Conservation Act;  
Vermin Act;  
Noxious Weeds Act;  
Agriculture Protection Board Act;

and so on.

Various boards and committees are brought into being by these Acts to advise in their administration, such as—

Air Pollution Control Council;  
Radiological Advisory Committee;  
Pesticides Advisory Committee;  
Food and Drug Advisory Committee;  
Poisons Advisory Committee;  
Town Planning Board;  
W.A. Wild Life Authority;  
Water Purity Committee;  
Swan River Conservation Board;  
Soil Conservation Advisory Committee;  
Agriculture Protection Board;

etc., etc.

From all this we get controlled development of land, the protection of fauna and flora, the protection of our streams and water supplies from pollution and salination, prevention of pollution and oil on our beaches, controlled use of pesticides and statutory limits for their presence in food, prevention of atmospheric pollution with toxic and radioactive substances, etc.

Notable recent examples of such activity are the restriction of agriculture in the Collie catchment area to prevent salinity of the Wellington Dam and similar action on other major catchments, the preservation of the quality of the Swan River, the high grade of sewage treatment at Subiaco to maintain safe swimming beaches, the prosecution of ships' masters for discharge of oil into the harbour, the compulsory recombustion

of crankcase gases on all new vehicles, the virtual elimination of dust from Swan Portland Cement chimney stack emissions, and the protection of the kangaroos from over-exploitation.

### QUESTIONS (3): WITHOUT NOTICE

#### 1. EDUCATION

##### *Senior High Schools: Driver Training*

Mr. LEWIS (Minister for Education): Mr. Speaker, may I now supply the answer which was missing when I made my reply to a question asked by the member for Karrinyup on Tuesday the 25th August?

The SPEAKER: Yes.

Mr. LEWIS: It was question No. 9, and it will be recalled that the honourable member asked some questions regarding the driver training course conducted at high schools. The answer to part (4) of the question was missing, and I now supply the answer which relates to the syllabus. It is as follows:—

The syllabus for the Education Department's driver training course is a minimum period of 30 hours' tuition for each student, 18 hours of which must be in the car and at least six of these behind the wheel. The lesson plans for the theoretical and practical sessions are standardised and are based on *Driving and Roadcraft*—the official instructional manual of the National Safety Council of Western Australia. The emphasis in the syllabus is on creating attitudes as well as teaching a skill.

#### 2. WATER SUPPLIES

##### *Point Samson*

Mr. COURT (Minister for Industrial Development): During the question period yesterday the member for Pilbara asked me a question and I promised to ascertain the answer for him today. May I read it to the House now?

The SPEAKER: Yes.

Mr. COURT: This answer refers to the Point Samson water supply, and it is as follows:—

For construction purposes Cleveland-Cliffs are laying a small pipe line from Roebourne to Cape Lambert to meet the needs of private contractors during the construction period. At a later date Cleveland-Cliffs

will construct a permanent water main from Cape Lambert to Millstream via Roebourne for the company's water supply requirements when the plant is in full production. It is anticipated that the permanent water main will not be completed until late 1971 or early 1972.

The permanent water system will be operated and maintained by the Public Works Department and consideration will be given to the extension of the pipe line to meet the needs of Point Samson residents.

In addition to this I hope to be in the area in the middle of next month, and I want to discuss this and a number of other matters related to Point Samson with the local authority and with my own advisers on the spot. I will keep in touch with the honourable member in respect of this matter.

#### 3. MANNING ROAD

##### *Upgrading*

Mr. MAY, to the Minister for Works: I would like to apologise to you, Mr. Speaker, and to the Minister for Works, for the length of this question and for not having placed it on the notice paper. This situation has arisen, because of the urgency of the problem. My question is—

- (1) In connection with the South Perth section of Manning Road, Manning, what financial commitments have been approved by the Main Roads Department for the upgrading of this section of the road for the years—

1967-68  
1968-69  
1969-70  
1970-71?

- (2) When were design plans lodged by the South Perth City Council with the Main Roads Department?
- (3) Has the Main Roads Department completed design plans for this road?
- (4) Has the South Perth City Council been requested to expedite the upgrading of this road?
- (5) Will the upgrading commence during 1970?
- (6) If not, what is the cause of further delay?

- (7) Is the Perth City Council responsible for any section of this road?
- (8) Have any Main Roads funds been allocated to the City of Perth to assist with the upgrading of this road?
- (9) If so, what amount is involved and has any work been carried out?
- (10) Have any Main Roads funds been allocated to the Canning Shire Council for the upgrading of Manning Road?
- (11) If so, what amount is involved and has any work been carried out by the shire?
- (12) What action is available to the Main Roads Department to expedite the upgrading of Manning Road?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) 1967-68—nil.  
1968-69—nil.  
1969-70—nil.  
1970-71—\$60,000.
- (2) The 27th March, 1969.
- (3) The plans submitted required minor amendments and these were referred back to the South Perth City Council for consideration and completion of design.
- (4) No. However, a number of discussions took place between officers of the Main Roads Department and the South Perth City Council prior to reaching agreement on design and financial arrangements. It is understood that the council is keen to start work on the first stage.
- (5) No. The South Perth City Council has programmed the first stage for April, 1971.
- (6) Answered by (5).
- (7) Yes. A section of the road is jointly the responsibility of the Perth City Council and the South Perth City Council.
- (8) No.
- (9) Answered by (8).
- (10) Yes.
- (11) \$49,500. A section of the road has been widened by the Canning Shire Council.
- (12) Since the responsibility for the construction and maintenance of this road rests with the several local authorities, it has been left to the local

authorities to put this work in hand with financial assistance being provided by the Main Roads Department on a 50-50 basis staged over three years.

#### **BILLS (2): INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING**

1. Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage, and Drainage Act Amendment Bill (No. 2).
2. Local Government Act Amendment Bill (No. 2).

Bills introduced, on motions by Mr. Ross Hutchinson (Minister for Water Supplies), and read a first time.

#### **AERIAL SPRAYING CONTROL ACT AMENDMENT BILL**

##### *Second Reading*

MR. BOVELL (Vasse—Acting Minister for Agriculture) [2.47 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

The Western Australian Aerial Spraying Control Act No. 88 of 1966 was assented to in December, 1966.

As aerial spraying operators are not confined to State boundaries it was agreed that, as far as possible, there should be uniformity between the States, particularly in relation to security sections involving compensation for damage. The original Bill was therefore prepared and endorsed by the Australian Agriculture Council and a meeting of Attorneys-General, the main provisions being—

- (a) Ensuring that pilots in particular are conversant with the dangers associated with chemicals used for aerial spraying.
- (b) Reducing the risk of damage from aerial spraying by the declaration of hazardous areas where susceptible crops occur and prescribing conditions for application of chemicals.
- (c) Providing that the owners of aircraft undertaking aerial spraying lodge a security for the purpose of protecting persons who may suffer loss.
- (d) Requiring aerial operators to keep detailed records of operations.

Before proclamation, however, aerial operators drew attention to problems that could arise due to differences in corresponding legislation in Victoria, Queensland, and Western Australia. A meeting of officers concerned was arranged by the Australian Agricultural Council and recommendations were made regarding amendments to the three Acts to remove the difficulties. These recommendations

were supported by both the aerial operators and the insurance underwriters and were incorporated in the Aerial Spraying Control Act Amendment Act No. 31 of 1968, assented to on 4th November, 1968. They were concerned with clarification and relatively minor alterations to the security section.

Subsequently, the Victorian Crown Solicitor advised that the policy offered by the Australian Aviation Underwriting Pool did not meet fully the requirements of the Act in that State and the Western Australian Chief Parliamentary Draftsman agreed that the same situation would apply in this State.

A further meeting was held when it was agreed that no alternative to the policy offered by the Australian Aviation Pool was available and the underwriters could not be directed to alter the form of the policy. As it was considered that, in the main, the cover offered is reasonable, the meeting recommended that those States with operative legislation should make amendments to security sections to provide a conditional rather than a restrictive framework, thus enabling the policy to be accepted by the responsible person and meet the legislative requirements.

At the same time it was agreed that the Victorian Department of Agriculture should approach the underwriters to obtain clarification on some points and also arrange, if possible, alterations which would improve the policy from the departmental viewpoint. Progress in this direction has been made.

The proposed amendments to section 10 are intended primarily—

- (a) to enable a pool of companies to underwrite policies;
- (b) to give authority to the Director of Agriculture to approve conditions, warranties and exclusions in the contract.

In conformity with the already expressed need for uniformity, similar action is proposed in other States. I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Norton.

## GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

### *Second Reading*

**MR. COURT** (Nedlands—Acting Minister for Railways) [2.51 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

The purpose of this Bill is to provide the authority within the Railways Act for the commission to supply liquor to passengers travelling on trains on the Western Australian Government railway system.

When the interstate standard gauge passenger services through to Perth were introduced on the 15th June, 1969, provision had been made under section 46 of the Licensing Act to empower the commission to serve liquor on trains in this State in accordance with the long-standing practice on the Commonwealth Railways. Members will appreciate that if we had not done this we would have had a rather extraordinary situation when the trains went through Kalgoorlie.

On the 1st July, 1970, the Licensing Act was replaced by the Liquor Act, 1970, and this new Act expressly excludes control of the sale or supply of liquor by the Commissioner of Railways from its provisions. This point has been discussed with the Crown Law Department and its advice is that the Railways Commission being a major Government instrumentality, it was considered that the control of the sale or supply of liquor on trains or in refreshment rooms should be under the jurisdiction of the commissioner.

At this point I should perhaps make it clear that, as the position stands, the sale of liquor in refreshment rooms is governed by the Government Railways Act whereas authority for the sale of liquor on trains was provided in the Licensing Act.

The main object of this Bill is to consolidate these hitherto separate powers in the Government Railways Act. I will now deal briefly with the main amendments. One is to section 23 of the Government Railways Act which is the section empowering the commission to make by-laws relating to specified subjects.

Another amendment is to subsection (25) of section 23, which relates to the by-laws for the control of refreshment rooms and restaurant cars. The existing provisions are obsolete for the reason that all remaining refreshment rooms dispensing liquor—four only; namely Perth, Fremantle, Kalgoorlie and Bunbury—are operated by the commission and likely to continue so.

By-laws will still be necessary and, in fact, by-laws 90—with respect to sale of liquor in refreshment rooms—and 91—on trains—are being redrafted to fit these proposed amendments to the Government Railways Act, as distinct from the defunct Licensing Act.

**Mr. Jamieson:** They are not selling it illegally at present, are they?

**Mr. COURT:** I do not think so; I hope not.

**Mr. Jamieson:** Well, they are selling it; but is it being sold illegally?

**Mr. COURT:** The member for Belmont has given me notice of his question so I will be able to answer when replying to the debate. His interjection will

probably save a lot of argument at a later stage. To continue, the restriction against taking liquor onto trains referred to, is intended principally to prevent boisterous passengers from annoying others. Their conduct can then be controlled by refusing service on the train.

Clause 4 provides the main purpose of this Bill; that is, to provide the commissioner with the authority under the Government Railways Act for the sale of liquor on trains and in refreshment rooms.

The wording of the Bill to amend section 64 (1) of the Act is virtually the same as the existing wording, with reference to the Liquor Act in lieu of the Licensing Act.

Should the commission ever again lease a refreshment room, the license for the sale of liquor therein will be issued under sections 23 (h) and 32 of the Liquor Act, 1970. Section 64 (2) is the authority to the commissioner. I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Fletcher.

#### **EASTERN GOLDFIELDS TRANSPORT BOARD ACT AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2)**

##### *Second Reading*

**MR. COURT** (Nedlands—Acting Minister for Transport) [2.58 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This measure is of a formal nature, designed to change the constitution of the Eastern Goldfields Transport Board to conform to the changed circumstances resulting from a reorganisation of local governing bodies on the goldfields.

The board is the authority which conducts the public bus services in the Kalgoorlie-Boulder area, and at Kambalda. The board as constituted includes two representatives of each of the Kalgoorlie Town Council; the Boulder Town Council; and the Kalgoorlie Shire Council—one in each case elected by the council and one by the ratepayers.

As a result of the local government changes made last year the last two councils mentioned no longer exist. They have been replaced by the Boulder Shire Council. Hence the election of new members of the transport board could not take place last May, as would have normally been done. To cover that situation, amending Bill No. 1 was passed earlier this year.

Now that the position has been resolved, Bill No. 2 seeks to amend the board's constitution to provide for each of the two remaining local authorities to be represented on the board by one member elected by ratepayers; and two members elected by the council.

These, together with an independent chairman appointed by the Governor, will constitute a board of seven members as before. This arrangement is in accordance with the wishes of the two municipal councils concerned.

There is no need for me to go into the detailed clauses of the Bill because they are very clear and self-explanatory. I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. T. D. Evans.

#### **PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS ACT AMENDMENT BILL**

##### *Second Reading*

**MR. CRAIG** (Toodyay—Minister for Police) [3.02 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

I feel this is not a contentious Bill, although that description can be misleading at times. It is, nevertheless, a very important one as it seeks to give added protection to animals against cruelty. In the last few months the courts have been called on to deal with some particularly bad cases of cruelty to animals and, in addition, the newspapers have revealed further cases where extreme cruelty has been shown to have occurred; but, unfortunately, it has not been possible to trace the culprits. As a result, the R.S.P.C.A. has made representations seeking an increase in penalties and this has been supported by the Commissioner of Police.

