

to hear them. I admit there are quite a number of justices of the peace throughout the State who exercise a lot of wisdom in the cases which come before them and who carry out their duties very well. On the other hand, we have only to cast our minds back over the last 12 months to remember that there have been very disturbing aspects associated with people being tried and sentenced by justices of the peace.

Great care should be shown in conferring this authority on people. I repeat, I have been perturbed at the very easy manner in which J.P.'s are appointed. It may not be known generally—but I think it is known to all members—that a person's name is put forward by an association in a district, or perhaps by some individuals, to the local member for the district. It can be a member of this Chamber or the other Chamber. The name is then passed on to the Premier's Department which department gets in touch with the Legislative Assembly member for the district—if the name did not come from him—and that member is asked for his views.

For political reasons the member may not wish to offend the person and so gives his O.K. when, perhaps, if he had given mature consideration to the application he might have decided that whilst the person was an excellent citizen in some respects he might not be suitable to preside over a court.

I think this is a matter which the Government—whichever Government is in office—should take a look at so that justices of the peace are not appointed lightly. Some people want to be made a justice of the peace so that they can wear the honour like a decoration. They have no intention of presiding over any cases. While it should be regarded as a high honour to be appointed to such a position, there should be a different method of appointing justices of the peace than is the case at the present time. As the hour is late I will conclude with those remarks.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Gayfer.

House adjourned at 10.38 p.m.

Legislative Assembly

Thursday, the 17th August, 1967

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

QUESTIONS (17): ON NOTICE

ASTHMA

Use of Hormone Drug

1. Mr. FLETCHER asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health:
Adverting to my question on the 15th August, 1967, and his reply

“that the hormone drug was being used for ovulation stimulating purposes”—

- (1) Is the same drug being administered to assist in treatment of asthmatics?
- (2) If so, are the results beneficial or otherwise?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) No, not as far as can readily be ascertained.
- (2) Answered by (1).

FATAL COUNTRY TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

Metropolitan Residents Involved

2. Mr. ELLIOTT asked the Minister for Police:

What percentage of fatal country road accidents have involved residents of the metropolitan area who have been travelling in the country at the time of these accidents?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

21.1 per cent.

MENTAL INSTITUTIONS

Children Awaiting Admission

3. Mr. GAYFER asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health:

Will he advise the numbers on the waiting list at Pyrtton and Claremont Hospitals for mentally incurable children?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:
56.

ANTI-D GAMMAGLOBULIN

Use in Maternity Cases

4. Mr. FLETCHER asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health:
Re *The West Australian* of the 24th January, 1967, headline, “New Serum to Shield Mothers from Disease”—

- (1) Is the serum known as Anti-D gammaglobulin now being used in appropriate maternity cases in W.A.?
- (2) Have the special units been established as suggested by Dr. Shanahan of the Perth blood bank?
- (3) As the serum appears a dramatic alternative method to save the lives of Rh babies, is all possible assistance being given to make adequate facilities available to ensure supply of serum?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) It is available.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) Yes.

"GERALDTON HINTERLAND"

*Similar Publication for Warren
Electorate*

5. Mr. ROWBERRY asked the Minister for Industrial Development:

- (1) Does he know of a booklet entitled *Geraldton Hinterland*?
- (2) Who was responsible for the financing of this booklet?
- (3) What firm did the printing?
- (4) What agency, Government and/or otherwise, was responsible for the gathering and collating of the information contained in the booklet?
- (5) Will he investigate the possibility of having a similar booklet developed under the title *Warren Area Potential* or *Bunbury Hinterland*, preferably the former?

Mr. COURT replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Department of Industrial Development.
- (3) Frank Daniels Pty. Ltd., 153 Wellington street, Perth.
- (4) The booklet was written and collated by the Premier's Department and produced in conjunction with the Department of Industrial Development.
- (5) It is the intention to produce a complete series on the State. Already produced have been—
 - (a) *Geraldton Hinterland*.
 - (b) *Eastern Hinterland*.
 - (c) *Frontiers North*.

Next to be produced and already in course of preparation is *Bunbury Hinterland*.

6. and 7. *These questions were postponed.*

MEAT

*Unlicensed Works: Supplies and
Inspection*

8. Mr. TONKIN asked the Minister for Agriculture:

- (1) How many unlicensed works are responsible for supplying meat for human consumption in the metropolitan area?
- (2) Was information upon which he based his answers to questions on Tuesday, the 1st August, obtained from the Public Health Department?
- (3) Was the information subjected to any form of check?
- (4) Is it considered that inspection by local authority inspectors at the metropolitan markets is adequate substitution for Public Health Department supervision and a proper safeguard for public health?

Mr. BRAND (for Mr. Nalder) replied:

- (1) There are no known unlicensed slaughter houses.
- (2) and (3) Information was obtained by the Public Health Department from local authority inspection records.
- (4) The appointment of local authority inspectors, qualified to inspect meat offered for sale, is subject to the approval of the Public Health Department.

**STATE GOVERNMENT INSURANCE
OFFICE**

Motor Vehicle Insurance

9. Mr. NORTON asked the Minister for Labour:

- (1) Has the State Government Insurance Office made any alteration to its motor vehicle comprehensive insurance policy; if so, what alterations have been made?
- (2) Has there been—
 - (a) reduction; or
 - (b) increase,
 in the standard premium for the above insurance?

Mr. O'NEIL replied:

- (1) The only alterations made to the motor vehicle comprehensive policy in recent months have been as follows:—
 - (a) The exclusion of claims arising from nuclear explosion or contamination by radioactivity from nuclear fuel.
 - (b) The alteration of the definition of "use for private purposes" to allow of limited use by the motor trade for the purpose of demonstrating the vehicle for sale.
- (2) The last major amendments to the terms and conditions of the policy took place with effect from the 1st October, 1966. These were as follows:—
 - (1) Rating:
 - (a) Vehicles were classified into three schedules according to make with varying premium ratings based on an analysis of the cost of repair of the different makes and models.
 - (b) Premium ratings in respect of private and business type vehicles, and trucks and utilities up to two tons capacity were increased by approximately 10 per cent.
 - (c) Allowance was made in the assessment of the premium ratings for the anticipated decrease in

liability in respect of injuries to passengers as a result of amendments to the Motor Vehicle (Third Party Insurance) Act which did not take effect until the 1st July, 1967.

- (ii) No Claim Bonus: A new generous scale of bonuses was instituted as an incentive to the careful driver as follows:—
- (a) Maximum bonus of 50 per cent. was reached after three years instead of four.
 - (b) A further 10 per cent. claim free appreciation discount was allowed after one year on maximum bonus.
 - (c) A policy holder in receipt of the claim free appreciation discount reverts only to 25 per cent. bonus for the first claim lodged.
 - (d) A no-claim bonus is not lost in respect of claims for windscreen breakage or window glass only.
- (iii) Excesses: The \$50 excess previously applied to all Volkswagen vehicles was deleted.

WATER SUPPLIES

Roelands and Burekup: Connection to Scheme

10. Mr. I. W. MANNING asked the Minister for Water Supplies:

- (1) When is it anticipated that scheme water will be available to the townships of Roelands and Burekup?
- (2) What is the source of supply for these towns and what construction work is involved?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) The provision of a reticulated water supply for Burekup is listed for consideration in the 1967-68 works programme, which is not yet finalised. A scheme for Roelands will be listed for consideration in the 1968-69 works programme.
- (2) The source of supply for both towns will be from Beela Dam and the schemes will involve laying 4½ miles of main from Brunswick Junction, together with 183 chains of reticulation mains in the townships.

11. *This question was postponed.*

SCHOOLS

Classrooms Built in Last Five Years

12. Mr. JAMIESON asked the Minister for Education:

What number of additional classrooms have been built during

each of the last five years at Government primary and secondary schools?

Mr. LEWIS replied:

		High	Primary	Total
1962-63	....	100	110	210
1963-64	....	68	165	233
1964-65	....	150	87	237
1965-66	....	99	175	274
1966-67	....	146	219	365

PERTH DENTAL SCHOOL

Enrolments, Vacancies, and Training Facilities

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

- (1) How many students are currently enrolled in each of the years of the course for dentists at the Perth Dental School?
- (2) How many vacancies is it anticipated will be available in the second year of the course for 1968?
- (3) Does he have any estimate of the increase in qualified dentists required annually in this State?
- (4) Does the Government have any plans, alone or in conjunction with any other body, to expand facilities for training dentists?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) First year 50; second year 25; third year 17; fourth year 23; fifth year 9.
- (2) At the present time there is a second year quota of 25 students. This quota is currently under review by the University as additional laboratory accommodation is to be made available for third year students in time for the 1968 academic year. Also, a proposal is being prepared for submission to the Australian Universities Commission for finance to increase the number of clinical places for third, fourth, and fifth year students in the next triennium.
- (3) In June, 1965, there were 321 dentists on the Dental Register to serve a population of 804,500. An additional 290 dentists will be required to allow for deaths, retirements, a slight improvement in the dentist population ratio, and the increase in population which is estimated to be 1,100,000 by 1980. It is estimated that by 1980 the State will require a minimum of 30 dental graduates each year.
- (4) A proposal is being compiled for submission to the Australian Universities Commission for a grant to increase the clinical facilities for third, fourth, and fifth year students.