Members will recall a case early this year where animals were left in a pet shop over several days. Food and water were not provided and a number of the animals died. This was considered an extremely bad case and the magistrate inflicted the maximum penalty of \$100 with costs.

Then there was the case where two dogs were bashed to death with a hammer and also the occasion where a cat was strung up to a tree by a cord and bashed to death with a stick.

Additionally, there have been many cases of animal poisoning where domestic dogs, cats, and other animals have been given baits and, as a result, have died in agony—many after prolonged periods of suffering. In addition to being a cruel, sadistic practice, it is also a highly dangerous one. Baits are often put into positions where young children can get at them and as the poison contained therein is mostly highly toxic, the danger to young children is present.

This Bill provides for the pecuniary penalties to be doubled, which would bring them into line with Victoria, Queensland, and the Northern Territory. This may seem an extremely substantial increase, but in view of the rise in cruelty it is evident that drastic steps have to be taken,

and it is hoped that by making the penalties substantial they will act as a strong deterrent and effect the desired level of improvement in animal care.

The Act provides for a maximum of six months' imprisonment and no increase in the penal provisions is sought. However, the present pecuniary penalties have applied since 1920. In addition to increasing the penalties, the Bill seeks to amend section 13 of the Act which, at present, gives power to police constables or officers of the R.S.P.C.A., under certain emergency conditions, to destroy injured animals. These officers are also given protection against claims for compensation in respect of the killing of animals under the section.

No provision, however, is made for a veterinary surgeon to carry out these duties and by not being included in the Act, he is not given any protection against liabilities for compensation. The Western Australian Division of the Australian Veterinary Association claims that this is unreasonable and I feel sure members will agree that as a veterinary surgeon is a highly trained person with probably a far better knowledge as to the condition of an animal than either a police constable or an officer of the R.S.P.C.A., he should be included under section 13. I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Jamieson.

## LOTTERIES (CONTROL) ACT AMENDMENT BILL

### *Second Reading*

MR. CRAIG (Toodyay—Chief Secretary) [3.07 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

Recently the Lotteries Commission invested funds which involved security by way of the State Electricity Commission of Western Australian stock. The Auditor-General, however, acting on a Crown Law opinion, pointed out that such transactions were *ultra vires* of the Lotteries (Control) Act.

Despite the fact that the commission felt that this was not so, it desisted from becoming involved in further transactions of this nature. However, the commission feels that a continuance of such investment would allow funds to be retained in this State and it now seeks amendment to the Act to clarify the position.

Briefly the Lotteries Commission does have funds available for short-term investment because, by virtue of an amendment to section 9 of the Lotteries (Control) Act in 1966 the commission is now required to provide 20 per cent. of its gross proceeds to a hospital fund account. Funds are not transferred after each lottery but are made at intervals directed by the Treasurer.

Additionally, a number of grants made by the commission from time to time do not require to be taken up immediately and for this reason, and by the very nature of its business, the commission will always have money available for call on short term. Perhaps I should offer some amplification of the expression "by the nature of its business" and cite, for example, the Kalgoorlie Cup lottery and similar types of consultations.

This lottery was launched some six weeks prior to the running of the cup and, because of the ready response, the sweep filled quickly and consequently the commission held something in the vicinity of \$100,000 for a period of at least two weeks before it was needed.

This, of course, applies to other lotteries and as the commission always has two or three current at any one time the amount accumulating is considerable and is usually in excess of the \$50,000 required for investment on the short-term money market. For that reason I feel that few, if any, members would deny the commission the right and the opportunity to get better than the 2 per cent. that is available as interest on a banking account in excess of \$20,000.

However, the commission is inhibited in this performance by the restriction of section 9 (2) of the Act, and one of the purposes of this Bill is to amend the Act in order that it might utilise the facilities available for money on call or short-term investment without greatly weakening the security of repayments of such moneys.

At this stage I feel that the present reading of the section of the Act dealing with investment should be explained. This section states, *inter alia*, that "the Commission's funds may be invested in its name in Commonwealth Inscribed Stock or in any security if the repayment of the monies thereby secured is guaranteed by the Crown in the right of the State." It is quite obvious how restrictive this is in these modern days of finance and I can assure members that if the amendment is agreed to normal business prudence will be observed, as the only requirements sought are to place the commission in no worse a position than any trustee who is charged with the care of a trust fund.

Opportunity has also been taken to seek an amendment to section 10 (b) of the Act. At present this section states, "all prizes to be distributed in the lottery shall be cash prizes." However, it is felt that the section should be amended to read, "all prizes to be distributed in the lottery shall be cash prizes or tickets in lotteries being conducted by the Commission."

Such an amendment would allow the commission to offer lottery tickets as consolation prizes for near-miss tickets,

as the commission states that this practice is employed in a number of Eastern States lotteries which, it is claimed, have a public appeal. Eastern States lotteries are again turning their attention to the Western Australian market, for example, the South Australian lotteries body recently conducted a "householder" mail drop in both Kalgoorlie and Bunbury. This evidently met with some success, as a fall-off in sales in the local lottery in the two areas over the period was noticeable.

The commission feels that the best way to combat these tactics is to make the Western Australian lottery more attractive and it feels the granting of near-miss prizes is one way it can be done; hence the need for amendment. I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Davies.

### **TOTALISATOR AGENCY BOARD BETTING ACT AMENDMENT BILL**

#### *Second Reading*

**MR. CRAIG** (Toodyay—Minister for Police) [3.13 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

The purpose of this Bill is threefold, with two of the objectives being contained in the amendments sought to section 42 of the Act. As that section now stands those persons who can be charged with the offence of accepting a bet from persons who have not reached the age of 21 years include the manager, secretary, officer, employee, or agent of the board, but no mention is made of an employee of an agent and this is considered unsatisfactory. The Bill accordingly seeks an amendment to rectify the position.

Section 42 of the Act also sets the minimum age at which a person may be employed in a T.A.B. agency, and at present no person under the age of 21 years can be so employed. However, the board is anxious to have the right to employ persons aged 18 years and over and it claims that in all other Australian States and in the Australian Capital Territory persons of this age group are legally entitled to work in T.A.B. shops. In fact, in some States lads of 16 years can actually be employed.

The board does not seek any lowering of the betting age, but in any case an agent breaches his contract if he permits an employee to do so and renders himself liable to instant dismissal. Additionally, if the employee is under 21 years the agent commits an offence. It is considered, therefore, that allowing an 18-year-old to be employed in a shop would not necessarily encourage him to bet.

The final amendment sought is in the way of a new section to give added impetus or greater evidential value to the testimony of police officers who, in their search for evidence, at times technically become accomplices to the offence, and to agents who might be engaged by the police for the purpose of obtaining evidence of offences being committed under the Act. A similar provision was made in the new Liquor Act, 1970, in which subsections (1), (2), and (3) give the force of law to evidence secured by similar means for the purpose of detecting offences under the Act and remove the taint of being an accomplice to the offence. It also provides for the admission of evidence of a servant or agent of the licensee in proceedings against the said licensee.

Although the provisions of the new section sought in the Bill are the same as those in section 156 of the new Liquor Act, they have been redrafted to make what, in the draftsman's view, are necessary changes and improvements. I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Bertram.

### **BETTING CONTROL ACT AMENDMENT BILL**

#### *Second Reading*

**MR. CRAIG** (Toodyay—Minister for Police) [3.18 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This Bill is in the nature of complementary legislation to the measure I have just introduced to amend the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Act.

The Bill also seeks to add a new section to give, as I previously explained, added impetus or greater evidential value to the testimony of police officers who, in their search for evidence, at times technically become accomplices to the offence, and to agents who might be engaged by the police for the purpose of obtaining evidence of offences being committed under the Act.

Although a Bill has been introduced to amend the T.A.B. legislation to enable employment of persons aged 18 years and above, it could be considered that similar action should also be taken to amend the Betting Control Act, but as there are now only four licensed off-course bookmakers operating, it is considered that such an amendment is not necessary. I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Bertram.



## ADDRESS-IN-REPLY: NINTH DAY

*Motion*

Debate resumed, from the 26th August, on the following motion by Mr. Cash:—

That the following Address-in-Reply to His Excellency's Speech be agreed to:—

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

**MR. KITNEY** (Blackwood) [3.19 p.m.]: Firstly, I would like to extend my congratulations to the member for Albany on being elected to this House. Because of the fact that I am on the Government side, perhaps I would be considered facetious if I wished him a long and successful career in politics; that is probably not done in the best of political circles. However, the member for Albany and I have much in common, because we both were born, bred, and went to school in Donnybrook. I know that the Labor Party recently endorsed another former resident of Donnybrook, so I must congratulate that party on knowing where to look for good material. The only criticism I have is that he is on the wrong side of the House.

**Mr. Bertram:** He has greater perception.

**Mr. KITNEY:** During the last couple of weeks I have listened attentively to the numerous speeches that have been made on the Address-in-Reply. It is quite obvious that all the members who have spoken have devoted quite a lot of time to the preparation of their speeches and the subjects on which they wished to speak. I was most impressed by some of these speeches, and also by some of the matters that were raised. The thing which struck me, however, in this particular exercise was the complete futility of it.

Perhaps I might be a bit off beam in saying this and, if I am, no doubt somebody will correct me. Last year the member for Pilbara made his speech on the Address-in-Reply and virtually suggested that the Address-in-Reply debate was a waste of time for the members who took the opportunity to speak and for the House itself.

I do not think the honourable member actually said that in so many words, but I do feel it was more or less the suggestion he made. It occurs to me that what the member for Pilbara said could, perhaps, be a fact. A couple of weeks ago an article appeared in one of the weekend newspapers—and while I do not always

agree with the ideas expressed in this particular newspaper I felt that what it said on this occasion might be valid—to the effect that the ceremony concerned with the opening of Parliament each year constituted a waste of time and expense. The newspaper added that the time and expense directed to the Address-in-Reply was also perhaps unwarranted. I am afraid that I am inclined to lean a little towards this view.

When I first came to this House I had no idea of the actual proceedings of Parliament or how things would operate. I naturally thought that Parliament would be opened after a general election when a new Government was elected; that the Governor would arrive and carry out the opening, and so on. I did not for one moment imagine that this ceremony of the opening of Parliament would take place at the beginning of each session. Although the opening of Parliament does constitute a social occasion, I doubt whether it serves any real purpose.

We all know that on that particular day the Governor generally indicates the legislation that will be forthcoming for the ensuing session of Parliament and he might also make a short survey of what action has been taken by the Government in the previous year.

This is all it amounts to. If it is necessary for us to be advised of any legislation which the Government might consider bringing forward, I feel sure this could be done either by yourself, Mr Speaker, or, possibly, by the Premier. I consider this would be more than satisfactory.

I was intrigued by Kirwan Ward's column in yesterday's edition of the *Daily News* in which he drew attention to the fact that the members of the Senate generally referred to the House of Representatives as the other place. When I heard that expression, like Kirwan Ward I wondered where this other place was. Kirwan Ward, of course, suggested where this other place might be. This is the sort of thing we ought to have a look at.

I wonder how many hours various members have spent over the years speaking on the Address-in-Reply, and I also wonder what they have achieved by doing so. I suggest it is a very costly exercise both in time and in the financial expense involved, particularly when we know how little is achieved by the time that is spent on this debate.

On a couple of occasions the member for Victoria Park criticised the hours of sitting and suggested that these have been more or less static for over 70 years, with perhaps one alteration. I feel that the debate on the Address-in-Reply, certainly during the first session of Parliament—that is when it is first opened—is traditional and this, of course, is all right. I believe that if the Address-in-Reply debate

could be dispensed with during the second and third sessions of Parliament—and the debate generally takes about three or four weeks—that time could perhaps be spent on other business and possibly the hours of sitting could be reduced.

This might also help avoid another most undesirable feature which occurs towards the end of the session when important legislation is hurried through because we are running out of time. Taking everything into consideration, I wonder whether the time we spend debating this motion is really justified.

I am, of course, a comparatively new member and, perhaps, I am saying the wrong thing. My ideas might not be acceptable. I do feel, however, that these matters should be given some consideration to ensure that our time is spent wisely. I feel that throughout this period members could be equally well employed, if not better employed, within their electorates handling the affairs of their constituents. It has been suggested that the debate on the Address-in-Reply affords an opportunity for members to stand up and mention some of the problems of their electorates. This, of course, is true, because during this debate a member can speak on any subject.

I have, however, listened to quite a few of the speeches that have been made and though no doubt the matters raised by a particular member are of interest to him and to his electors, I do not think they are of particular interest to the average member in this House—at least, on many occasions this appears to be the case; members, generally, are not interested.

On the other hand it must be encouraging to those members who speak to the motion to know that at least the *Hansard* reporting staff is most attentive which, of course, is proved by the reports that are made of our speeches. This could, perhaps, give the member concerned some satisfaction.

To give some indication of what I mean, I could point out that the establishment of a senior high school in the Blackwood area would be a very good thing. I could talk at length on the subject and indicate why I think something should be done along these lines. Although I might speak at great length on the subject, I feel sure that very little would be achieved.

Two years ago I brought up a matter that concerned my electorate and though I did not expect much to be done about it I did say that in the Blackwood area there was a number of small farmers who were holding perhaps 250 acres or so and who were surrounded by forest land. I pointed out that the only hope they had of extending their holdings was to obtain more land. Quite often the land in question is virtually useless to the Forests Department. This

is something, however, which the department will not admit. There is great justification for releasing some of this land to the farmers in question so that they might have an opportunity to carry on and increase their holdings.

I am afraid, however, that the department's attitude is hardening rather than softening in this connection, and I had it said to me on occasion that farming is on the way out, and so on. There seems to be very little chance of getting any of this forest land released.

Perhaps I am harping on this subject too much and I trust I will be excused if this is the case. However this is a subject on which I intended to speak on this occasion; and I refer, of course, to the number of speakers who have stood up in this House over the years and who have spoken on questions of probate duty, road maintenance tax, and other matters which affect their electorates. I do feel, however, that the time spent on those speeches has not been justified and the members concerned have not achieved the results they desired.

I am pleased to see that after many years of endeavour the fruit growers of Preston Valley now have an irrigation scheme. This is something they have been seeking for many years. The Minister for Works performed the official opening of the dam last December and this took place at a most opportune time, not only because there was a drought throughout the State, but also because the south-west portion, which usually has a reliable rainfall, experienced one of the driest seasons on record. Had it not been for the water available from this dam, the orchards in that area would have suffered dreadfully.

I understand there is a good chance of a second dam being built in the Preston Valley irrigation scheme. It has been suggested that this will be constructed at Thompson Brook, and I hope that this is where it will be situated.

A number of settlers in the area could and would take advantage of an irrigated water supply; and certainly this would extend the scheme further down the river towards Bunbury, the Argyle end of Donnybrook.

The untiring efforts of the Boyup Brook Shire Council are paying dividends inasmuch as Boyup Brook will have an assured water supply. The people in that district suffered considerably during the last season. Gardens died and water restrictions were imposed until finally the limit was 10 gallons a day for domestic use. The council has now raised a \$200,000 loan and will have the water piped 19 miles from Hester Dam at Bridgetown to Boyup Brook. Apart from its domestic use the supply will be sufficient to enable an industry to be established in the not-too-distant future. This was almost achieved

a couple of years ago when a company took an interest in Boyup Brook, but the proposal fell through eventually mainly, I understand, because of a lack of available water. Consequently those in Boyup Brook feel very happy that they are eventually to have an assured water supply.

Boyanup has now been advised that it will have a new school before the end of this year to replace the original school, which was built over 70 years ago.

I have mentioned a few achievements which have been possible because of the efforts of the organisations in the districts concerned. These including fruitgrowers, parents and citizens' associations, and the Chamber of Commerce, and even the shire council has come to the party. Whilst a member of Parliament no doubt gives all the assistance he possibly can, with regard to many of the achievements he cannot take a great deal of credit. Linking this up with what I said earlier, I feel that a member of Parliament does not achieve very much by standing on his feet and talking for half an hour on the Address-in-Reply every 12 months.

If I really believed for one moment that, by standing up here and speaking, I could assist the people in the Blackwood electorate to overcome their problems and have their needs attended to, I would speak every moment I possibly could. But this is not the case.

These problems are common at this time to all farming communities, and all members are aware of them. If I repeat them, this will serve no useful purpose. Nevertheless, I would like to make one point. A lot of criticism has been levelled at the Government, the Premier, and the Minister for Agriculture, who have all been accused of being unsympathetic in regard to these problems. However, such criticism is unfounded and this is obvious when we look at the rest of Australia. Irrespective of the Government in office and the political party to which the Minister for Agriculture might belong, all States are in the same situation. Therefore, any criticism levelled at our Government, the Premier, or the Minister for Agriculture, concerning the present situation, is completely unfounded and, as yet, I have not heard anyone submit an easy solution to these problems.

I do not imagine that I have altered the course of history by what I have said today, but I felt I would like to raise these points in order that they might be given some consideration. The time allotted to a member to speak on the Address-in-Reply debate is short. I know that we are all anxious that this debate be concluded as soon as possible, and other members wish to avail themselves of this opportunity to speak. I will therefore

conclude by saying that the call today everywhere is for more efficiency, whether this be in farming or in business, although farming is a business. Our business is government and this is probably the most important of all business in the State. Therefore we should study some of these problems. Some of our procedure is traditional and up to a point it is desirable to maintain tradition, but it can be overdone. Perhaps we should look at ourselves and ask whether we can become more efficient.

**MR. TAYLOR (Cockburn) [3.35 p.m.]:** Like the previous member I would like to begin by welcoming the member for Albany to this Chamber. I would say that he has already shown his mettle and maturity in this House, and I believe he can look forward to a long term among us.

I was very interested in the remarks just concluded by the previous speaker, and I would like to commence my speech on this occasion by assuring him that I agree 100 per cent. with his comments with regard to the efforts of a member of Parliament in this Chamber. In fact, only two days ago it was my intention not to speak on this debate.

When I entered this House my maiden speech covered my electorate and the industrial situation which existed there. I felt perhaps my remarks might have had some weight and that I would have drawn the attention of someone to what was then a nice place in which to live and a place which had at that time a very enviable record of good industrial relations.

Last year I spoke on the Address-in-Reply debate and I spoke about my electorate on similar lines. During the Supply Bill last year, I made reference at some depth to the increase in industrial strife throughout Australia and Western Australia, and I attempted to make some analysis of the situation. I also spoke on the increasing crime rate and vandalism, and on the unrest among teachers, police, and others. I hoped that something might eventuate following my speech.

Since that time perhaps the most damaging industrial strike this State has experienced has taken place in my electorate. I have seen the situation develop to the stage where instead of good industrial relations we now have bad industrial relations; what was an area of trust among the workers and employers is now an area of distrust. The people of the area have lost confidence to some extent in their community. They have also lost confidence to some extent in officialdom and in the Government. The strike is only part of the reason, and what has happened to Cockburn Sound, pollution-wise, is the other.

Towards the end of last week I listened to a speech by the member for Bunbury who commented on industrial action, and

this speech was followed on Tuesday by somewhat similar words by the member for Floreat who chided the Opposition to accept a challenge of the member for Bunbury to enter a debate concerning the present industrial situation. This is what prompted me to enter this debate, and I want today to just put on record some points with regard to the last major industrial actions which took place at Kwinana, and try to submit some points which I believe authority should well study in an attempt to help the industrial situation. I hope my remarks will be quite different from those of the two members I have mentioned who, I felt, spoke without depth or thought and who made no attempt to utilise facts, or to analyse. They certainly made no attempt to submit ideas which would assist to change the situation.

This is a most disappointing aspect in a Chamber such as this, the members of which represent the will of all the people. One would expect the level of debate here would not be reduced to the stage where members would prejudge and would take sides.

In an attempt to gauge the sincerity of the two members to whom I have referred, I would first like to quote one point made by the member for Floreat. His speech rested upon the following:—

I submit that if 14 per cent. interest can be asked and obtained for loans on real estate, even in a few cases this undoubtedly is the result of fear of serious inflation in the minds of people—no matter how isolated the cases. Such fear is not caused by the healthy and balanced development of our State; neither is it caused by the stabilised—indeed, downturned—real estate values. It can only be caused, and is caused, by the exorbitant demands for wage rises, backed by strikes. Such wage rises are not based on a corresponding increase in *per capita* production.

Then the member for Karrinyup interjected—

They are due purely to the needs of the worker himself.

The member for Floreat then continued—

This is what I am trying to point out; that wage rises are against the rules of economy and cause inflation if they are not based on the *per capita* increase in production.

Let us test the honourable member's sincerity. Unions can be described by names other than unions; they can be called associations, federations, committees, and what have you. We in this Chamber have a union—the Rights and Privileges Committee. It is comprised of members only within this Parliament. Like other unions we elect our own office bearers. We do not call them shop stewards, although that is virtually what they are. We refer to

them as the president, the vice president, the secretary, and so on. We put forward our claims to a tribunal, as other unions do. The claim put forward by our union is available for all members to see, and I suggest the member for Floreat have a look at it and examine it.

If the honourable member does that he will see that the words used throughout the document are identical in every respect with those in submissions made by unions in other spheres and under other circumstances. In each case the submissions come down to this one point: they are a claim by members of a union—in this case by members of Parliament in this State—for wage justice and they are based completely on what we believe to be the needs of the worker and not on the capacity of the State to pay.

Without going into the pros and cons of the whole matter, I make the point that 31 members in this Chamber, two years ago, made submissions to their union that they should receive a certain remuneration and, as far as I can see, those submissions were all based on the need of the worker rather than the capacity to pay.

There can be a great danger in the sort of debates we have in this House when we have such ill-considered and inflammatory remarks as were passed by the two members opposite to whom I have referred. I will add to my remarks in this connection by quoting what appeared in *The Sunday Times* of the 16th August. The article appeared at page 141, and that is about where I would expect to see it. The heading is, "Strikes a danger to WA Security," and the article goes on to say—

The Director of the Employers' Federation Mr. F. S. Cross said this in a blistering attack on unions yesterday.

Mr. Cross said recent union action had struck at the very foundations on which the last decade's development had been built.

He then went on to say that the strikes were part of an overall communist plot which gave the country's enemies an economic victory they were unable to achieve on the battlefield—I presume he was talking about Vietnam.

That sort of thing just does not get us anywhere. I would expect the level of the debates in this House to be on a higher plane, and in this connection I would refer to a statement that appeared in *The West Australian* of the 25th July. It illustrates the level on which I think our debates ought to be. The quotation I want to make is from the weekly service bulletin of the Victorian Chamber of Manufacturers. It reads as follows:—

"It would seem that many of today's adversaries in industrial negotiations behave like so many spoilt children," the bulletin says.

"Any sense of reasonable discussion seems to have gone."  
Further on appears the following:—

"Somewhere along the line sanity has to return to the negotiating table.

"Let us not delude ourselves that the faults lie all in the one court. They don't.

"Surely we can agree to share the wealth of this country in a fair and equitable manner."

Those statements came from an employers' organisation, but it is the sort of attitude that I would hope we would take in the future in this House.

Mr. Fletcher: Hear, hear!

Mr. TAYLOR: As I said when I commenced my speech, I want to talk about two matters today. Firstly, I want to make some comments generally about the last industrial strike at Kwinana—this may be of interest to members—and then continue with some ideas that may be worth following if we want to try to minimise such industrial action in the future. As regards the strike at Kwinana, the first point to note is the very high percentage of ex-overseas workers who took part.

*Sitting suspended from 3.45 to 4.02 p.m.*

Mr. TAYLOR: Before the tea suspension I had commenced to put on record the situation, as I saw it, in regard to the recent industrial stoppages at Kwinana. I make the point that this was one of the longest periods of industrial unrest that we have known in this State. I express the hope that some lessons can be learnt from those events to avoid a recurrence of such a situation. I now want to enumerate about half a dozen points which I believe worthy of mention, in order to throw some light on the background to the industrial unrest that developed at that time.

The first point is the high percentage of overseas personnel involved in those strikes. Members will better appreciate the background if they realise the fact that at one major establishment in Kwinana 60 per cent. of the wages force is from the United Kingdom, 15 per cent. is from continental Europe, and only 25 per cent. is Australian, of which a fair percentage is from the Eastern States. The Western Australian component at that works is in the vicinity of 20 per cent.

In looking at the reasons for strikes and how they develop, one must therefore take into account the very high proportion of new arrivals to this country who have not found what they expected here. At a second major establishment in the area, 40 per cent. of the wages staff is from the United Kingdom, 10 per cent. is from continental Europe, and 50 per cent. is Australian. At a third company that had a long strike, 40 per cent. of the work

force was from the United Kingdom, 30 per cent. was from continental Europe, and 30 per cent. was Australian. Again, of the 30 per cent. of Australians a fair proportion came from the Eastern States.

It can be seen that these strikes included many people who had been in this country a relatively short time—people who had come here expecting something better than they had left and a better way of life, but who, within a few years of arriving here had taken this action to express their dissatisfaction with what was transpiring. The figures are even more illuminating when we find that the 30 per cent. continental European component at the establishment involved in the major strike came from 30 different nations. They were the people who were out on strike.

The second point which may be of interest to the member for Bunbury—who is not here—is that all the major industries in the area are closed shops; that is, unions have the right to insist on the workers joining the unions. The member for Bunbury thought that was deplorable. It is a fact, however, that in the largest union within the company that had the major strike, only 150 of the 481 employees who could be in the union belonged to it. Only 30 per cent. of those who could be in the union were in fact in the union. Overall, seven unions were involved in this industrial dispute which went on for many weeks. Approximately 50 per cent. of the workers belonged to unions and 50 per cent. were non-unionists. This is in a situation where the union has the right to ask the employer to dismiss a worker if he will not join the union. That is therefore an indication that the unions were not in any way pressurising the workers involved in the industrial action in that area.

Mr. Jamieson: It is also an indication that the member for Bunbury did not know what he was talking about.

Mr. TAYLOR: Thirdly, seven unions were involved, the largest of which is considered to be a very moderate union by any standards.

Fourthly, before the major strike took place, negotiations had been conducted for seven weeks before a stop work meeting was held. This is the only section in which I will involve strike detail, because this is a matter for arbitration, but it is interesting to note that agreement could only be reached for a 3 per cent. increase in wages which, for the then bonus of \$7.50, would have meant a rise of 20c a week.