BUNBURY SLIPWAY
*Completion and Further
Development*

14. Mr. WILLIAMS asked the Minister for Works:

- (1) When will the 80-ton slipway at Bunbury be ready for use?
- (2) Will land be made available, adjacent to the slipway, for private boat builders?
- (3) Is it anticipated that a small boat harbour consisting of pens, will be built in the area; if so, when?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) The slipway will be available for use prior to the end of September, 1967.
- (2) The Bunbury Harbour Board controls the area and will consider any applications on their merits.
- (3) Present proposals are to provide a service jetty only.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLIES

*Overhead and Underground Mains:
Cost*

15. Mr. WILLIAMS asked the Minister for Electricity:

- (1) What is the average cost of supplying overhead mains and services to a residence in—
 - (a) metropolitan area;
 - (b) Bunbury;
 - (c) Albany;
 - (d) Northam?
- (2) Which is considered to be the cheaper to maintain, in both high voltage and low voltage—
 - (a) overhead mains;
 - (b) underground mains?
- (3) In both cases (a) and (b), what are the major items incurring maintenance?
- (4) What are the major difficulties and costs in undergrounding—
 - (a) high voltage mains;
 - (b) low voltage mains and services;
 in both new and old residential areas?
- (5) What are the approximate cost differences of aerial and underground construction in each of the cases mentioned in (4)?

Mr. BRAND (for Mr. Nalder) replied:

- (1) (a) to (d) When an area is fully built up, the cost of supplying overhead mains and services to those areas is approximately \$90 per residence.

(2) (a) and (b) The balance of cost can be slightly in favour of underground cable.

(3) Overhead mains—trees combined with storms.
Underground mains—failure of insulation.

(4) (a) and (b) The high capital cost and the serious increase in the cost of electricity to the consumer.

(5) (a) High voltage underground mains are 10 to 14 times the cost of overhead mains.

(b) Low voltage underground mains are approximately five times the cost of overhead mains.

*Underground Mains: Plastic Cables,
and Fault Detection*

16. Mr. WILLIAMS asked the Minister for Electricity:

- (1) Would plastic covered cable be acceptable for underground supplies in residential areas; if so, in what sizes and cost per chain?
- (2) If not, for what reasons?
- (3) What instruments or means are available for locating faults in underground power systems and how efficient are these?

Mr. BRAND (for Mr. Nalder) replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) It is susceptible to physical damage and its current ratings and short circuit current ratings must be low to protect the insulation from destruction. There are consequent problems in the number and size of transformers and the cost of the protective system.
- (3) Fault finding instruments are not always reliable.

Koolyanobbing: Underground Mains

17. Mr. WILLIAMS asked the Minister for Electricity:

- (1) Was the State Electricity Commission responsible for the undergrounding of power mains in Koolyanobbing?
- (2) If so, what was the total length and cost of—
 - (a) high voltage mains;
 - (b) low voltage mains and services?
- (3) How many houses are supplied?
- (4) What type of cables were used?

Mr. BRAND (for Mr. Nalder) replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) to (4) No knowledge—see (1).

QUESTIONS (2): WITHOUT NOTICE

DENTAL TREATMENT

Children: Cessation of Free Attention

1. Mr. TONKIN asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health:
 - (1) What is the estimated annual saving from the proposed cessation of free dental attention which is being provided at present for school children in accordance with the policy which has been in operation for many years?
 - (2) What is the estimated amount of expenditure involved in the proposed subsidy for parents who cannot afford full fees for treatment by private dentists?
 - (3) What are the criteria which will comprise the means test upon which decisions will be made to determine eligibility for subsidy?
 - (4) Was a request made by the dental association or other interested parties for an alteration to the current scheme of free dental examination and treatment?
 - (5) If "Yes," when was it made and by whom?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

Some time ago the Leader of the Opposition gave notice of these questions to the Minister for Health, and the answers are as follows:—

- (1) and (2) The annual cost is not expected to vary to any appreciable degree from present costs.
- (3) The same as at present in use at the Perth Dental Hospital.
- (4) The Australian Dental Association put up a suggestion regarding a free dental service to particular groups on sessional payments by the Government to private dentists.
- (5) The Western Australian Branch of the Australian Dental Association in July, 1966.

MIGRANT HOSTEL ACCOMMODATION

Investigation of News Item

2. Mr. JAMIESON asked the Premier:

Unfortunately I was unable to contact the Premier beforehand, but I think my questions are clear-cut and it will be possible to give some attention to them. The questions are as follows:—

 - (1) Is the Premier aware of a news item on the 12.30 p.m. A.B.C. news today from a

London source condemning migrant hostel accommodation in Australia, and particularly in Western Australia?

- (2) Is he also aware that the accommodation in this State is said to be badly infested with rats, fleas, and cockroaches?
- (3) As this statement would appear to be a direct reflection on this State's health laws and administrators, would he have the situation fully investigated at the highest level and submit a report on the situation to this House?

Mr. BRAND replied:

I did not hear the news. However, I am sure there is a complete answer to these accusations, and I will refer the matter to the Minister concerned.

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY: NINTH DAY

Motion

Debate resumed, from the 16th August, on the following motion by Mr. Elliott:—

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor in reply to the Speech he has been pleased to deliver to Parliament:—

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. GAYFER (Avon) [2.30 p.m.]: I join with others in the Chamber who have expressed their thoughts on the tragic and untimely death of our colleague and friend, the late Mr. George Cornell. All the tributes in the world would not do justice to the thoughts that are in the minds of many of us concerning George Cornell, so it is suffice for me to say, "Well done, George," and offer my condolences and best wishes to his wife and his sons.

Likewise I wish to pay a tribute to my friend and colleague, Mr. Tom Hart, the ex-member for Roe, who sat alongside me for six years. I pay a tribute to the work he has done, not only in the House, but also in his research and in his office. I do not think there is anyone who has done more than Mr. Tom Hart in carrying out fact-finding tasks. He will be missed not only by those in his electorate, but by all those who are engaged in agricultural pursuits throughout this State. I sincerely hope and trust that he and his wife will have an opportunity to

enjoy good health for many years, and, together with their daughters, to live a happy and eventful life.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the Leader of the Opposition on his elevation to office, and to pay my respects and best wishes to the former Leader of the Opposition—the member for Northam—who now, unfortunately, is seated a little behind me where I cannot watch him as well as I did when he occupied his position on the front Opposition bench. However, I endorse the tributes that have been paid to the member for Northam, because he, like a few others—not over many—has certainly acted in the best interests of his party and his State as far as he was able, and this is a credit to him.

Recently I was fortunate enough to be elected by the executive committee of the Western Australian Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association to undertake a study abroad. Most of us realise that this is a comparatively recent innovation, but I will convey my blessings to anybody who participates in it in the future, and I sincerely hope it will continue for many years to come.

I suppose the thoughts that originally motivated my desire to study certain problems of interest throughout the world could be summed up and explained a little differently from what appeared on the hard cold agenda that was presented to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

The advancement of science and secondary industry; the general tendency of people of their own free will and accord to congregate in relatively small overcrowded areas; the fact that the population of the world will increase by 100 per cent. in 33 years, and in some countries in 25 years; the upsurge of certain countries towards gaining their independence from agricultural imports, and the terrific strides that have been made in this direction; the fact that fewer units annually are being spent by individuals on the purchase of foodstuffs: all these things have caused me, for some time, to reflect and wonder about the future of foodstuffs generally, and certain agricultural products in particular, in the world of tomorrow.

I believe that one should not only project one's thoughts into the immediate future, but should endeavour to ascertain in which direction our destiny lies; to try to sense and gauge the value of the basic products against the manufactured products and discover in which direction—and the best manner of doing so—emphasis should be placed.

This complex thought carried me to America, Canada, England, Israel, and India in an endeavour to ascertain, by making comparisons with these various countries, what our place will be not only in the world of today, but also in the world

of tomorrow. None of this would have been possible without the assistance of various individuals regarding whom, at this stage, I must make some reference. Firstly, I wish to thank the Western Australian Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, its secretary, Mr. Len Hawley, and his staff. I also express my appreciation for information and assistance made available to me by the Premier's Department, the Minister for Agriculture, and the Minister for Industrial Development.

I would like to express similar thoughts regarding the Canadian Commonwealth Parliamentary Association; the Worthington Crailshem Society; the Washington State Department; Mr. Tom Mayfield, the United States Consul in Western Australia, for his help and listing of various personal friends whom I was able to contact; the British Central Office of Information, through the medium of Western Australia House; the Government of Israel; the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association of India, and the Government of that country.

From here on perhaps it would be best if I told the Chamber exactly what I did in my 50 days of travel; in my 35 aircraft flights that took me over 35,000 miles; and in my many motorcar and train journeys. If I tried to dissect any portion of those 50 days of travel, I would need to speak for an hour on each of the places visited to do them justice. So instead I will endeavour to take members through the places I visited and make some brief comment on them, which I hope will suffice as a report to Parliament of my actions during that period.