A further point is that the demands for action came from the men and not from the unions. The strikes were led by the rank and file members of the unions. I attended almost every strike meeting. I stood in the hall and at outside meetings,

listening to the men. I felt the tension that was engendered there. I heard the men's remarks to the union officials, and sometimes the remarks were critical. At one of the major industries the six strike leaders, or shop stewards, who had been elected by the men comprised two Australians, two from the United Kingdom, one Austrian, and one Yugoslav. The Austrian was the leader. Certainly, in the major strike the leader of the strike was from the Eastern States, as was also his deputy. It is about the deputy that I would like to comment now.

This particular man was employed by the Government in New South Wales. He answered an advertisement for workers in the industrial area at Kwinana. He was advised that there would be good education and housing facilities, and he was shown a photograph of a State Housing Commission home of a type that he might expect to move into eventually. So he came to Western Australia. He was accommodated in company premises for many months and finally moved not into a house but into a State Housing Commission flat in an industrial area, where he had flats on both sides of him and a flat above him. He is a shift worker, often sleeping during the day. His two daughters attended a high school and were trying to do homework under noisy conditions. His wife had a nervous breakdown and a doctor's certificate was presented requesting a single home, but to no avail. He became a leader in a strike movement.

In all the strikes in the area the walk-out was virtually 100 per cent. The wages work forces of the companies involved consist of something like 790, 840, and 683 men, which, as they all walked out, is an indication of the feeling there. There were even intimations that sometimes the attitude of the men was encouraged by minor staff at the industrial establishments, who expressed wonder at how long the men had put up with the conditions.

Three lessons emerged from the strike, and they should be noted. The first thing was the tremendous solidarity of the men and their excellent organisation. The organisation of the strike committee was written up at length by the Press and discussed on television. It was a resolute body of men.

The next thing to be noted was the attitude of women in the area. They took an unprecedented place in the strike movement to assist their menfolk. It is also very important to note that \$55,000 was collected by affiliated unions to support the men in the major strike. I am told that that sum of money is an Australian record for such a collection.

I have not attempted to analyse the cause of the strike—that would be beyond me here—but I make these points

and put them on record as indications of the attitude of mind of the people living and working in the Kwinana area. It is pointless for anyone who works in St. George's Terrace or elsewhere to brush off a strike situation such as existed and try to blame it on a handful of provokers and communists. It is a real and major problem, and we must quickly learn the lesson because this State has become an industrial one and such things should not be permitted to develop in the future.

Mr. Bickerton: If farmers had the same organisation they would not be in the position they are in now.

Mr. TAYLOR: In looking at the background of the strike, and some of the reasons for it, I would like to list a number of other points which I think are worth recording. Firstly, there is a continuing fear among the men of a lessening of the value of their pay packets. They are committed for housing and hire-purchase and, rightly or wrongly, they wonder about their ability to continue to meet these commitments over a long time. The downturn in wages and the upturn in prices over the last year or so have tended to increase these fears.

There is a growing realisation that overtime payments can no longer be regarded as money for extras but have become necessary for life. These industries are relatively new, as are the industries in the north, and I believe the same situation will develop in the north. While men will work, initially, for overtime for extra money, once they realise that overtime is a necessity and that they must work those hours continuously in order to obtain that money, the attitude changes and becomes fertile ground for industrial unrest.

My next point on this matter is the lessening of contentment with continuous overtime and what has become known as the "48-plus hours per week." The wife of a constituent of mine attempted suicide. This wage earner was receiving good money for working long shifts and long hours at his place of employment at Kwinana. On the orders of his wife's doctor he relinquished this job and took on another one working eight hours a day five days a week at a wage which was approximately half the amount he was bringing home when working at his previous job. His wife, as a result of having her husband home with her for longer periods, soon made a complete recovery.

Recently I had a telephone call from a father asking me what I could do to assist his daughter who travelled daily to her place of employment in Fremantle for a return of something like \$16 a week. She was paying roughly \$4 a week in fares. She travelled by bus to and from her home,

and because she works a little way out of Fremantle she was away from her home for a period of about 12 hours per day.

The workers concerned are also residents in an area which, after 20 years of existence and 10 years of exceptional growth, still lacks the necessary facilities and refinements that should be enjoyed by a stable community. For example, the new shopping centre is not even under way, and the high school still includes about 14 prefabricated classrooms. This state of affairs has contributed to a growth of delinquency. I can cite an example of this which concerns children who reside in the electorate of Dale. They are obliged to travel to school by bus, leaving their homes before 8 a.m. and then having to wait around for about an hour before being able to enter the Kwinana High School. Recently, during this hour, the children concerned got into mischief and last Tuesday they had to appear before the court.

There is still a hospital to be built in the Kwinana area; in fact, we are still awaiting a decision in regard to it.

Finally, I consider that we are now faced with a sociological problem in the Kwinana area. In my opinion, among the large number of workers that have come to this State from overseas, there is a feeling of lack of recognition and a lack of identity. Therefore they are continually striving to establish themselves in the community, which is itself struggling, and this situation provides fertile ground for the creation of industrial strife.

I am not sure what can be done about these matters, but when we line them up with other disruptions that have occurred within our community in the last few years, it is imperative that something be done. I have already given evidence of some of them, and any member who is interested can look up the report of the speech I made during the debate on the Supply Bill last year. I said then that there was not only industrial unrest occurring in this State, but also there was an increase in crime, vandalism, car stealing and militancy among all classes of public servants, school teachers, nurses, housewives and others. All this unrest indicates to me the change which is becoming evident in our society, and which must be recognised by the only people who can do anything about it; namely, the Government and the members of this House.

As I have said, I am not quite sure of the answers to these problems, but I will try to be constructive and put forward one or two ideas which may be of assistance. In some way or another there has to be a greater indication from those in authority as to where the solution may lie. Perhaps this could be achieved by a

greater degree of honest talk from Governments, or a greater degree of frankness. I admit that this could prove to be very difficult for any political group, but obviously these are the steps that must be taken. However, it could well be achieved by the members in this Chamber.

It is time for us to tell the people where they stand in the community. It is time that we regularly came forward with a report on the progress we are making, or a recognition of our lack of progress in certain directions. We should be frank and deal with our shortcomings and compliment the mentality of members of the public by acknowledging our failures and explaining how long and how hard the struggle will be to rectify them. We should be honest with the people and point out the mistakes we have made as well as the successes we have achieved.

I believe there is, in regard to the functions of government, a need for a complete rethink, or a possible reorganisation of departments such as the Department of Labour, and of the machinery of the Industrial Arbitration Commission. There is no doubt that in the last few years our social structure has changed considerably. The work force has changed radically. I have already pointed out that roughly 70 per cent. of those who went on strike in the Kwinana area were workers who came from overseas; who came to this State seeking a better life but apparently failed to find it.

They also came to this State with certain customs which had been developed in their country of origin. For instance, the English system of shop stewards is completely different from ours, and it is a system that should be examined. The number of continental people among our work force is also growing, and there is certainly much greater mobility within the work force. The young men are becoming the leaders in industrial unrest. Those who obtained their education in the post-war years are far better educated than the men of my generation, or those before us. Those young workers have had a far better education than many of their employers or superiors, even though they may be employed in jobs which in their nature are not as demanding as those of their superiors.

Nevertheless, the education of these young people has progressed, assisted by television, radio, and newspapers. They have come to be a force that should be recognised. In fact there has to be a growing awareness that we are all workers. There is no longer a section that is "they" and another section that is "we." A word of warning was sounded the other day by the financial editor of *The West Australian*. He predicted that by 1980 there will not be, within Western Australia, one major company that is wholly Western Australian owned. Therefore all of us

in this State are becoming workers at one level or another. Very few of us are proprietors or owners and, in adopting an attitude towards the work force, which includes all categories from civil engineers to workers on lower levels, we must perhaps look at industry and industrial unrest from a point of view that considers any adverse effect upon the community.

Also, in recent years communities have been created relying on only one industry, and this is a growing trend that is developing not only in the north and places like Kambalda, but also at places such as Collie and Pinjarra. Mention was also made of the community that may spring up in the area of Jerramungup; and there is a growing awareness that such communities are more important than the industries in those places. Some rethinking should be done in regard to our attitude towards the people who work in these areas. We should take steps to protect the welfare of such communities.

I would also point to the fact that there is a growing tendency in industry and commerce for managers to be drawn from overseas and the Eastern States to fill the vacancies that occur in managerial positions in Western Australia. These men remain in this State for a relatively short time, and it must be conceded that their thinking is more likely to be influenced from their place of origin or from the head office of the company for which they work; and, more often than not, the head office is not within this State.

Such a situation is remarkably evident in the Kwinana area. There, those in charge of management of the various companies are of the highest integrity and I look upon many of them as friends. But nonetheless they have gained their experience in places other than Western Australia, and so, naturally, their responsibilities and interests lie elsewhere.

Mr. Court: You are overlooking the fact that there has to be a starting point in everything in encouraging capital to come to this State. We must accept the fact that these men will be appointed managers for a short time at least.

Mr. TAYLOR: This trend has been continuing for approximately 10 years, and instead of appointing Western Australians as managers of these companies, those responsible are still seeking men from the Eastern States and overseas to fill these positions.

Mr. Court: In the north there is hardly a foreigner in a senior position. I regard somebody from Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, or Adelaide, as an Australian.

Mr. Jamieson: That is doubtful.

Mr. Court: The member for Cockburn apparently does not.

Mr. TAYLOR: My point is that it should be a policy of the various companies to appoint Western Australians to these

managerial positions instead of bringing men from overseas and the Eastern States to fill the vacancies.

I now wish to refer to unions and the part they play in industry. I do not think there are too many people who realise the important work that is performed by representatives of unions. They work under tremendous pressure. They often do not have any organisation which can provide them with adequate research facilities, or the staff to foster public relations and to serve the union members. The unions certainly do not have the money for advocates to match those of great industrial organisations.

In my experience this point has been made in this House by the Leader of the Opposition. I also raised it myself on at least one occasion, and in my opinion it must become the responsibility of government to assist trade union leaders by providing scholarships, bursaries, or educational foundations so that union executives can equip themselves to the degree that they can more adequately represent the members of the union to which they belong.

If the Government made money available for such a purpose, in my opinion it would be well spent and, in itself, would prove to be of great assistance in reducing the incidence of industrial unrest in our State.

I have another suggestion to make, but I doubt whether it will be acceptable to members on the other side of the House. I refer to a trend which I believe is developing in Europe; that is, the closer relationship that is growing between the employee and the owner, or the worker and the manager; in other words, worker participation in management.

I raised this matter by asking a question of the Minister for Labour on the 4th September, 1968, and his answer was as follows:—

Apart from the fact that the commitments of the Department of Labour are such that it would be difficult to allocate an officer to undertake the research suggested, it is considered that worker participation in management in private industry is outside the responsibility of Government.

I would now like to draw the attention of the House to an article which appeared in *The West Australian* on the 25th July, 1968. Two extracts taken from it will perhaps emphasise the point I wish to make. They are as follows:—

West Germany's two main political parties, the Socialists and the Christian Democrats,—

This party is the equivalent of the conservative or Liberal Party in this State. Continuing—



—are both evolving plans to give the country's working population a much greater say in industrial management.

Further down the article appears the following:—

The Christian Democrats have already come out with detailed proposals, to be discussed at the party's federal congress in West Berlin early in November, which are aimed at establishing a completely new kind of company law.

This law will apply to "industrial giants," defined as companies with a minimum of 20,000 employees and a minimum turnover of \$2,142,900 a year.

Under the Christian Democratic proposals such firms would be governed by a public industrial assembly consisting of shareholder representatives, employees and government officials with votes and seats in the proportion of 40-40-20. This ratio could be changed to 45-45-10.

Towards the end of the article this paragraph appears—

The Christian Democratic social committees have also suggested that worker-management participation should be strengthened by broadening the rights of existing works councils representing the interests of employees in a factory.

This article is followed by a letter which was published in *The West Australian* on 2nd August, 1968, and a small extract from this is worth quoting. It reads as follows:—

I suggest that the topic be further explored.

With these words the writer was referring to the article from which I have just quoted extracts. Continuing—

Thanks to a German government scholarship I had the opportunity to visit a major steel plant in Oberhausen, near Essen, in March this year. Like many other big concerns in West Germany, it operated under a system of joint shareholder and employee management imposed by government legislation.

Though several mergers with other companies had taken place to reduce cost, largely through manpower savings, policies were evolved which prevented the redundant employees from being thrown out into the street. There were periods of tensions, mainly due to these mergers, but not one hour of production had been lost due to strikes since the plant began operating after the war.

It seems that the West Germans have already evolved and are further improving a successful compromise between traditional capitalism and socialism.

It is probable that other Western nations will soon begin moving in the same direction.

It appears, therefore, that at least in West Germany an attempt is being made to bring about a closer relationship between worker and management.

I do not think there is anything wrong in conducting, now, an investigation into the attitudes that exist between workers and management within industry with a view to creating a situation better than the one with which we are faced at present. After all, it is not very many years ago when the people at large were considered to be incapable of managing their own affairs, and the Government apparently was held in very select hands.