For many years I have been extremely interested in the statement that one day San Francisco and Los Angeles would become one. In other words, it has been stated the two cities would be united through urban development. I always wondered, if that did come to pass, what would become of the famous Santa Clara Valley, the orchard-growing district of California, famous for its sun-kissed fruit. Consequently, my first port of call was California, in an endeavour to ascertain what the future held for the people of the Santa Clara Valley. I discovered that what I thought was imminent was indeed a fact; that is, that the Santa Clara Valley, over a decade and a half, has been reduced by 50 per cent. in size to some 65,000 acres by the urban development and the requirements for land as a result of that development.

The orchardists in that valley are extremely worried because they cannot possibly farm their land economically. Some of them are making only 1½ per cent. on their capital outlay on the land, which, based on urban values, in some instances, has reached a valuation of \$1,000,000, and sometimes more. This is land which originally, to bring into production, cost

\$1,000 an acre; but now it is worth \$14,000 an acre.

They are paying taxes to the value of \$600 an acre, and because of the return on the money available, and the fact that their land is desired, it is not possible for them to consider farming in this area for very much longer. These orchardists have not altogether given away the idea of orcharding. They are travelling to other parts with a view to establishing orchards in dairying country, further to the east, to the north, and to the south, and they are finding this exercise rather difficult.

This brings me to my first point, and that is the spread of cities in the future through the best agricultural and productive land which is available. This was evident throughout America. The tendency was for factories to follow the fertile strips through the valleys, thus taking out of production these lands, which will never be able to produce anything in the future, and leaving, in some cases, barren hills. The farmers who live on these barren hills have never been, and never will be able to farm these hills as productively as the people in the valleys farm their land.

This is something to which we must give some heed in our future planning, because it is a very real problem; it is one that was expressed in many countries throughout my trip, and one about which the people there are extremely worried.

While I was in California I witnessed the restoring of underground waters by percolation and the induction of the waters through other rivers and back through the gravelled base, thus replenishing the underground supplies to the extent of about 180,000 acre feet a year in an attempt to make up the deficiency of the water being used for irrigation purposes by the orchardists. I witnessed the same process of restoration of underground water supplies in Israel. It intrigued me no end, because this possibly could have an application to certain parts of this State.

I also witnessed there my first experience of fruit-picking machines. I do not know of the existence of any of these fruit-picking machines in Australia, though I am told that experiments have been carried out with one such machine. These fruit-picking machines come alongside the tree and spread a pneumatic blanket under it. The machine then shakes the tree, the fruit falls on to the blanket, and is picked up hydraulically, after which it travels along an elevator and is finally tipped into a basket. Members will readily appreciate the value of these machines when I tell them that they can pick a tree in three minutes.

I am hoping that some of our manufacturers will have a look at these various machines which are available in California. The stage is gradually being reached where several factories are springing up and using these machines in preference to the type that prominently held the market previously.

From California I ventured to Vancouver, and there I met the Australian and the New Zealand Trade Commissioners. This gave me an opportunity to talk about the future of Australian and New Zealand trade in Canada. I would like to say that there is in that country a distinct market for many years to come for Australian lamb; although I did notice that the New Zealanders were doing most of the advertising, while the Australians were selling a little of their product under the cover of the New Zealand advertisements—not that the Australian lamb was marked "New Zealand," or anything like that—but I did not notice any advertisements for a particular type of Australian lamb. This was taken quite quietly by the New Zealand authority, but in order to promote our lamb in Canada—if we have enough lamb for that purpose—it might be possible to arrive at some joint arrangement to promote a product that might be called "Anzac Lamb," or something of that kind. This promotion could also be extended to America.

In Vancouver I was privileged to have a Beaver seaplane more or less placed at my disposal for the day. This was done through the courtesy of the Minister for Forests (The Hon. Ray Willeson) there. He is certainly a very nice gentleman, and he did everything possible to make my stay there enjoyable. In fact he sent with me his chief ranger, and we journeyed to Fort Alberni on Vancouver Island.

This was an amazing experience, and was in accord with my desire to witness some of the modern methods of timber cutting and reforestation in that area. I was a guest for the afternoon of a company called MacMillan Bloedel, which annually cuts 290,000,000 cubic feet of timber. When we consider that the total output in Western Australia is 230,000,000 cubic feet in one year we can appreciate the tremendous cut that is being made by this company, which is one of many.

It was amazing to see the method it employed for felling timber. The trees are cut over and placed on trucks with an 80-ton payload. They are then taken down the mountains to the river below where they are floated down on raft-like structures to Fort Alberni on the other side of the lake. When one considers that 12,000 tons of paper pulp is one of the sidelines of the company, one has some idea just how big the factory is. I was told, however, that this 12,000 tons of paper pulp represented a weekend's requirements of a New Orleans newspaper.

The reforestation methods employed were, I think, a little different from anything I imagined, inasmuch as the pines or hemlocks are planted very close together and there is a weeding-out process which takes place at a later date.

The timber is cut on a face, and the areas are planted on a face. I fully rea-

lize with our types of trees this might not be altogether possible, but in itself it is certainly a very interesting exercise, and one I appreciated very much in the areas where pines or hemlocks are grown.

I journeyed by seaplane over the hydro-electric power stations on Vancouver Island where we landed to have a look at the firefighting bombers which are moored on the lakes in the centre of the island. Last night the Minister for Lands and Forests provided us with the opportunity to see the latest film on bushfires control.

This brought back to my mind a picture of these tremendous bombers—of the last war vintage—which were tied up on these lakes. These bombers have scoops which pick up 600 gallons of liquid with which they spray the forest fires. Instead of landing for a further supply of water, they skim over the lake, induce more water into the hold, and take off again. This seems to me to be a very sound method of fire fighting indeed, and one which, perhaps, could be looked at at a later date in Western Australia.

I understand this idea is under consideration in certain countries on the Continent. In fire control over there, the accent is placed on fire hazards, and this aspect was brought home to me. Although the day was not particularly hot, it was very dangerous in respect of fires. Control was exercised over every vehicle—and they all had radio equipment—which went into the tree-chopping areas; and the vehicles were alerted every half hour. When the temperature reached a certain point on the graph, every vehicle, every cutter, and every person engaged in those areas left the forest and returned to the lakes below.

That actually happened when I was there, and I was able to witness the vehicles and ambulances, which were on duty all the time, coming out in a file from the timber. That shows how complete are the methods used for fire control in that country.

From there I went to Calgary in Alberta. I expressed a wish to see something of the wheat industry in prairie Canada. I was able to inspect the storing, marketing, and handling methods that were used, and I saw the general methods of farming that were adopted in that State. Alberta is a State on the move. If we regard Western Australia as being on the move, then the same can be said of Alberta. Two industries per month have been introduced into Alberta for the last few years. Over the last few months the City of Calgary attracted 1,100 people each month to settle in it. The population has increased threefold to a total of 400,000 in the last 20 years. In my journeys through Alberta, I could see some of the reasons for the population increase.

In Alberta many acres of farming land have recently been opened up, and there

are still 12,000,000 acres left. In the last few years the Government of that province settled 6,500 homesteaders into economic units. Therefore it was rather surprising to me to find another Western Australia in Canada on the move.

What surprised me most were the inducements offered by the Government to people to settle in Alberta. One inducement is the very low probate duty. This brought home the message to me, because in that province the royalties from oil are used to offset the low probate. At the time I thought that the royalties from our huge reserves of iron ore could be used to reduce the probate in Western Australia, and so induce more people to settle in this State.

Mr. Graham: You mean induce them to come here to die.

Mr. GAYFER: That might be so. This is an idea which should give us food for thought. The inducement achieved marked results, because the probate movement in certain other parts of Canada has been on a downward trend. I notice that in other parts of Canada the first \$60,000—I am referring to Canadian dollars—is exempt from probate; then an exemption of \$10,000 for each child is granted. Further, a gift of \$1,000 every 12 months can be made without the payment of duty. It is claimed that this is one of the great inducements being offered to people who do not live far away from Canada to settle in the country and make their home there.

Mr. Rowberry: Did you have a look at the monetary system in Alberta? A system, somewhat like social credit, has been adopted over there.

Mr. GAYFER: In Alberta I noticed the extension of electricity supplies into all parts of the province. That was my first experience of seeing electricity supplies being extended to isolated country homes and towns. The spread of electricity is outstanding.

I went into—for want of a better term—the hillbilly country. I am not being derogatory when I use that term, because it is used over there. I found that electricity was, literally, piped all over Canada. I should point out that hydroelectric power is supplied at a very cheap rate. It is available, and it is recognised as being a wonderful but an essential facility for all the people, irrespective of where they live.

In my journeys over the prairies I was intrigued to find, in all the Provinces I visited, the absence of fences. In fact, in most parts of the United States through which I travelled, I noticed the same thing. I also noticed that the roads were built along parallel lines, a mile apart in latitude and two miles apart in longitude; thus making parcels of two square miles of country bounded by roads. This has

brought about the establishment of home-steads along a common road, and made the spread of electricity and other essential amenities much easier. It is not right to assume that similar development could be applied in Western Australia, because I am now dealing with prairie country. Credit should be given to the planners in Canada and the northern states of America who, some 300 years ago, envisaged this as the best way to define the farm lands.

During my visit I met the Reeve of Stanford. The reeve is the president or mayor of a shire, and he is elected for a term of three years; in effect, he becomes the "boss cockey" of the county. He is not only the president of the shire but also the shire clerk. He employs and dismisses the staff; he shows the staff what work has to be done; he employs the school teachers; he builds the schools; and, in fact, he is the ruler of the county. He is paid a salary of \$25 a day, and he receives a fairly large travelling allowance for the use of his motorcar.

Mr. Jamieson: He would need it.

Mr. GAYFER: He would. This particular Reeve of Stanford has been in office for 21 years, and he is a very able and agile gentleman. The system of education follows the English system. I was very interested to learn about it, and to ascertain the marked differences between the system there and the system in Western Australia. I do not wish to make much comment on this aspect, except to say that the standard of schooling there seems to be commensurate with the affluence of the particular county. The schools, by and large, were very well equipped and constructed. I had a much better opportunity to examine the schools in Canada at a later date.

From there I went to Winnipeg where I was fortunate enough to be met by the Clerk of the House, Mr. C. Prudhomme, Q.C. I was able to pay your respects, Mr. Speaker, to him. The Parliament House at Winnipeg is a very fine building and contains some very interesting slants on parliamentary life. That Parliament meets for three months of the year—January, February, and March. The sittings take place from 2.30 to 5.30 p.m., and from 7.30 to 10.30 p.m. Last year 119 Bills passed through that Parliament. When I was there not many of the members were about, so I did not meet many of them. That Parliament does not use the services of *Hansard* reporters, but all the speeches are tape recorded. The procedure adopted is somewhat different from ours, but I shall not explain the differences at this stage.

However, I want to make one comment: This is the first place where I have ever seen what is called a modesty curtain. It is a curtain behind the rails in the galleries which has been placed there to cope with the fashions as skirts have re-

ceded above the knees. This has been done in most Parliaments throughout Canada. They have a blue curtain which they call a modesty curtain.

At Ottawa I endeavoured to lean over the rail to get a closer look at the Speaker and was pulled up because nobody is allowed within a close distance of the rail. It was necessary for me to sit back in the seat. I am not worried about that; but I think the modesty curtain is quite a good idea.

In Winnipeg I was privileged to speak with the leaders of the Canadian grain trade, through the Canadian Wheat Board, the Canadian commissioners of grain, and the Manitoba Wheat Pool, which is one of many co-operative handling organisations. I was able to talk with them about my theory of production of agricultural foods in the world of tomorrow. After these talks I was privileged to be taken to what is considered to be the leading laboratory in the world into research on grain. This laboratory employs something like 72 scientists and it is recognised that it has no peer anywhere at all.

One of the main things that intrigued me was the endeavour to try to separate certain chemicals from the grain—I am told one still remains—in order to ascertain whether wheat in itself can be manufactured. This work is being done by a wheat handling organisation in the interests of keeping up with scientific research, on its own account, and, indeed, as it were to keep one step ahead of anybody else should this manufacturing tendency grow, and also to establish some cost basis. I think this is something of which we should take notice instead of burying our heads in the sand in thinking that it is not possible. I was rather surprised to see this research taking place.

From Canada I went to America, but before relating my experiences there I would like to make reference to housing in Winnipeg. I was in the suburbs of Winnipeg and noticed what they call parkland housing. There are no roads dividing the frontages of these houses, only footpaths. The houses are built in the park facing each other and the only access for a motorcar is by the lane at the back of the house. The backs of the dwellings are fairly close together in comparison with the frontages. All the land was in the front of the houses and the big expanse looked delightful especially as a number of children were playing in these areas without any worries from traffic going by; and they were completely free of any cares that they might trample over gardens, or something like that. There were no fences dividing the houses and the sight was a delightful one. I think possibly this is something we too could have a look at in the future.

In Minneapolis and St. Paul I again had a look at the American system of handling

grain and the research that is being undertaken into this medium. Perhaps I could say I was unfortunate here in that I had to make a radio broadcast which was received by five counties; but I was able to express to the people in those five counties something of the way of life in Western Australia. There was much to be learnt from my visit to these places, and there is much that can be talked of. However, I do not intend to do that at this stage.

I went from there to a place called Worthington, which town has a population of 10,000. In Nobles County, the American State Department wanted me to go to a typical country town, as they called it, to see their way of life. Here I visited schools, hospitals, libraries, and also had a look at the rural electrification. The American system is really something out of this world. I had a look at methods of farming and their shedded industries, such as beef raising, pork raising, poultry raising, and hog raising. Everything seemed to be done in a shed on a terrific scale and it showed to me the versatility they possess when they can turn their hands to some other form of agriculture and make a living out of a relatively small area.

At this point I was fortunate enough, for the first time, to be able to meet some American conservationists, with the accent on water conservation in the future. An interesting aspect of St. Paul cropped up, about which we talked in Worthington. I refer to the wards at the hospital. These are designed on a circular system with the sisters sitting in the centre of a circular room. They are able, from their window, to watch all parts of the ward or wards at the same time. This is an idea that has a good deal for and against it. However, in the interests of economy it is something which, in America at the present moment, is being looked into very closely. One aspect that seemed to be against it was the lack of privacy of the patient at certain times. However, as far as the wards were concerned, the sisters were able to keep their eye on them all the time. This central observation post, as it were, is an idea the hospital authorities over there are using.

In Worthington I was able to live with Americans and enjoy their way of life, which I found to be not very much different from our own.

Mr. Hawke: More expensive?

Mr. GAYFER: I do not think so. It was not very much different from our own. The people live on their farms. However, they did have essential amenities available such as electricity and other commodities which are lacking in some parts of Australia.

After I left Worthington I journeyed to Kansas City and was able to inspect the stock selling methods of that State and

also to obtain an insight into selling of futures on the grain market and the meat market of America. This is something that seemed to be a little overdone. However, I may be biased in this respect. I felt there were too many fingers in the pie from the time the farmer produced the commodity until it was eventually disposed of. However, this was their way of life and it was interesting to see the gambling taking place on the stock exchange for the various commodities that were produced.

From there I went to Atlanta with the express purpose of having a look at something of the coloured problem of the U.S.A. I would say that if a comparison is to be made with our aborigines, it should be made with the Indians. The Governments in Canada and America are experiencing the same problems with the Indians as we are experiencing with regard to our aborigines. Our situation is really not to be compared with the Negro problem. They are trying to lift their coloured people to the same standards as the white people, as we are trying to do. However, the same argument crops up there and it is felt that quite often it is not altogether certain that the Indian wants to be pulled up to the standard of the white person, any more than some of our aborigines want to live as white people.

From Atlanta I went to Athens, Georgia, and there I spent some three or four days with the soil conservation department of that State. It is very interesting to note their work in respect of soil conservation. A terrific relationship exists between the department and the farmer. This could possibly be because of the way the departments administer the federal moneys made available to the various States of America for soil conservation. In each State a central committee of soil conservationists has been established but each State is again broken up into counties, and in each of these counties—there are 27 in Georgia—a group of farmers is selected to work with the soil conservation authority in that district to allocate the moneys available towards the implementation of the various plans associated with conservation. The authorities also have power to recommend that certain farms be taken out of production and flooded in order to provide beauty spots and water catchment areas. When these areas are flooded the water is then subsequently released downstream after it is held for certain periods in the catchment areas.

These catchment areas are rather magnificent because those concerned really go to town and plant trees. Immediately industry establishes itself in the area around the fishing and boating activities, and generally these areas convey a picture of harmony.

It is very interesting to learn that Georgia is taking out of production 1,000,000 acres a year, exactly the same

number of acres we are releasing for production in this State. Through the conservation methods and water storage projects, a big boom has occurred in building and industry, and one can see a terrific amount of thought has gone into the planning of these projects.

I think we have a lot to learn from Georgia and the methods employed there in this respect, and I have brought back with me several books and other information on the matter which I will discuss at a later stage.

I was very interested in the cleanliness of the road verges in America and Canada. In the latter country, warning signs have been erected, and a person is fined \$100 immediately if he is seen throwing anything out of his motorcar window. I believe this is a very good idea, as the success of the law is reflected in the cleanliness of the roadsides.

Mr. Graham: It is an offence here, of course.

Mr. GAYFER: Yes, I admit that it is, but no signs have been erected and no fine is made on the spot. Consequently, our roadsides in places leave quite a lot to be desired.

Mr. Bickerton: The law would be very difficult to enforce on some of the roads up north.

Mr. GAYFER: It is pretty hard to police in some of the outback areas in America, and on the prairies, but the signs are there. In Georgia, particularly, I was very impressed with the way the road verges were kept neat and tidy. The verges are in danger of being scoured out and then causing further erosion, so the first thing the main roads department does is to send out its verge planters to plant grass over the strips. The grass is then cut and kept in order by various methods, and they really look something. They are kept in such a splendid condition.