At that time any suggestion that the man in the street could play his part in politics and have a vote was not considered to be feasible; but since then this change has been introduced, and it has worked. Today we find that every man capably exercises his vote and has a voice in the government of the country.

I cannot see why the suggestion to give employees a place in management, the opportunity to express their points of view, and the chance to hear the views of the other side cannot work. If they are given this opportunity they will be able to take back to their fellow workers the views of the management. I believe this could well lead to a lessening of industrial tension as in West Germany. Certainly it is worth the effort to try it here.

I did not intend to speak in the debate on the Address-in-Reply, because I was not confident that my words would do anything else but fill several pages of *Hansard*. However, as mentioned I was stung by the remarks of two members on the other side of the House. If I achieve nothing else by speaking in this debate I will at least have on record the points I have just made. I hope that my comments will be read by some members, and that some action perhaps will be taken in relation to them in the future.

I will conclude by quoting from the remarks of two members on the opposite side who took part in this debate. These were the only sections of any value. The first comment was made by the member for Bunbury who included this gem in his contribution—

If the average worker is well treated he will be fair.

I agree with him completely. The next comment I quote is from the contribution made by the member for Floreat who said—

The proper and lasting solution in economic matters is to induce people to do or not to do something by creating circumstances to which they react as human nature would naturally react.

I could not agree with him more.

Finally, I wish to quote Mr. George Cattell, the Director of Manpower and Productivity Services in the Ministry of Labour of the United Kingdom, who said—

There are far too many managers who forget that they are responsible for the most unpredictable, most maddening, most adaptable and most important industrial resource we have—people.

Because we are managers, too, that remark applies also to the members of this House. I hope we will keep that point before us in the future.

**MR. RUSHTON (Dale)** [4.34 p.m.]: It is my pleasure to support the motion before the House moved so ably by the member for Mirrabooka. It is also my pleasure to join with others in congratulating the newly elected member for Albany. Various points in his contribution have been covered by the Minister for Lands, the immediate past speaker, and the member for Stirling. It was my intention to outline the facts in relation to the Albany Hospital, because they are well known to me. If the member for Albany is aware of those facts I am sure he will reconsider his attitude, and in this regard I hope the sound philosophy of the late member for Albany will rub off on him. To coin a phrase, when is a censure motion not a censure motion when moved by the member for Albany?

I join with other members in extending sympathy to the relatives of former stalwarts of this House on their untimely passing since the House last met. I knew two of those members well. The first was the late Hon. A. F. Watts, who was the member representing a town where I attended school. He was held in very high regard, and he certainly played an important part in the political life and in the development of this State.

The second was the previous member for Albany, the late Mr. Jack Hall, who in his last days was a patient in a hospital in my electorate. There I visited him a number of times, and for him I had the highest respect. This is not to say that I do not also have the highest respect for the other former members who have passed on; it is merely that I did not know them so well.

I would now like to mention very briefly several visits which we were privileged to make in the last parliamentary recess. We are all indebted to the Minister for Industrial Development and to the officers of his department for arranging a visit to Pinjarra and Jarrahdale. At Pinjarra we found a sound demonstration of decentralisation, and observed that the objectives of this Government showed up in a very creditable way. I am sure the development in the Pinjarra area will be a catalyst for

further development in the south-west. Irrespective of our political affiliations, I think we all wish the development that is taking place there to proceed successfully, and we would like the development to spread right down through the south-west.

On the way back from that trip we visited Jarrahdale where we saw the efforts that are being made towards reforestation. This has still some way to go, and we all look for sound results from this effort. It was, indeed, encouraging to see the results that had been achieved up to that time, and I am sure we will all be watching very keenly the future progress.

Members of Parliament were also afforded the opportunity to visit the north-west. On the previous occasion when a similar trip was arranged I was not privileged to participate, and therefore on this occasion I obtained a great deal of information about the north-west which I did not have before. Some four years ago I, together with other members of Parliament, participated in a private trip as far as Port Hedland. The developments which have taken place from that time until our last visit were tremendous. It shows that our State is becoming a unified whole. The people of the north are building a new destiny.

In the course of an address given by the Minister for Industrial Development it was pointed out that vital assistance still remained to be extended in respect of education, water supplies, and power. The State in one way or another must provide these services and necessities. This has been very ably pointed out by the member for Kimberley. Education is vital to the people in the north. Today the people there are no longer isolated north-westerners, as they were fondly known in the past. They are now ordinary citizens of the State, just as are the people in the southern part of the State. The people of the north require the normal amenities of life, adequate education for their children, and other essential needs. Therefore, it is a challenge to the State to ensure that the people of the north receive these facilities within a reasonable time.

In these days we hear many comments on the tremendous developments in the north; and these are recognised by every citizen of the State. Fortunately, this Government has had the courage and the tenacity to pursue its worth-while objective. Unfortunately, we have seen a downturn in the agricultural industry, which was a stalwart of the State in past years, and which had carried the tremendous burden of the State's economy. If the Government had not progressed in the way it has, and had not taken steps to preserve the State's economic stability, I am sure that today we would find a tremendous amount of unemployment.

This Government, some years ago, had the courage to put its shoulder to the wheel, and to make the very commendable effort it did to encourage people to go to the north. The Government is still doing that.

Members of Parliament participated in a different kind of tour arranged by the Minister for Housing and officers of the commission. This was a pleasant tour, and we had the opportunity firsthand to observe the calibre of the men who were working on the projects. The two developments which stood out in my mind were, firstly, the project at Orelia. This is a type of development which could well be repeated in other localities. Here we saw an integration of all strata of the community and all income groups. The honourable member who has just spoken referred to the shopping facilities. At Orelia we saw the temporary shopping facilities moving in.

In this respect I would like to make one observation. In my view town planners and local authorities which plan large housing developments in isolated areas which have no immediate shopping facilities should ensure that temporary shopping facilities are provided until such time as permanent facilities can be established in the areas.

The other circumstance which clearly impressed itself on my mind was that the State Housing Commission was very dependent on the provision of services for the development of houses. This brings me to a suggestion I wish to make: we need a co-ordinator or expeditor—one with experience in land development and with a structure such as the Director of Transport behind him—to clear the pipeline of obstacles, and to ensure that the large and small developer is given every opportunity to develop at speed and without hindrance. This co-ordinator could make contact direct with Government departments; and he could take any issue direct to the Government. Such an appointment would bring tremendous rewards, in that land would become available on the market as quickly as possible.

Another observation and example which lends itself to this question relates to subdivision of land at Karragullen that could be effected. This might be considered to be a side issue, but there is land in that locality which could be subdivided into half-acre lots. A plan has been drawn up for the development of the land, but apparently the obstacle is the lack of a reticulated water supply. The existing water supply would be a long way from Karragullen; possibly at Pickering Brook, Roleystone or Kangaroo Gully. It is unreasonable to suggest that water as far away as those places should be connected to Karragullen to enable a small number of blocks to be made available.

I believe that no harm would be done to permit the subdivision of some classes of land into building blocks without the availability of a reticulated water supply. These blocks could rely on rain water tanks. If this type of development is permitted to enable a small number of blocks to be made available in suitable surroundings, then people who are desirous of living in a quiet and delightful environment will be able to acquire the blocks. Many people would choose to live in such a situation.

As an example, I cite the action taken by the Minister for Lands, who took the bit between his teeth, and this enabled a subdivision at Forrestdale to be put into effect. Some people might claim that this land is not within the urban zone or the Cannington-Armadale corridor. Since this action by the Minister for Lands we have seen blocks in that locality being sold for \$1,700. Some of the purchasers of these blocks have built good types of homes on them already. Of course, in this subdivision all the necessary services have been provided.

However, in my opinion subdivisions of land in suitable locations should be permitted, although the necessary services are not available. This would lead to more blocks being placed on the market. Steps should be taken to ensure that farmlets are encouraged in rural areas. Under the present policy this form of landholding could come to an end. It is claimed there are many of these farmlets, but in my view they are often located in the wrong places.

These holdings have been in existence since the beginning of the State, and in my electorate they are located in Armadale, Kelmscott, and the foothills; but nowadays one would be lucky to find one for sale.

If my suggestion for the appointment of a co-ordinator is adopted the burden will be taken off the shoulders of the committee which is now charged with the responsibility for land subdivision. The people who are appointed to this committee are busy men, and they do not have much free time to devote to issues of land development.

The last visit I wish to mention relates to the work that is done by the Civilian Maimed & Limbless Association. Although I was aware of what it was doing, I was amazed at the extent and diversity of the work of these people; and certainly their dedication is quite obvious. I do not have a great knowledge of their needs because they are so independent. They have faced up to their past and their future with courage, but it would be a most desirable situation if the State could lend a helping hand in the purchase of additional land. Those people would like to extend their activities into wheelchair production. As is known, they manufacture most

of the aids required by the civilian maimed and limbless. I think the Treasury should look at this situation to see if some help could be given.

Mr. Mensaros: The Government is giving some support now.

Mr. RUSHTON: That is so. However, I have never seen such a courageous body of independent people.

I would now like to refer to the Governor's Speech. Members will be aware that, when the Leader of the Opposition commenced his speech on the Address-in-Reply, he had the following to say:—

There is nothing in the Speech to enthuse over at all. As a matter of fact, it is one of the most flat and uninspiring Speeches that I have read since I have been in Parliament. The Speech suggests to me a paucity of ideas in the minds of Ministers. The Government is finding the going tough, and much of what it has claimed in the Governor's Speech is without substance; some of it is completely in error.

I would also like to refer to the Governor's Speech and bring to the notice of the Leader of the Opposition—for whom I have every respect—some of the comments contained therein. I think the Leader of the Opposition would have been delighted and enthusiastic if he had been on the Government side of the House when the Governor made his Speech. The Governor commenced by saying—

Western Australia continues to hold its position as the State with the fastest rate of population growth in Australia. Its growth rate is almost twice the national average.

I am sure there is nothing to be ashamed of in that statement. As I said, I am sure the Leader of the Opposition would most certainly have liked to have been in government during that growth. The Governor continued—

A continued high rate of capital investment has been responsible for further rapid growth and employment.

Surely employment is our greatest requirement, and this is something we should be delighted with. To continue—

However, the State's economy has been affected by drought . . .

We have all heard references to the drought, and it is something which the Government of today is unable to control. However, the Government gives as much attention and assistance as is possible, and the effects of the drought should not be exploited by the Opposition. The Governor also referred to lower wool prices, and the need to impose wheat quotas. Those are

two unfortunate facts and we all agree that we would like to see a change. The Governor continued—

The combination of all three has lowered the State's farm income by at least \$80,000,000, with consequent adverse effects upon industries geared to service the agricultural sector.

I find this a pretty important statement. It is a sad statement, and one we cannot consider as being of no great moment. At a later stage of his Speech the Governor said—

During the past year the upward trend in land prices in the metropolitan area has been checked and the Government will continue to seek means to maintain the stable situation that has been reached.

I would suggest that we consider this to be of the utmost importance; and I think the people of Western Australia also consider it to be of the utmost importance that such a result has been achieved. The Governor further stated—

The economic repercussions of major developments such as the Robe River Iron Ore Project in the Pilbara; Alcoa's new Alumina Project at Pinjarra; and the proposed Amax Bauxite and Alumina Project in the Kimberleys will be felt throughout the entire State.

A few years ago such development would have been the highlight of the year, but now it is the usual. However, it is very important to Western Australia. The Governor also said—

Increasing emphasis is being placed on the policy of processing mineral resources prior to export.

We would all agree that this is of the utmost importance, not only because of employment opportunities, but because of the economic return to the State. The Governor further stated—

Notable advances made by the manufacturing sector over recent years were maintained during 1968-69 when the volume of production increased by 14% to \$440,000,000.

I do not know that anyone could say that that was other than a tremendous advance. To continue—

Substantial growth was also evident during 1969 when exports overseas reached \$600,000,000. This represented 17% of the national total and highlights the growing contribution that Western Australia is making towards Australia's export income.

I think we have already recognised the value of export income, and the effect it has on the economy of the whole of Australia. This growth has taken place despite the downturn in agricultural exports, and this is a grand achievement.

The Governor also referred to the completion of the Western Australian section of Eyre Highway—something we have looked forward to for many years—and the completion of the *Indian Pacific* railway. Those are two marked achievements.

The Speech also refers to capital expenditure on education where something in the vicinity of \$14,000,000 was spent on capital investment, and \$55,000,000 on revenue expenditure. Teachers have received increased salaries, and tremendous progress has been made in the building of new schools. The Governor continued—

Western Australia's hospital and general health services have been developed to the stage where they rank among the best in Australia.

I do not think anybody disputes that statement; surely that is an achievement.

The Speech contains reference to the development of our water resources in Western Australia. I think it was the member for Canning who spoke about the necessity for providing adequate water in the future.

And so the Speech goes on, and it refers to the power station at Kwinana, which is another highlight; and there is mention of the intention to sink the railway in the centre of Perth. There has been much comment on that particular subject. The sinking of the railway will be of tremendous benefit to the City of Perth, and the result will be something of which Western Australians will be proud.

The Governor also referred to the fact that appropriate action is being taken to establish a conservation ministry. This is something which is vital and necessary to our future, and I think most people would agree that the formation of such a ministry will not only be popular, but that it is also essential. We have to have regard to all aspects of conservation and this is a matter we will watch very closely. A conservation ministry is essential, and its formation will be a vital step forward.