I was rather intrigued to find out how it was possible to keep them in such good order. I realised, of course, that on the level areas mowers could be used, and I saw many of these in action. However, I could not puzzle out how the grass on the steep embankments was kept so neat and tidy. I was subsequently informed that volunteer convict labour from gaols and prisons is used for this purpose. This is quite an accepted practice over there in the interests of the beautification of public areas.

Mr. Evans: Are they all generally volunteers?

Mr. GAYFER: I understand that is the position. I cannot say they looked very unhappy in the work and at least they are able to get out into the countryside. I think it is a very good idea. Of course other labour is employed also. I do not say that these particular individuals keep all the areas in order, but they were used for the purpose in many areas.

From Georgia I went up to Knoxville, in Tennessee, for the express purpose of seeing the Tennessee Valley Authority in order to ascertain whether we could apply any of their methods of conservation to our areas in Australia. However, I found that the situation was distinctly different from what I had expected inasmuch as the waters had been originally dammed up. This has been done not so much to protect the farmer but to create this Ruhr Valley. There are now 3,000,000 people living in the Tennessee County and 1,000,000 directly in the valley. It is amazing to see the industry which has developed in the area. The establishment of the valley has enabled the 600-mile river to be opened up between Knoxville and New Orleans on the south-eastern coast.

I was most intrigued to obtain the impressions from the farmers who live in and around the Tennessee Valley area. A large number of them are commuting 60 to 70 miles daily to work in factories. The farms themselves have become more or less a sideline. The people have spread out from the cities and always try to obtain a little piece of land on which they can enjoy some farming; but they still go into the factories to work.

I had my first glimpse of this situation there, but I found that in other places I visited later it was quite common for a man to own his little bit of dirt and think nothing of commuting great distances from the ground where he grows his vegetables and whatnot to a central place of employment. In cities like this it became apparent that great importance was placed on the decentralisation of industry rather than congregating it in small and selected areas, thus creating congestion on the roads. However, this system had not been adopted in all the places I visited.

From Knoxville I went to Washington where I had talks with the officials from the Washington State Department and the U.S.A. Department of Agriculture on the future of agriculture in that country. From there I went across to New York where I met my wife who had flown from Australia to meet me. We then travelled to Ottawa in Canada. My express desire in Ottawa was to have talks with the Canadian Ministry of Food, and this I was successful in achieving, but only per medium of the telephone, because that particular day was a holiday owing to the Queen's visit.

I exchanged many thoughts on the future with Dr. Barkley. I was interested in his thoughts on the tendency of people to spend less and less units out of their pay packets on actual food products. As a matter of fact, in Canada the amount is 19c in the dollar and in America it is 21c in every dollar. The 21c in America is about equivalent to our spending in Australia.

In Ottawa I was also privileged to pass on your respects, Mr. Speaker, and those of

the other members of this House to the federal governing body in Canada. I was also fortunate enough to sit in their House during a debate, and also to have dinner with Mr. Harold Winch, M.P. I think the member for Fremantle may have met that gentleman last year when he was in Canada. He is Vice President of the Canadian C.P.A.

I then went to Montreal with the express purpose of contacting the Canadian Road Safety Council. I was able to do this through Mr. McDonald, the Chairman of the Canadian Road Safety Council. We had an interesting talk which eventuated in my bringing back to Western Australia some films on Canadian road safety. The Canadian authorities were kind enough to donate them to our library and they will be of immense value to us. Shortly I am to receive another full length film from the same quarter and I will also pass that on to the National Safety Council. They are very good films and will be of great interest to the Board of Directors of the National Safety Council.

While in Montreal I was able to spend two half days looking at the World's Fair. I must commend Australia on its pavilion, which was looked at with critical eyes. However, I must say that judging by the queue of people waiting to enter it, it must have ranked among the first six at the fair.

It is impossible to see much in two half days because of the time spent in waiting to get through the pavilions. The queues of people had to be seen to be appreciated, and I was told it would take five weeks to cover the whole of the fair. The longest queue was at the Czechoslovakian pavilion, which was really magnificent.

From Montreal I flew to London and through the courtesy of our Agent-General and his staff at Western Australia House I was introduced to the British Central Information Office which looked after my interests while I was there. I journeyed up to Cambridge and spent some time at the Huntington Research Station. Once again, the urge for greater efficiency and greater production was very apparent to me. I observed a diversity of tests into the requirements of the people in the future; the research programme into the breeding of hybrids and other types of maize and grain; and the general desire for knowledge to diversify land usage at any time.

I was also extremely interested in the great part photography was playing in agricultural research. Photography was used to detect the spread of rust through wheat crops and for watching the growth of certain grains and the channelling of water.

The aeroplane also seems to be an instrument of paramount importance in agricultural research in the British Isles. At this research station I was also intrigued with a fine soil sampling machine. It could handle 700 soil types at any one time and would be of utmost importance to this

State in helping the farmer to know what his land lacks.

I spent a little time in Suffolk where I stayed with a farmer. I learnt something of his methods of farming and I also witnessed the terrific strides being taken in the field of agriculture by the use of chemicals in every form—both for productivity and for weed-killing purposes.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member has another five minutes.

Mr. GAYFER: In London I was also privileged to visit Rospa House, which is the headquarters of the Road Safety Council in the British Isles. Rospa House is extremely well laid out, and we can gain much information from there. Each year many people see the machinery and mechanical exhibits which are there for the education of the people. There are training cars and motorbikes, and magnetic sections used for training children in the essential requirements to avoid traffic hazards.

Each year something like 48,000 school children go through that building. The trainers spend many months learning how to handle those children and how to explain to them, in very simple language, the dangers which lie ahead on the road. I think there is much to be learnt from this system. I know many members of the National Safety Council have visited that centre but thought should be given to the use of some of those mediums for the education of our children.

From London I journeyed to Rome where I desired to listen to the world talks on the future International Wheat Agreement. Not too many people are aware that recently, in Rome, the International Wheat Agreement looked as though it might become a thing of the past. The position was that the ratification of a new agreement might not have been forthcoming. This, of course, could have had serious implications for Western Australia, and Australia in general. It would have meant that the price of grain would have fallen and we might have had cheaper wheats on the market. However, I understand that recently an agreement was reached and I think an announcement will be made in the near future. I only mention this to show how precariously we live in this world of today when we produce food to satisfy the world of tomorrow.

From Rome I went to Tel Aviv, in Israel, and, as I said previously, I was privileged to be conducted through Israel by officers of the Department of Soil Conservation and the Department of Entomology; and also the Department of the Interior of the State of Israel.

I was privileged to witness the irrigation methods used; and I was able to journey to Lake Kinneret—or the Sea of Gallilee. I saw the modern methods employed for the diverting of salt water from fresh water so that only fresh water flowed into the areas for irrigation. I observed the

usage of certain brackish water for some crops, and the experimentation with certain crops for the usage of brackish water as an irrigated stimulant.

I was also able to witness life on a kibbutz. I saw dairies where cows are milked three times a day, every day. In general, I noticed the tremendous upsurge that has taken place in the State of Israel since 1948.

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

Extension of Time

Mr. J. HEGNEY: I move—

That the honourable member's time be extended.

Motion put and passed.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member may proceed.

Debate (on motion) Resumed

Mr. GAYFER: I thank the member for Belmont for moving an extension to my time limit.

As I have said, there is no doubt that in the State of Israel there is a terrific upsurge towards self-reliance; certainly there is a noticeable movement in this direction. The harnessing of the waters there and the usage of the land is something which could be well looked into at a very high level by other countries in the world.

I admit that the people there pay tribute to the scientists of Australia—to those of Western Australia and to the C.S.I.R.O.—and to the American scientists. I admit that they say our research scientists are possibly without peer in the realm of dry land farming, and that the American scientists in their field are certainly without peer. However, when one sees all of these practices put together by these people, who are opening up their country by taking advantage of the brains of men from other countries of the world, and who are implementing different ideas for the usage of their land, one can see that this is quite a training spot for the development of a country. They are trying to restore their country to something like it was some 5,000 years ago.

However, I thought the main thing we had to learn from the Israelis was their method of irrigation. We should learn something about their methods of storing water in the ground immediately it starts to run off the ground, rather than allow it to wend its way into the ocean. We should learn something of their methods of damming water at the entrance to the sea to make that water flow back into subsoil for underground usage. We should learn something of their methods of re-distribution and re-usage of sewerage waters, instead of allowing them to flow eventually into the sea.

I found in Israel that in certain areas the people were following Australian practices, but they only followed them in so far as they were trying to improve on some of our practices. Indeed, they are very grateful for the assistance that has been given to them.

From the Sea of Galilee, or Lake Tiberias, I went to Nazareth and I journeyed through that part of Jordan, which is now New Israel, to Jerusalem. Here I saw a contrast between the methods of farming which are used by two different countries. I could see the strides that had been made in some desolate regions towards the production of certain crops grown by irrigation on land which I did not think would be capable of producing those crops.