I am sure we would all disagree with the Leader of the Opposition when he says that the Governor's Speech was the most flat and uninspiring Speech he had ever read. I do not wish to concentrate on the remarks of the Leader of the Opposition because, as I have said, with his past experience and his dedication, I have every respect for him. However, the Leader of the Opposition had the temerity to involve members on this side of the House in some of his deliberations relating to the control of the party. I sympathise with the Leader of the Opposition. I am sure that if he were in government he would not like to be in the same situation regarding direction, and regarding conscience.

Mr. Davies: You rely on direction rather than conscience.

Mr. RUSHTON: The Leader of the Opposition mentioned that Sir David Brand announced that the voting on the Liquor Bill would be non-party. This is something which should be taken with a pinch of salt because we know that during the debate on the Liquor Bill there was a direction from the Opposition on the voting with regard to a couple of clauses. If that is sincerity then it is most disturbing.

Mr. Brady: What was the point you were making about direction?

Mr. RUSHTON: Direction in relation to the interpretation of the control of disturbances in hotels. The direction was quite obvious from the voting. It is certainly disturbing to think that this occurs when we youngsters to politics tend to accept what is said in good faith.

Mr. Brady: Who gave the direction?

Mr. RUSHTON: That is what I would like to know.

Mr. Brady: I think it is a figment of your imagination.

Mr. RUSHTON: Did the direction come from down the street, somewhere? We on this side of the House believe in the individual as a free man who has initiative and responsibility. It is obvious where we stand.

Mr. Brady: How many of your members opposed the liquor interests?

Mr. RUSHTON: Our consciences and principles were followed on every vote.

Mr. Brady: Yes, by about two members.

Mr. RUSHTON: The members on this side of the House were truly free in their deliberations. This has applied not only on the Liquor Bill; I have been free to vote whichever way I desired on matters of conscience. The individual is important on this side of the House and it is ludicrous to suggest that we were under direction.

Mr. Brady: You vote under direction.

Mr. RUSHTON: I would now like to refer to a matter raised by the member for Cockburn. It comes back to the question of what is right and what is wrong. I think it is timely that the Prime Minister has announced that he will take action to curb destructive protests. We on this side of the House believe in the rule of law, and the freedom of opinion. Under it there is freedom for the nation and for all men and women. Democracy depends upon self discipline, obedience to the law, and the honest administration of the law.

Mr. Jamieson: I suppose you would take action against the doctors when they represented their objections to the Federal Government.

Mr. RUSHTON: I am saying that the people of Western Australia would be very happy that a responsible attitude is

being taken with regard to destructive disturbances and interference with people's lives and property.

Mr. Jamieson: Do not doctors disturb all our lives by their attitude to the Federal Government?

Mr. RUSHTON: In which way?

Mr. Jamieson: By making their representations to the Federal authorities.

Mr. RUSHTON: I think everyone makes representations, but I am purely stating that it is wrong for people in groups, or individually, to interfere with the livelihood and property of other people. I think everybody would agree that the Prime Minister has taken a good point in announcing his intention to bring down legislation to curb destructive protests.

Mr. Jamieson: The right to protest must be protected.

Mr. RUSHTON: I agree.

Mr. Jamieson: Yes; be very careful when you limit the right to protest.

Mr. RUSHTON: There is no intention to limit protests; we agree that a person should be able to protest in a decent and orderly manner as long as he does not interfere with other people.

Mr. Davies: Laws already exist that provide protection for the public.

Mr. RUSHTON: The member for Victoria Park can have all sorts of suggestive thoughts. I am suggesting that the Prime Minister and his Government are doing something to get rid of the fear resulting from unrest and disturbance and to give the necessary protection.

Mr. Jamieson: I am always sorry for anyone who is brainwashed, whether he is a communist or a Liberal.

Mr. RUSHTON: I will now refer to an issue raised by the member for Cockburn. He had a disagreement with the member for Bunbury and the member for Floreat, but ended up on a very good note. I think the member for Cockburn had a worth-while point. He commenced by doubting the sincerity of members on this side of the House. It is not like him to make such suggestions, but the manner in which he finished his speech showed that he had given some thought to the matter.

I think it would be generally agreed that the agitation at the moment is to do away with arbitration and replace it with collective bargaining. This could well come in time with responsibility and it may be in line with the comments made by the member for Cockburn. However, as a first principle we must make further progress in the employer-employee relationship.

Under the American system, I understand that the labour unions are not involved in the political scene but they use powers of bargaining. As I say, perhaps

in time this could well be introduced into our system. It might be a tremendous step forward in the progress of Australia if we could abolish the Australian Labor Party and replace it by a party known as, say, the socialist party. However, if the members of that party did not like that name they could choose another and call it, say, the Hawke party. The effect could be that we would have two parties as the member for Cockburn suggested.

Mr. Gayfer: I do not know that I agree with this two party business.

Mr. RUSHTON: I think that, in Germany for example, there are more parties than the Christian Democrats and the Socialists. I believe there are numbers of others.

Mr. Brady: I will say there are.

Mr. Gayfer: Give us a go.

Mr. RUSHTON: I am not disputing the right of the honourable member's party to have a go. I think we would make a lot more progress if we could rid ourselves of industrial unions making political policies. In this way, it would be a clear political scene where the people knew where they were going and with the directions coming from the elected people.

Mr. Jamieson: I suppose the honourable member would go completely away from the Chamber of Manufactures and the Employers Federation.

Mr. RUSHTON: Those organisations do not direct us.

Mr. Ross Hutchinson: In no way do they direct us.

Mr. Jamieson: The honourable member would find out afterwards.

Mr. Taylor: They direct industry in Kwinana!

Mr. RUSHTON: As I have said, I think there is merit in some of what the member for Cockburn had to say when he spoke to the motion.

Mr. Ross Hutchinson: I have seen a Labor member dance to the tune at Trades Hall.

Mr. RUSHTON: Until we see instances of unions taking a positive, responsible attitude towards their employers and the resultant co-operation and sharing of ideas, I cannot see that collective bargaining will be very successful. The interchange I have mentioned would mean tremendous progress with mutual rewards.

Mr. Bertram: Where does collective bargaining occur?

Mr. RUSHTON: I think it exists in America. The member for Cockburn has suggested that we should look at this idea closely. We should not be influenced by politics but should sincerely consider it from a human standpoint.

Mr. Taylor: Is the honourable member addressing the member for Floreat and the member for Bunbury?

Mr. RUSHTON: I regret the member for Cockburn was out of the Chamber earlier, but I commended him for his final remarks.

Mr. Taylor: Thanks.

Mr. RUSHTON: I did not commend him for his initial remarks, but his final remarks were appropriate.

Mr. Jamieson: They were a quotation from the member for Bunbury.

Mr. RUSHTON: Let me finish on this subject by saying that I believe he sincerely suggested that we should try to get away from anarchy and distrust. Certainly no-one—employer, employee, or country alike—gains in this situation.

Mr. Jamieson: Where is the anarchy?

Mr. RUSHTON: A responsible attitude must be taken and it is not being taken at present by the A.C.T.U. The industrial executives must get away from the existing disharmony, take a responsible attitude, and share the productive cake. If there is no production, nothing can be shared.

Mr. Davies: Has the honourable member heard of cross and double-cross?

Mr. RUSHTON: I believe that the employee should have some say in what goes on so far as major issues are concerned. We should begin with a secret ballot. If that does not succeed, we should move on to the next stage, as the member for Bunbury suggested.

Mr. Davies: If that does not succeed, shoot them!

Mr. RUSHTON: There is a tremendous number of responsible people in unions and I think it would be found that they would go along with this suggestion.

Mr. Davies: Do all those responsible people stay home when union meetings are held?

Mr. RUSHTON: I now wish to refer to the subject of conservation, which is widely discussed by many people. It is, in itself, a deeply involved subject. Earlier this year the Government announced its intention to set up a conservation ministry. I am sure that all of us welcomed that suggestion. However, any member who has given thought to the subject will realise that it is not possible to come up with quick and immediate answers. I believe that a start will be made with the establishment of the ministry and, from that point, a policy will be evolved and directives issued to make it effective. A great deal of co-ordination will be necessary. I am sure the new ministry will be accepted in the spirit in which it is intended and we will

see positive steps taken towards protecting the environment and our heritage for the future. Of course, common sense will have to be used.

I am extremely heartened by the visits I have undertaken to various conservation associations in my electorate. They all take a responsible attitude and show willingness to look at all issues involved. Greater understanding of the issues will bring far more harmony and progress.

I thank the Minister for Fisheries and Fauna for the comprehensive answer he gave to the question I asked today. I had undertaken some research and I felt I knew what was happening, but it is a great benefit to have the answer in this form, because it shows what steps have been taken over the lifetime of this Government and even before. The ministry for conservation, when it is established, will be responsible for co-ordinating many of the efforts that are being made.

I shall now address myself to the important subject of education. Many members had the privilege of attending the address given by Sir Ronald Gould on the occasion of his recent visit to Perth. I am sure that everyone who attended was glad that he had not missed the address.

Mr. Davies: He was a good orator, but he had nothing new to say.

Mr. RUSHTON: He had a tremendous message; namely, "Let us take a responsible attitude. Let us look the facts in the face." He related education to the economy and pointed out that countries which do not have a sound economy cannot have an education system, because they cannot afford it.

Mr. Davies: That is nothing new.

Mr. RUSHTON: But it is something many people have not realised or accepted. People have believed that it is possible to spend money which one has not got.

Mr. Davies: He was the Billy Graham of the education field.

Mr. RUSHTON: I am sorry, but I cannot hear the interjection.

Mr. Davies: I thought he was the Billy Graham of the education field.

Mr. RUSHTON: I think he proclaimed, as part of his message, that his political inclinations were different from those of us on this side of the House. However, he has been deeply associated with education and believes it should be run on sound lines. In addition, he encouraged teachers to have confidence in themselves and to act in a professional way. This is excellent advice and I believe it is the way it must be. In addition, his address was entertaining, and I do not think anyone would disagree with that statement. I want to add that I consider the Minister for Education acquitted himself very creditably in the few words he had to say at the end.

Mr. Brady: Hear, hear!

Mr. RUSHTON: This would be something which many of us would face up to with a certain amount of fear and trepidation, because to speak after such a gentleman as Sir Ronald Gould would be quite an undertaking. Nevertheless, the Minister for Education held his ground very well.

As the member for Swan mentioned many members received letters on education in recent times. I must say that I was extremely surprised when I received none from my own electorate. I do not know what that reflects.

Mr. Davies: You are too well known in the area.

Mr. RUSHTON: Perhaps my ideas on education are known and accepted. However, it was a strange experience not to receive these letters. I had resolved to answer the letters I received from my own electorate, but as none arrived I had none to answer. Perhaps it was a slip or perhaps the people concerned agree with the stand I have taken.

I know, however, that a tremendous number of letters were received by many members. To some extent the repetition in the letters was shown up; of course, they were directed towards the Commonwealth's providing a greater amount so far as funds for education are concerned.

I am surprised that further letters have not been received following the Budget speech. It was announced that a further \$69,000,000 will be allocated for education. However, I suppose that in time we will receive some indication of how adequate the union feels this increase is.

Members will recall that some time ago a notice appeared in the paper about a shortage of 1,000 classrooms in Western Australia. This notice attracted my attention. I know that the schools in my electorate, approximately 20 in number, are well provided for and I wondered where the shortage existed. Consequently, I wrote to the union and received an extremely courteous and prompt reply with an analysis of schools which were short of classrooms. It must be remembered that the survey was taken in December, 1969, which would be one of the worst possible times so far as school buildings were concerned, because it was just before the completion of the year's programme of new buildings.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member has five more minutes.

Mr. Jamieson: That is too long!

Mr. RUSHTON: In the information I received, it is interesting to note that of the total of 1,000 classrooms which were stated as the shortage, over 500 were said to be needed to help reduce classes to what

was considered a desirable size. In addition, 354 of the remaining 484 had, in fact, been built for classrooms. The remaining 130 were libraries and other odd buildings. Consequently, the advertised figure of 1,000 classrooms short did not show an accurate picture.

It is an interesting exercise to have a look at this picture and analyse the facts. I hope that in future the union will send us full details of its charges of neglect. I would certainly help the union in its endeavours if it could give me evidence to support its claims.

I would like to close by speaking about the rapid transport service to Armadale. I suggest that in this service we could introduce a flat fare charge for the whole of the metropolitan area, which would give recognition to those people who live in outlying areas. If we do not do that, people who buy land in outlying areas will pay more than those who live in the inner areas and be discouraged from decentralising. This is a matter which should be given immediate attention. It would be a positive step to do something for all those people who have moved into the outer areas. We would bring greater patronage to the trains and it would be worth while.

I would like to congratulate the Government on its continued progress and courage in facing up to the various problems as they arise. I certainly wish the Government well in the ensuing year.

MR. BURKE (Perth) [5.13 p.m.]: In congratulating the member for Albany on his recent election, I have no hesitation in predicting that he will long serve the people of Albany, and I am certain that the late Jack Hall would have been justly proud of the performance of the member for Albany last evening.