I went from Tel Aviv down to an area on the northern edge of the Negev desert called the Shiqma project. This is a project where intense farming is being practised in an 11-inch rainfall. One might say that there is nothing remarkable about this because there are plenty of productive areas in Western Australia which know an 11-inch rainfall. However, in this area, for three years out of every 10 there is a complete drought, with no rain whatsoever. Consequently the storage of run-off waters back into the soil through fallow paddocks by sprinkler system is something to be taken note of, because those on the land are getting such good production from it. They harness the water for tomorrow's crop, or for next year's crop, by putting it back into the soil so that certain crops have a certain usage. In fact, they measure the usage of the water in the soil at all times and this governs the type of crop they will plant on this soil.

From there I went to Beersheva where I witnessed the building of flats which is taking place in this big city, which now has a population of 100,000 people. The flats I have mentioned are the block-building or prefabricated flat idea. I witnessed the same idea in Montreal, but there they are sprawled out whereas in Beersheva they are an item of beauty. These flats are cast completely on the ground into their various components and rooms. The cement is poured and the structure is made completely on the ground, and then lifted by cranes and put into a block of flats as a child would build a house with wooden blocks. It seemed to me that these flats could be built *ad infinitum*—one need never stop building. More and more of these units are being built and their different shapes and different views give an interesting outlook to those who are resident in them.

In addition, in Israel I particularly noticed the desire to produce enough food for the future. To do this, it is essential that all aspects of desalination be really studied—which item was mentioned by

various speakers on the other side of the House last night.

I would like to say that in Israel those concerned are not particularly happy as yet with the results achieved. It is still a very expensive process, but the ones engaged in this work are convinced that the ultimate answer to this problem is just around the corner. They are working with American authorities—and possibly these are the same authorities mentioned in the Chamber last night. The American authorities are helping them towards the ultimate goal and by 1971 they hope to be producing between 125,000,000 and 150,000,000 cubic feet of fresh water every year from one particular unit.

From Israel I went to India—

Mr. Hawke: Before you leave Israel can you tell us who fired the first shot?

Mr. GAYFER: I am glad of that intersection because this was a point of interest right throughout America and other countries which I toured. I can only give the reply as I heard it from one side. However, in talking to some of the people at the kibbutz where I was fortunate enough to stay, they told me they had been packing rifles on their shoulders since 1933. Consequently, the question is, "Who laid the egg?"

Mr. Hawke: A significant year—1933.

Mr. GAYFER: As I said previously, from there I journeyed to India, and in New Delhi I was able to witness some of the terrific strides that are being made in agriculture in that country. At the risk of being called out on my statements, I will proceed and say that India is fully expectant of producing enough food by 1971 to cater for its needs, and it expects to be exporting grain in the 1980's. As a matter of fact, some people with whom I spoke are quite sure that India will be exporting grain for a period between 1971 and 1972. However, the population scale will increase and India will only be able to satisfy her own needs and not become an exporter until a little later on. This will be accomplished by the terrific upsurge in grain production in that country. A tremendous amount of research has taken place into maize, millet, and every other type of food which is produced from the soil.

I saw Mexican dwarf wheat of a quality which contained 12 per cent. protein, being produced at the rate of 5,000 lb., or 80 bushels to the acre. I saw this wheat being grown in a country which recently produced only 16 bushels to the acre. Although Mexican dwarf wheat is not popular in our country, and in certain other countries of the world, this variety has been made into a good quality wheat by research, by radiation, and by other treatment which has given it a lasting quality and quite a high protein content.

While travelling in India, I was privileged when talking to the farmers, to learn of their excitement about the future, which

is very real. They will admit that at present they are suffering the ravages of drought, with the starvation that follows in its wake; nevertheless they are confident that in the near future India will be exporting grain to other parts of the world. Terrific emphasis is being placed on research in order to enable people to become acquainted with different varieties of food and to educate them into ways of thinking which will lead to a general uplift which they feel sure will be achieved by 1980.

In one newspaper I noticed an announcement that Canada had granted India a loan of \$10,000,000 over the long term of 50 years to assist it in achieving its goal of self-sufficiency by 1971. It is certainly very real that no longer can we close our eyes and think that these people will be on the verge of starvation for the rest of their lives. The research that is being made into agriculture in that country is indeed of great interest to us because it is equal to the research that is being conducted to increase cereal production throughout the world.

So I returned to Australia, again to ask myself the question: What does the future hold for us? I am not panicking and saying there is no future in the production of grain in the next 10 years, but I am saying that throughout the State of Western Australia we depend on agricultural products. We cannot eat iron ore and we will be dependent on agricultural products for many years to come. However, so much of our land is entirely devoted to the growing of grain and the production of sheep. At present the market for wool is at the lowest ebb it has ever been in comparative buying power. Many farmers are rushing into the growing of wheat because it is quite a good cash crop on account of the present demand for wheat.

However, when I read in a recent gazette that, unexpectedly, the Soviet Union has produced more wheat than she requires; more wheat than she anticipated, but is still continuing to honour a gentleman's purchasing agreement with Canada; and when I see this terrific upsurge in the growing of all kinds of grain in countries I have visited, it makes me wonder. England cannot hope to achieve self-sufficiency, but at least she is raising her standard of production. America is sitting back with huge quantities of land in reserve, and if that country releases 30 per cent. of that available land it will produce more wheat than the whole of Australia.

The point I make is this: Let us not think in terms of 10 years' hence—because I think we can see that far ahead—but, instead, let us look 25 years' ahead and ascertain what research can be done to harness our water supplies and our few rivers. Let us see what can be done with every acre of land we have by adopting new systems, even if we have to turn our salt lakes into fish ponds as the Israelis do to

breed fish in quantity in their natural lakes. Let us plan for the future so that in 25 years' time, if one commodity can be manufactured and supplied in large quantities somewhere else, at least we will be ready and will be able to turn our studies and our endeavours towards producing some other commodity.

Sitting suspended from 3.46 to 4.4 p.m.

Mr. GAYFER: From my remarks I do not wish it to appear that I am pessimistic for the future of this State, or for the future of Australia generally. As a matter of fact the direct opposite is the case. In referring to our tremendous land potential, I realise that with the strides that have been made into, and the avenues available for, chemical research and irrigation in other parts of the world, there is not very much land which can ever be called useless.

I want emphasis placed on the fact that we have a world to live in—a world which is exciting; a world which in 25 years will be vastly different from that in which we are existing today; and this applies to matters of trade and the various other aspects of which I have spoken. I feel sure this will require certain pressures to be brought to bear on the Federal authority; because from my travels I have noticed that in the matter of soil conservation, vast sums of money are being channelled into research by Federal departments of agriculture generally, with a view to ensuring preservation for the future, and also to guard the heritage that is handed down.

The manner in which our State can play an important part is by keeping a very close watch on the land, in order that it might be preserved for the time when the population will be doubled or trebled in Western Australia. We should not allow roads and factories, or building areas, to creep up the fertile valleys and leave the hills virtually barren. We should not lose sight of the immense amount of water that is flowing through our rivers; nor should we ever be tempted to forget that our continent is a large one, but not isolated and that Western Australia—which comprises one-third of it—is bigger than the whole of India, where there are 500,000,000 people living. We, of course, have a population of only about 850,000. It is possible that the people of India and other nations in the future may not require any assistance from us in the way of agricultural products; but it is possible that they may require some other commodity which we are quite capable of producing.

Accordingly my plea is that we should give a good deal of thought to, and undertake considerable research into, these matters with an eye to the future. As I said previously, we should not think only of the next 10 years but we should plan for the future, and send more officers and more members of Parliament around

the world so that they may see for themselves just what is happening in other countries and in other walks of life. I can assure members that I did not appreciate the isolation in which I lived until I went overseas and walked among the people of other countries; until I talked to them and listened to what they had to say.

I do not mean to imply that I have returned from my trip a full bottle on any one subject. But I can say that I have at least learnt a great deal from my trip.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker, the members and the executive of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association of Western Australia, and the Government for the assistance that was made available to permit me to embark on this study tour abroad. I assure you, Sir, that I tried to make every minute count while I was away.

MR. JAMIESON (Beeloo) [4.9 p.m.]: From the remarks of the member for Avon there is no doubt of the advantage to be derived from the scheme of sending members on these overseas visits. As you know, Mr. Speaker, I have contested the mode of selection, and also the present system of sending away one member to study the various aspects he may choose.

Even though I agree that the information which the member for Avon has obtained has no doubt better equipped him as a representative of the people in this Parliament, I feel we could advance the system much further, and improve it a great deal, by the Government indulging in a different kind of delegation—if I might call it that—on various subjects matters. It should appoint a group to make a study, after the area of study has been defined by the Government.

Some of those who have been sent overseas have become bored or concerned somewhere along the line, because of the loneliness experienced by an individual when he makes a trip on his own. The member for Avon was able to make contact with the local people and to gain their ideas in most of the countries he visited. The position would not be as satisfactory as that if he had attempted to go to foreign countries where a language problem existed, and where difficulty would be experienced in contacts with the local people.

I now turn to the opening day of this session of Parliament. Unfortunately I was not able to be present, and so I arranged for a copy of the newspaper of the following day to be sent to me in order to acquaint myself with the Government's intentions. When I did receive a copy of *The West Australian* I had to go through it several times to find a reference to the speech made by the mover of the motion for the adoption of

the Address-in-Reply. I found it eventually on page 9 in a short report in which he advocated trade with Portuguese Timor; and there was a mention of the Governor's comments regarding the extension of rail services for the mining of bauxite.

At the time I thought the Press was uncharitable to Parliament, because it failed to give a better coverage of the opening day; but when I returned to Perth and read the Governor's Speech I found that each and every item mentioned in it was—what the newspapers term—old copy. The Press had already run stories on the development of land, sheep and pastures, fruit, oil discoveries, etc.

The Governor's Speech is, as the member for Pilbara said, an indication of the Government's achievements in the preceding year and of its hopes of achievements in the current year; but when one reads the one for the current year one finds that it is far removed from a responsible Speech. I would like to see a return to the situation where the Governor is given a certain degree of independence in the preparation of his Speech, so as to depart from talking about the mundane things of party politics or about whether we agree with the development of oil search and other projects.

The member for Pilbara told us how Her Majesty fares when she opens the Mother of Parliaments, and her Speech is quite different from the discourse we received from the Governor on this occasion. I took the opportunity to select at random some of the Speeches made by various Governors, and I read those for the years 1900, 1910, 1920 and 1930. The Speech by the Lieutenant-Governor and Administrator in 1930 was perhaps the briefest; it stuck to the matters that really counted; and in it the legislation that was proposed to be amended or introduced was set out.

Since that time the pattern has been somewhat similar, although as the years went by more details were included in respect of governmental achievements. The pattern is not a desirable one. During the present session, I understand it will be proposed that certain Standing Orders and certain procedures of this Parliament be altered, the opportunity should be taken to make an alteration to the pattern of the Governor's Speech delivered at the opening of Parliament.

I am sure the Governor is not happy to make Speeches which contain difficult place names, such as references to towns like Gnowangerup. There is no need to include unnecessary references in the Speech when Parliament is declared open.

I was interested in the remarks of the member for Canning when he moved the adoption of the Address-in-Reply, during which he put forward his ideas on the fostering of trade with Portuguese

Timor. In 1955, in my contribution to the Address-in-Reply debate, I dealt with a similar subject, and probably the Government of the day was no more interested in trade with our neighbours than is the present Government. On the question of trade with other nations it is ridiculous that we should have to use the lines of communication of others to determine which are and which are not the good markets. No Government in this State has given sufficient consideration to this aspect.

In 1955 I went to great lengths to obtain many of the reports of the Commonwealth Government trade commissioners, and that was all I had to go on at the time. In studying the reports as to the export of grapes from Western Australia, it was discouraging to find that the grapes went to Chinese agents in Singapore before they were dispersed to various markets which the member for Canning now considers to be good markets. In other words, some agents in Singapore got a rake-off for doing very little.

All that the agents did was to load the grapes onto other ships and send the goods to various markets. The agents would not do that if they did not obtain a good profit. In regard to exports such as this, we have failed to increase our markets.

In 1955 I pointed out that a New Zealand Labor member of Parliament, who had the backing of the Nationalist Government of that country, went abroad because he considered that he could promote the sale of produce from New Zealand in Singapore, Malaya, Hong Kong, and other places in South-East Asia. He returned with orders representing hundreds of thousands of pounds; that was the achievement of one person who was accredited by his Government to promote exports.

Mr. Elliott: In 1955 did you suggest any specific countries?

Mr. JAMIESON: I put forward suggestions for exports to Indonesia with its teeming millions of people. The honourable member, in advocating exports to Portuguese Timor, said that the country had a population of about 500,000 people. Right next door to Timor is Indonesia with a population of, I think, almost 100,000,000.

Although there is a move to encourage more trade with Indonesia, in the ultimate the trade will have to depend on political considerations. It would be well for the Government of this State to send emissaries, together with business people who are interested in establishing markets in our neighbouring nations, to find out what is taking place. Steps should certainly be taken to find out what is desired and what difficulties have to be overcome.

One difficulty is the establishment of credits between nations, and this is a political difficulty. However, it is not insurmountable. This Government, in association with the Commonwealth, should be able to find means to overcome the difficulty, because the problems of having to send vast sums of money to other countries for other purposes have been overcome.

If we provided foodstuffs and other goods for these people we would cultivate a brotherhood with them that would be to our advantage and would greatly assist us, not only from a defence point of view, but from a trading point of view. Since we come mainly from British stock, I suppose it is only natural that we should know more about the people in the British Isles than we do of the people in the Indonesian Republic who, in their small sampans, occasionally get blown on to our coast when they are caught in a storm. It is a stupid situation when we fail to encourage development.

The people in several of these places have been subjected to intensive exploitation; much more than Australia ever was, because it was developed in a different way. In the first place, Australia did not have the number of people here to exploit; and, because of their nature and make-up, they did not have the worldly goods to exploit. Perhaps a few boomerangs or something like that may have been taken from them. However, the Indonesian people and other islanders had at various times vast wealth in the form of silver and other commodities. It was not until the coming of the Caucasian races to this country that there was anything to exploit.

Mr. Bickerton: What about the land?

Mr. JAMIESON: That is a topical statement. They were a nomadic people, and while it may be said that they owned all the land, they actually owned none of it. I take a lot of people to task who are desirous of creating various native reserves. One has only to look at the Indian reserves in America. Once a reserve is created, one presupposes that the natives should stay on them. This is bad, and should not be encouraged. The land belongs to all of us. We are all human beings and we should be free to go where we like and own land.

The aborigines had no hesitation in taking away the land from the races that were here before them. I do not know what happened to those other races, but I presume the aborigines ate them at some period. I would not suggest that we get down to that stage; and I do not think we ever will.

As we are dealing with the Governor's Speech, I will make a quotation that appears under the heading, "Town Planning." It is as follows:—

A reappraisal of the Metropolitan Regional Plan is under way.

I would like to have more information from one of the Ministers. I suggest that probably the best way of getting this information would be to obtain the massive computer the Government owns or rents and feed the Ministry into it to see if we could get an answer out of them in regard to what is to be done with the reappraisal of the town planning scheme.

Mr. Bickerton: It would be a terrific answer!

Mr. JAMIESON: It would be. On the 13th June, 1967, a statement was made that the river would not be reclaimed for the Causeway road; which is a sort of instruction that certain new planning must take place. This was supposed to involve the task of finding an alternative to the river reclamation, and it is in the hands of the traffic consultants, De Leuw Cather & Company, the Main Roads Department, and the Town Planning Department.

On the 14th July, 1967, we saw something else in this regard. It was to the effect that the Government had ordered a review of every form of land use in the metropolitan region and that this would be done by the Metropolitan Region Planning Authority under the direct control of the regional planning officer, Dr. David Carr. So it seems that we have two organisations either with or without authority from the Government to reappraise this development.

Yesterday the Leader of the Opposition asked a question about the specific terms of reference given to De Leuw Cather & Company in connection with the reappraisal of land use and the inner ring road. There were a lot of words in the answer given by the Minister, but they did not tell us what were the particular terms of reference. Of course, this is not unusual on the part of the Government that now sits on the Treasury bench when dealing with planning matters. The Government talks of some sort of a verbal agreement, or a hotchpotch agreement, but that is not good enough when fees are being paid.

The McLarty-Watts Government brought Professor Gordon Stephenson to this city somewhere about late 1952, and some time in 1953 there was a change of Government and the then Minister for Town Planning (The Hon. Gilbert Fraser) called the professor for an interview to find out just what his commission was and what he was here to do. The Ministers can refer to the files to ascertain whether I am correct in regard to this. However, they will find that what I am saying is a fact. Professor Stephenson informed the then Minister for Town Planning that he had received no instructions at all and that he was brought here as a planning officer with no specific instructions.

The Hawke Government of the day quickly brought down a contract under which Professor Stephenson was obliged

to take certain action in conjunction with the then Town Planning Commissioner (Mr. Hepburn) in order to develop a plan for the future. That plan was developed; and it has been the master plan which has been used in regard to overall urban development since that time.

It would appear to me from various answers to questions given in this House by the Government, that it does not know what the firm of De Leuw Cather & Company is really doing. I mentioned the other day that this firm is merely doing some geometrical work connected with the freeway project; and, if this is so, somebody else must be responsible for the reappraisal. Is it Dr. David Carr, or somebody else? That is what we would like to know. If the Minister could tell us, we would be pleased, and it would also cure a lot of the confusion that is obviously in the minds of the Ministers, because they have not been able to state clearly who is in charge of any reappraisal of land use. Despite the fact that the Premier made a statement to the effect that De Leuw Cather & Company had been given the task of finding an alternative to the river reclamation, yesterday, in answer to a question, the Leader of the Opposition was advised that the assignment does not include a reappraisal of land use.

I cannot see how a reappraisal can be carried out without reappraising land use, because the new design will have to be put somewhere. The name De Leuw crops up fairly often, because he is vice president of the Western Australia Development Corporation and he is listed in the literature of that company as being a principal of the De Leuw Cather organisation.