I recently addressed a question to the Minister for Lands in regard to the controversy surrounding Dr. Beard and his appointment to, and resignation from, the position of Director of King's Park. The Minister's reply stated that the Government had obtained a report prepared by Dr. W. S. Stewart, and the recommendations of the King's Park Board had been based on that report, which suggested that as an ultimate objective the State Herbarium and the curator should be located at the botanic gardens.

Dr. Beard was appointed about 1960. On reading the annual report of the Department of Agriculture for 1965, I was interested to note the following:—

On July 27th, 1964, a meeting of the Herbarium Board was called to discuss the activities of the Herbarium and in particular the question of staff in relation to the very greatly increased work of the Branch caused in part by the recent establishment of



the Botanic Garden in King's Park. This was the first meeting of the Board for more than thirty years.

The fact of the matter is that Dr. Beard—and I congratulate the Government on the selection and appointment of that gentleman—took his task to heart and it became apparent to all those engaged in botany and related activities that Dr. Beard was a man with a purpose and a capacity to fulfil the purpose. It was quite apparent to all of us that he was dedicated, and we only have to look at King's Park to see what he has done. The value of his work to Western Australia, to the economy of the State, and in the provision of recreation facilities which will benefit the health of the community, is inestimable. I have heard nothing but praise of this man's work and I cannot understand why the Government has taken such a casual attitude in allowing him to slip through its fingers.

In an endeavour to ascertain the reason for the Government's ultimate decision to keep the herbarium separate from the botanic gardens, I, and other members, asked questions of the Minister. In his answers the Minister indicated that the decision had been made on the basis of a recommendation or suggestion of the Director of Kew Gardens, Sir George Taylor. It is interesting to note that he was earlier referred to as the Curator of Kew Gardens, which I should think Sir George would consider to be an insult. It was not until Tuesday last that it became apparent that the Government was aware that Sir George Taylor is very highly qualified and is, in fact, the Director of Kew Gardens.

There is a reference to Sir George Taylor in the annual report for 1965 of the Department of Agriculture. At page 26 the report states—

An important visitor was Sir George Taylor, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, England, who was passing through Australia on his way to Lae, New Guinea to open the Herbarium Building.

In reply to a question on Tuesday last the Minister said—

Sir George was inspecting various Australian herbariums prior to officially opening one in Lae, New Guinea.

The Minister went on to say that Sir George arrived here on the 21st March, 1965, and left on the 23rd March, 1965. The Minister said that Sir George had discussions with the Premier and that he saw the Director of Agriculture and departmental officers. The Minister was unaware as to who else he saw. As far as the Minister was aware, no written submission in regard to the herbarium or its future had been submitted by Sir George.

I suggest that the Director of Kew Gardens was hardly here long enough to make any suggestions to the Government. The 21st March was a Sunday; therefore Sir George was here on the Monday and he probably left on the Tuesday morning. There was scarcely time to have reasonable discussion on a subject of such moment, let alone to make recommendations.

Mr. Bovell: Sir George had discussions with the Premier.

Mr. BURKE: The Minister can make a speech for himself, if he wishes. The fact of the matter is that the Government was scraping around for a reason for the shabby manner in which it treated Dr. Beard, and it came up with this.

Mr. Davies: It is a rickety old peg to hang your hat on, isn't it?

Mr. BURKE: I am afraid so.

Mr. Bovell: If it had not been for this Government we would not have had the services of Dr. Beard at all.

Mr. BURKE: If it had not been for this Government we would still have the services of Dr. Beard today.

Mr. Bovell: Let me say that so far as the park is concerned the late Arthur Farrell was indeed a great benefactor. His practical work there is a memorial to him, and Dr. Beard cannot take all the credit for what has been done in King's Park. The late Arthur Farrell did the practical work.

Mr. BURKE: It is interesting to note the contribution that this man made, and I do not deny it coincides with the directorship of Dr. Beard. It is also interesting to refer to the 1967 annual report of the Department of Agriculture. The work of Dr. Beard was apparent to the department, and it recognised it, because at page 29 of the report we find—

A large number of duplicates of early Western Australian collections were received from the Royal Botanic Gardens at Edinburgh through the co-operation of Dr. J. S. Beard, of King's Park and Botanic Garden. These have now been fully incorporated. Some 2,330 species have been distributed to the 15 District Herbaria located at District Offices of the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Davies: I thought we were going to have only one.

Mr. BURKE: The Minister told me in answer to a question that the reason for the Government's decision not to provide facilities for a herbarium in King's Park—as recommended by Sir George Taylor—was that it did not want duplication. This is difficult to follow in the light of the reference of the Department of Agriculture to 15 district herbaria.

It is interesting to note, particularly in view of the fact that we have been promised a ministry of conservation, that in 1965 Dr. Beard put forward a proposal to the King's Park Board for a botanical survey, and the president of the board undertook to bring the matter to the notice of the Minister. In 1966, those proposals, estimated to cost \$30,000, were presented to the Premier. It is now late 1970 and we are still waiting for a ministry of conservation. If Dr. Beard had been allowed to go ahead with this work it would have been invaluable to any minister for conservation. It would not only have assisted the minister for conservation, but also it would have been of assistance to our mining industry; because there is no doubt in my mind that many delays would have been overcome if we had known exactly what we had and where it was.

One of Dr. Beard's problems was that every year he put forward proposals for a vegetation survey of the State, and facilities were provided as they should have been. This year, he put forward further proposals and they were knocked back for no apparent reason. Dr. Beard had already mapped over half the State; and it is his intention to continue with his mapping and, if necessary, he will provide the funds himself. This is in the interest of the State. Vegetation mapping is an invaluable contribution in that it provides the basic information for the setting up of a system of national parks and reserves. As I said, he has already mapped over half the State, and he gave an address to the International Botanical Congress in Seattle in 1969, following which requests for information and results of his research were received from all over the world. There is international scientific interest in Western Australia.

Dr. Beard is producing two series of maps, one of 16 miles to the inch and the other of four miles to the inch. The Government refused to print the maps, although the total cost would have amounted to \$10,000, of which \$5,000 was required immediately, and an awful lot of that would have been recouped by the sale of the maps. The fact of the matter is that this man has provided us with the only completely successful garden of Australian plants of significant size ever undertaken or established in this country, yet his treatment by the Government has been shabby, to say the least.

Members of the Executive are, in my opinion, guilty of under estimating the real worth of this man and the real contribution he has made. I think this is borne out by an earlier reference I made to the fact that the Herbarium Board was prompted to meet for the first time in 30 years in 1964, and by other incidents of which I have no doubt the Minister and probably the Premier are aware. The only

reasons I can see for the treatment meted out to Dr. Beard are the petty bureaucracy and jealousy indulged in amongst Government organisations—either directly or indirectly—and a total misunderstanding of the very valuable contribution he has made.

Although the reasons for Dr. Beard's resignation may appear a little strange to the layman, or hard to understand, they are probably best explained in a statement he made to the Press on his retirement, in which he made it clear that his position was untenable from a purely scientific point of view. In the statement he said—

The primary function of the Herbarium is taxonomic research. Extension work based on this consists in the naming of large numbers of plant specimens for the general public, other departments and the Department of Agriculture. Work of direct value to the Department of Agriculture forms a relatively small part of its functions.

Further down he goes on to say—

The Herbarium botanists need to make use of horticultural facilities, to grow specimens of plants under study, and the gardens staff need constant reference to the Herbarium for plant names. The enforced separation of the two institutions in Western Australia has had a crippling effect on progress in botanical science. Under separation, there can be cooperation between individuals but not a co-ordinated programme.

Whoever the Government appoints to the directorship—and I have a question on the notice paper for Tuesday as to whether there are any applications—will, if he is worth his salt, secure the co-ordination of the herbarium in the botanical gardens.

Mr. Bovell: It might be a little early to obtain that information.

Mr. BURKE: The applications close on the 31st, and Tuesday is the 1st.

Mr. Bovell: You cannot expect the information on the 1st. The King's Park Board called for applications, and it will want to review them.

Mr. BURKE: As I said, whoever the Government appoints to this position will, if he is worth his salt, secure co-ordination in the interests of Western Australia, or else he will leave. As I have suggested, Dr. Beard had the interests of Western Australia at heart. He could have sat back and rested on his laurels for what he had already done, and no-one would have complained. He could have sat back and done nothing; but that is not the man I am talking about. In fact, on his retirement, he was quoted in the Press as proposing a new instrumentality to

facilitate the proper co-ordination of botanical research. Again I quote from the same Press statement—

In order to remedy the situation that has arisen it is my suggestion that the State Government proceed to set up a new instrumentality to be called "The Western Australian Botanic Garden and Herbarium".

This would absorb the functions and staff of the King's Park Board and the W.A. Herbarium and be set up under a special Act of Parliament similar to that governing the W.A. Museum. The Act would provide for appointment of a governing Board of Trustees to the number of about 8 which could usefully include nominees of certain expert bodies (I stress expert) such as the Western Australian Wildlife Authority and the Horticultural Council, also of the Perth City Council and of the Departments of Education and Agriculture.

The Board could usefully be made responsible to the Minister for Conservation. That part of King's Park outside the Botanic Gardens would be administered by the Board.

He goes on to say—

Staff of the W.A. Herbarium are state public servants but could be seconded to the new Board of Trustees for the remainder of their service.

If the Government were as interested as Dr. Beard is in the botanical future of Western Australia I think it would consider his proposals more seriously. It is quite apparent that Dr. Beard was dedicated to the task in hand and that he had the interests of Western Australia at heart; and there is no doubt that his departure from this State is a tragic loss. It is also evident that if the Government had had a little more faith in his suggestion, the task that lies ahead of the proposed ministry of conservation would have been greatly facilitated.

I would now like to speak on a subject that has recently been brought home to me in no uncertain terms. This is the question of homes for needy and destitute persons. We are led to believe that we are living in an affluent society—although I am not particularly aware of this—but no-one would deny that within our society there are people who need assistance, and there are three voluntary organisations that I know of; namely, Camillus House in East Perth, St. Bartholomew's in East Perth, and the Salvation Army, which, to the best of their ability, render this assistance.

All of these organisations perform excellent work for the needy, but I would particularly like to refer to the one in East Perth which is conducted by the Rev. Hodge, and which is known as St. Bartholomew's. The figures he has supplied

to me give some indication of the work which has been done. In 1967-68 this organisation provided 13,994 beds for those who were in need of them; 13,014 in 1968-69, and 12,422 in 1969-70. The reason for the decline in the figures during 1969-70 is because it was discovered that the organisation could, by reducing the number of beds, cope with the situation more adequately and provide a better rehabilitation service for the men it was assisting.

In addition this organisation has provided an average of 600 casual meals free of charge every month. During 1969-70 the income of the organisation, mainly obtained from voluntary contributions and from charity, was \$17,334, and the expenditure amounted to \$19,715. The State Government's contribution per annum is \$500. This represents 29c per man per week, which is only a fraction of the cost of \$11.15 per man per week.

It is redundant for me to say that the sum provided by the State Government is indeed miserly. I want to encourage the Government to increase its contribution to this body because I think it is warranted. In justification of such an increase I would point out that organisations such as St. Bartholomew's save the Government a great deal of money. One of the conditions laid down by this organisation is that every person assisted by it must join a hospital benefit fund. Generally the people who are assisted join such a fund for six months or so and if they suffer any illness or are hospitalised during this period at least the greater portion of the expenses are paid by the fund.

Because of the lives they are forced to lead, the people who are assisted by St. Bartholomew's are often broken in health and many of them require regular medical attention and hospitalisation. Due to this condition imposed by St. Bartholomew's, the Government, despite the fact that it is contributing only \$500 a year, must be saving thousands of dollars annually by not having to provide medical services and hospitalisation for these people.

Quite frequently the Rev. Hodge attends the local court to seek out derelicts and those people who get into trouble. The Police Department and other organisations are well aware of the action taken by the Rev. Hodge in giving refuge to those men who would otherwise be confined to prison, or placed in some Government institution. The Rev. Hodge provides these people with board and lodging and thus enables the Government to effect a saving of at least \$30 per man per week, which cost alone would be greatly in excess of the \$500 a year that is contributed by the Government.

What is more important, these charitable organisations have had a good deal of success in reforming the people they assist and have reformed men regarded by

society as habitual criminals. Here again, I consider that the work of rehabilitation performed by these organisations must also save the Government a good deal of money; much more than the \$500 contributed by it. As I have said, this sum represents only 29c per man per week. It is absolutely farcical, and I cannot understand it.

Therefore I appeal to the Premier and the Government to give men such as the Rev. Hodge, and those conducting similar charitable organisations, a little more recognition for the excellent work they are doing for those people who are in need. They do not seek recognition in the form of accolades, titles, or praise. They are seeking money not for themselves but for the people they are dedicated to help. As I have said, they have already saved the Government and the people of Western Australia large sums of money. In fact, it would not hurt the Government to increase its subsidies to organisations such as St. Bartholomew's not by hundreds of dollars, but by thousands of dollars, because such expenditure would, in no uncertain terms, reap dividends in the way I have suggested.

I seem to be unable to rise to my feet in this House without making some reference to housing. I now wish to speak of the tendency of the State Housing Commission to build multi-storied flats and high density accommodation. This tendency greatly concerns me, and the fact that the motive behind the building of this sort of accommodation is one of pure political expediency makes me all the more concerned. I now wish to quote an article which appeared in *The West Australian* on the 9th May, 1970, following a survey taken in the United Kingdom. It relates to the effects of high density living on the health of people. An extract from this article reads as follows:—

A British survey of long-term flat dwellers has shown that high-density living is slowly producing a state called "flat neurosis".

Symptoms are similar to those brought about by the stresses, frustrations and isolation of modern life.

Young women tend to experience tiredness and irritability, older women insomnia, general discomfort and vague fears. And these psychological pressures, continued over a long-enough period, could eventually produce signs of physical illness.

I think this is a very real problem and we have to take it seriously. Merely because of pure political expediency, I do not think any Government has the right to cram men, women, and children into two-bedroomed and three-bedroomed flats and pile these flats one on top of the other in the form of high density accommodation. By providing such dwellings the children are

given scant space in which to play and move around, and every family is subject to an invasion of its privacy to a high degree which, in the ultimate, can only lead to trouble.

The effects of forcing people to live in such conditions will not be felt now but in 10 years' time. Australia has been regarded for many years as a country of athletes and extremely keen sportsmen. If we continue with this high density living we will turn our nation into a people of drones, because we are forcing children to live in rooms measuring 9 feet by 9 feet day in and day out. Members can well imagine what their physical condition will be in 20 years' time; and the present Government, which is forcing such conditions upon people who are required to live in high density accommodation, will have to bear the responsibility for the adverse effects that will follow.

This is a very real problem; it is one, I submit, that cannot be justified on the grounds on which the Government is attempting to justify it. The report to which I have referred continues with the reference to children as follows:—

But what do they offer the family—particularly the children who, psychologists claim, need their mud pies, their water play, their exploration, their yelling and screaming for release of tension, social and creative development. And what steps are being taken to make the basic design concept a reality?

With your indulgence, Mr. Speaker, I would like to read the rest of this article because it ties the whole thing up. It states—

While high-density development may be the only economical, practical housing, the evidence from both the United States and Australia shows that the human consequences are far from desirable.

"We are trapped, caught up in this cycle of our own making."

This is something which the Government has created and is the situation which has obtained as a result of the Government's inaction over 10 years. The Government has done nothing for 10 years. A pattern was set in 1959 when a Labor Government was in office and 4,500 homes were built—I repeat that homes were built and not high density units. The Minister for Housing does not use the word house; indeed I am inclined to call him the Minister for units.

Mr. Cash: These were urgently needed.

Mr. BURKE: I presume the honourable member has made his speech. The article continues—

"The problem is that in our kind of society we do not attempt to assess the consequences before we implement something.

"It is only afterwards that we try to heal the problems that arise."

The **SPEAKER**: Before you go any further. You have read a newspaper report of what is supposed to be an official report. I trust you have verified that it is a correct and factual account of the official report. That is your responsibility.

*Point of Order*

Mr. **TONKIN**: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I would like to get some clarification on this point, because I have always been in some doubt about it. Is there a Standing Order that covers this?

The **SPEAKER**: No. It is implied in the Standing Orders of the House on the rules of debate which have come down to us and which are incorporated in Standing Order 1. It has been the practice of all Parliaments that speeches must be made and not read. That has been the standard. It also requires a member when he states he is reading from a report to verify that it is a correct report from which he is in fact reading. I would not object if the honourable member had the actual report, but I understand he is reading from a newspaper an account of what is supposed to be a report.

*Debate (on motion) Resumed*

Mr. **BURKE**: Following this article in the newspaper I asked the Minister for Housing some questions with reference to the Government's policy because I felt it should be highlighted. I wanted to know whether any study had been undertaken of the problems to which the newspaper report made reference. I also wanted to know what qualifications the selection officers had in connection with high density accommodation.

The replies I secured seemed to indicate to me at least that both the Minister for Housing and the Minister for Health—to whom the questions were addressed—have little or no interest in the potential problems that could arise and which were foreshadowed in this newspaper report.

I am quick to mention that I was not reflecting on any member of the Housing Commission. I am well acquainted with certain of the Housing Commission's selection officers and I know that people like Mrs. Pullen are outstanding in their field of work. I felt, however, that when we have predicted problems of the type referred to in the newspaper article to which I have referred, we should be looking for professional selection officers. The fact of the matter is that there is no properly qualified person in the State Housing Commission to carry out this selection work, and this is causing trouble.

I am quite sure that the selection process for high density living is only secondary in the mind of the Government; it is only a means to keep the numbers down for

political expediency. The Government cannot have any particular interest in the welfare of the people if it plonks them into these flats.

Mr. **Cash**: That is a lot of nonsense.

Mr. **BURKE**: What worries me greatly is that in more recent times a survey was taken in Western Australia of people living in flats, and it might be interesting if I quoted the relevant portion. The story, which appeared in the *Daily News* of the 17th July, 1970, under the heading "Bitterness over 'cell-block' living," referred to the State Housing Commission flats. These were referred to by a senior lecturer in architecture at the University of Western Australia as inhuman cell blocks. Right through the article mention is made of the attitude of the people living in these flats. One such reference is as follows:—

"Leave? Of course I'd leave if I could," said Mrs D. A. Cheshire who lives at the Hunt Place flats, Balga.

"For a start there is almost nowhere for the children to play," she said.

"They are not supposed to play on the stairs, on the paths, or on the grounds because the grass is supposed to be growing."

As I have said, right through the article there is reference to discontent and annoyance by the people concerned over the fact that they have been forced to accept accommodation such as that referred to in the article.

It is also interesting to note—and I might need clarification on this, though I have seen such letters—that letters are sent out to people who apply for high density accommodation, and I think it is the last sentence which indicates that if they do not reply within seven days it will be assumed that they do not require the accommodation. This is flat accommodation; the people are not told that they have an option and that if they wish to forgo their allocation of high density accommodation and wait their turn, they might be allocated either a terrace house or a single unit.

Sir David Brand: Who built Wandana flats?

Mr. **BURKE**: There are no three-bedroom flats in Graham flats.

Sir David Brand: What about Wandana?

Mr. **BURKE**: There are none at Wandana either.

Mr. **Cash**: Who built Wandana?

Sir David Brand: The flats constitute high density living.

Mr. **Cash**: Tell us about Wandana flats while you are thinking about it.

Sir David Brand: He has lost his place.

Mr. **Davies**: They did a splendid job for a particular purpose. You opposed them; very much so.

Sir David Brand: We were just asking; you might answer the question. Get up and tell us when you have the opportunity.

Mr. BURKE: It is interesting to note that the Premier is reacting to my comments on flats and flat dwellers. He is as well aware of the problem as I am.

Sir David Brand: I am not at all interested in what you think.

Mr. BURKE: I know the Premier is not interested, but he will not be here because of the problems that will be caused as a result of his policy.

Sir David Brand: That is what you think.

Mr. BURKE: Another article appeared in the *Daily News* of the 16th July, 1970, under the heading "SHC flat-dwellers would move."

Mr. Cash: Who wrote the article?

Mr. BURKE: The article reads in part—

Most families living in State Housing Commission flats would move tomorrow—if they could afford anything better.

This was one of the main findings in a survey conducted recently by fourth year architecture students at the W.A. University.

Sir David Brand: That has always been the case.

Mr. BURKE: Major complaints from 80 per cent. of Perth State Housing Commission flat dwellers interviewed included—

1. Lack of playing space and amenities for children.
2. Noise from other flats.
3. No ground to call one's own.

I am sure no member in this House would bring up a family without a yard in which his children could play; a yard which he could call his own.

Mr. Cash: Not one word about the quality of the flats!

Mr. BURKE: We heard all about the quality of the buildings in the last session. We were told by the member for Balcatta that the ceilings were falling in! I visit these flats regularly, and I am aware of the standard of the buildings.

In my submission, flat-dwelling is of no benefit to the people. It is creating problems now, and in the long term the problems will become greater. I submit that the reason this State is turning to the construction of flats is one of political expediency. This Government has not done very much about the housing position in the last 10 years, and it does not intend to do anything to provide houses in competition with the private contractors who, at the present time, are experiencing hardship in trying to sell houses at figures greatly in excess of what the people can and should pay.

In respect of flat-dwelling I asked the following question of the Minister for Housing on the 18th August:—

How many separate blocks of State Housing Commission flats are proposed for the area bounded by Balga Avenue, Redcliffe Avenue, Beach Road, and Mirrabooka Avenue?

This is an area of a quarter mile in length and in breadth. I experienced a lot of difficulty in getting an answer from the Minister. He said that eventually a consolidated site plan would be prepared.

Later on in a letter addressed to me the Minister enclosed a plan which was very well drawn. It showed about eight blocks of flats of varying sizes, but it contained no reference to the area of each site. In presenting the plan, the Minister avoided the question I had asked, because the area which he referred to was only about half the size of the area I had referred to. This plan showed about eight blocks of flats, but in the area bounded by the four streets mentioned in the question at least 12 blocks of flats are being erected. This will bring about traffic jams.

Mr. Cash: They will not cause traffic jams, because the streets in the area have been designed to eliminate them.

Mr. BURKE: With so much land available there is absolutely no need for the Housing Commission to build flats. The member for Mirrabooka would not want to live in one, nor would he wish his children to do so. I am sure he would want a block of land on which to live—whether he be renting the house or buying it. Yet he would deny other people the same opportunity. I think it is fair to say that the Government does not really care about the needs of the people; all it is concerned with is to overcome the backlog at the commission.

Sir David Brand: Don't talk nonsense!

Mr. BURKE: That is the primary concern of the Government. If the Government was more concerned about the housing needs of the people, then it would control landlords who are charging optimum rents for some places in which I would not put a pig! Many of them charge key money and four weeks' rent in advance. Some even require tenancy bonds. Recently the Perpetual Executors Trustee & Agency Co. announced a record profit; last year it imposed a fee of \$10 on all of its negotiations.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member has five more minutes.

Mr. BURKE: The final matter I wish to deal with relates to the land in the heart of Perth. I was pleased to hear the Government's announcement—and I felt quite satisfied that at least I had helped in part to bring this about—that the centre of Perth will be retained for the people of Western Australia and for posterity.

Sir David Brand: The Government played its part.

Mr. BURKE: I think I did a lot more than any member opposite to preserve this land for the people. If the Government had had its way it would have given this land to half a dozen American investors, and the land would have been gone forever. That was the Government's intention. It was only through pressure outside Parliament and in Parliament that the Government changed its plans.

Sir David Brand: Nothing of the sort!

Mr. BURKE: Of the 37 acres of land involved in this area, after making provision for roads and bridges, approximately 20 acres will be left. I would like to see as much of this area as possible left as public open space. I would like to see the land developed to include malls, gardens, and a cultural centre. Such development would make us proud of our city.

With the city centre extending from the Swan River to Newcastle Street, there will be sufficient open space in the future for the increased population. At the present time we find traffic jams in this area at all hours. Little is being done to overcome this problem. We should be looking for solutions to our traffic problems.

Very shortly William Street and Barrack Street will become one-way streets. I would be inclined to reverse the flow of traffic in Murray Street and in Hay Street in order to eliminate right-hand turns, and to encourage the flow of traffic around the city block on a left-hand course. This is an idea which could be examined.

Recently I asked several questions in respect of noise, but I did not get very far. I asked one question of the Premier, and in reply he indicated that legislation, with a view to controlling noise, was under review. On the 21st April I asked the Premier a question to which he replied—

The Government is seeking further information regarding legislative measures taken overseas to control noise.

On the opening day of the present session I asked a question of the Premier in relation to legislation to control noise. The attitude of the Premier was that he did not consider noise to be a real problem. His answer was—

The Government has given consideration to this matter but has not arrived at any solution as to how the noise problem can be controlled. I can add nothing more in reply to the honourable member than to say that we will continue to research this problem because when action is taken in respect of the noise difficulty . . .

His reply was somewhat supercilious.

Sir David Brand: It was not supercilious at all.

Mr. BURKE: The Minister for Police seems to be conscious of the need to control noise, because in his reply to a letter which one of my constituents wrote to him concerning the control of noise from motor vehicles he said that he was having further inquiries made to see what could be done to alleviate this growing problem.

On the question of noise I want to refer to a report which appeared in the leading article of the *British Medical Journal* of April, 1970. It states—

In 1958 A. Glorig coined the term "sociacusis" to draw attention to the fact that industrial civilization produces a burden of noise that may accelerate the normal loss of hearing due to ageing, and it may prove to be a serious threat to hearing. It is only comparatively recently that the threat has been recognized as extending beyond the worker in a noisy industry to all who live in towns and cities. Excessive noise can now be regarded as comparable to air pollution.

I am inclined to agree with that. On another aspect of noise the report had this to say—

Lately several workers have reported that pop and rock music may be damaging the hearing both of the people who produce it and of those who listen to it in clubs, halls, discotheques, and the like.

F. J. Dey measured auditory fatigue in a group of young men exposed to music at a level of 100 to 110 decibels for periods of up to half an hour. It was not considered safe to prolong the experiment to two hours at 110 decibels, a condition commonly found in discotheques . . .

There would seem to be enough evidence to indicate that a warning should be given to the manufacturers of amplifying equipment that a level of 100 decibels should not be exceeded. Certainly it is a sad disability for people to have their hearing impaired in youth to the level they might be resigned to expect at 60.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member's time has expired.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Young.

House adjourned at 5.59 p.m.