Knowing the attitude of the members of the Country Party, and other Government members, to the Western Australia Development Corporation, I am surprised they are not inquiring as to how far this firm is entitled to go; whether it has real *bona fides*; and whether it is as good as it looks to be on paper. I have my own opinion in regard to the Western Australia Development Corporation, and it might not be the same as that of my colleagues. Obviously it cannot be the same as the opinion of all those on the other side because two points of view have been expressed by those members from time to time in the Press.

I would like now to pass on to another item which was recently mentioned in the Press. If I am not very careful I will be making my complete Address-in-Reply speech from extracts from the Press, which I hate doing. However my attention on this occasion is drawn to the proposal concerning school dental services, and the Government's new idea.

For many years, and particularly in the country areas, and in the metropolitan area to a lesser degree, a free dental service has been provided for school children.

It was rather minimal and was applied more to the junior grades of schools; but it has been to a great degree a free service. However we ascertained, from answers given to questions today, that it is the intention of the Government to apply a means test the same as is applied at the Dental Hospital.

This means test has not been applied in regard to school dental services before. In other words the Government intends to take something from the public which it has been enjoying up to date, and particularly has this service been enjoyed in the country. I understand that a dentist has been in residence at Norseman for approximately four months attending to the needs of the children at the Norseman School. As is the case with all dentists doing this work, after hours he is undertaking other work for individuals prepared to pay for his services.

This school dental service has been provided for children in the country for a long time and now the Government intends to withdraw it. Using the Australian Dental Association as its criterion, it is now going to supply some other form of dental service. In the first place the Government is going to obtain the services of private dentists to go to the schools, on a fee basis, and pay them to inspect the teeth of the children. If any work is required, no doubt the parents will be advised. Whether the parents do anything for the kiddies is another matter. It is like taking a horse to water and then trying to make it drink.

The only thing the dentist can do is to advise the parents that the child's teeth need attention. However, unless the child starts to complain of toothache, in most cases the parents will not spend the money on the teeth. This would be quite evident if a survey were made of the teeth of school children today.

Many parents, of course, do not spend the money because they cannot, and if they are going to be subjected to this means test I think that even a tradesman with a family—and tradesmen are considered to be able to pay their way—would find it difficult, in many cases, to pay. When it is known that a child's teeth need attention, the parents usually weigh up the importance of that against the necessity to pay for something else required in the home, and if the child is not complaining about his teeth, very often the mother and father decide not to have the teeth attended to until later. Consequently the Government is now taking something away from the children of this State which they have, to some degree, enjoyed for some time.

If the Government wanted to do something in regard to the dental health of the children, an extension of the present practice would be the ideal solution, and I do not see why this could not have been done. The only reason I can find for this

not having been done is in the last answer to the question by the Leader of the Opposition. He was told in that answer that the people who prompted this new system were the members of the Western Australian Branch of the Australian Dental Association.

It is all very well for the association to make the suggestion. No doubt the local dentists will go to the school and have a look at the children's teeth and then send a note home to mum indicating the situation. Some parents will be very concerned and will make every effort to find the finance if their children's teeth require attention.

However the responsibility for the health of teeth—and particularly that of the infants and the school children of the country—is squarely on the back of the Parliament and the Government of the day, and not on the backs of the individual parents. Naturally when the child grows up and becomes mature enough to have a sense of responsibility, then it will be a different matter. However in the initial stages we should be the ones to provide the necessary things in life and one of them is a dental service.

I see the Minister for Works looking over here with that fluoride smile on his face and he is saying, "Of course, in a little while we will cure all the caries." That remains to be proved.

Mr. Ross Hutchinson: Not all.

Mr. JAMIESON: No-one really knows what percentage will be cured because no-one has been able to produce any figures to this effect. I am one who has never been thoroughly convinced either way on the fluoride issue. However, I believe that for a long time to come the need will be with us to practise dentistry in its present form. This is the only practical way we know to improve the situation at this stage. Other theoretical methods exist, but the only practical one is to make provision to have the teeth examined regularly, particularly once they start to show signs of decay.

The move on the part of the Government to deviate from the present system and try another, when it will not constitute any saving, is a bad one. The estimated cost is not expected to vary to any appreciable degree from the present cost, so why depart from the present system? We will not gain anything. The local dentists may gain an additional chart or two. If a child is taken to the dentist a chart is then made of the child's teeth.

Another result of this will be ill-feeling at a later stage by the dentist against the parent. I know that some even now are inclined to be very critical of parents who do not send their children to the dentist regularly. However, that is all very well for the dentist. He does not have to pay the bill. That is the responsibility of the parents, and conse-

quently they will be dissuaded from taking any action until it is absolutely necessary.

While dealing with school children, I would like to say that I have become considerably concerned about the education system in this State over the past years. Although I am a proud Western Australian, I am not proud of our education system. I feel we are not giving all we owe to the system. If I had ever been in doubt that our education system was not of a high standard, the information released by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics has proved that my doubts were very strong and that in fact our education system is in a bad state of health. Many reasons exist for this of course, but first of all let me outline the situation which exists in this State.

We have the highest pupil-teacher ratio State, by a long way, of all the States of the Commonwealth; and this is despite the fact that we have a considerable number of schools with under 50 pupils in them. We still have an average of 28.1 pupils to the teacher in this State. It is interesting to note—and the Premier may care to note this—that the other claimant State has the lowest ratio. The Premier might reply that it is only a small State and more able to bring the children into a central area. However, that is not the reason. Whereas we have a considerable number of schools with a small number of pupils, statistics show that Tasmania has no school with under 20 pupils. We have some 53 in this category. So the figures would indicate that Tasmania is consolidating to a great degree.

Mr. Lewis: We can appreciate that our school population has increased more rapidly than has been the case in Tasmania.

Mr. JAMIESON: We will come to that point in a minute. The salient feature is that we are in a worse position than any other State.

It is interesting to note an extract from the *Kalgoorlie Miner* of the 18th May, this year. The article lists the Tasmanian classes as being the smallest. The figures were extracted by a Victorian newspaper, and they did not appear in the metropolitan Press in this State. When I referred the figures to the Bureau of Census and Statistics, the bureau did not have the refined statistics but forwarded me the original figures. From those figures one is able to verify the percentages which appear in the article, which is as follows:—

Canberra, May 17.—Class sizes for Victorian school teachers are smaller than any State except Tasmania and below the Australian average.

The Commonwealth Statistics Bureau reported to-day that in Victoria each teacher had an average of

24.9 pupils to teach compared with the national pupil-teacher ratio of 25.5.

In a report titled "Schools 1966", the bureau says their figures are based on figures for Government, church and non-denominational schools, including special schools such as those for the physically or mentally handicapped or the socially maladjusted.

In Government schools in Victoria the average class size is only 23.6, but in non-Government schools it rises to 29.6.

I have taken out some further figures and our schools dropped from 28.1 to 27.9 when the Roman Catholic schools, with 34.1 pupils per teacher, were separated. There are, of course, a few other schools and they all add up to the ratio of 28.1 pupils to each teacher. To continue—

The average in other States is: New South Wales, 26; Queensland, 26.9; South Australia, 24.9; Western Australia, 28.1; Tasmania, 22.8; Northern Territory, 25.8.

And if the Minister wants an area where the school population has increased out of all proportion, the Australian Capital Territory is 24.4. So it would appear we are not keeping up the improvements which are necessary. From a discussion I have had with one of my colleagues in the Legislative Council, The Hon. J. Dolan, it would appear that there has been an endeavour to lower the class ratios. This has been going on ever since my colleague was a trainee school teacher, but the situation at present is practically no better than it was then. The article I have mentioned goes on to give some statistics, which are not important on this score, in respect of the proportion of Government schools to Catholic schools in the various States.

Mr. Lewis: Have you seen the reply which was given to Mr. Dolan today?

Mr. JAMIESON: No, I have not.

Mr. Lewis: If you examine those figures, you will find we have made progress.

Mr. JAMIESON: We will examine the figures supplied by the Minister, because, by using those figures and statistics, I have been able to deduce some facts which are rather startling. The intake of teachers is not even holding its own against the retiring rate. This is amazing. Yet, in the answer which the Minister gave me today it was stated that the department is producing twice as many classrooms as teachers. This is a hopeless situation and I do not know how the department expects to man the schools.

Mr. Lewis: The figures given today were for new classrooms.

Mr. JAMIESON: Yes, and some children will be taken out of hat rooms.

Mr. Lewis: Some are replacement classrooms where the same teacher will go into the new classroom.

Mr. JAMIESON: That could be so, but there are a lot of new classrooms. I asked what was the number of additional classrooms; not replacements.

Mr. Lewis: Your figures are wrong with regard to teachers.

Mr. JAMIESON: Well, let us have a look at them. In 1962 the intake of trainees numbered 594. There was a retirement of 293, which left an improvement of 301. However, no wastage was allowed for and there would have been some wastage over the two years. We would have to examine the period of two years forward to see what number finally qualified. In view of the wastage at the University it would be at least 10 per cent. of the intake.

In 1963 there was an intake of 547 trainees, and a retirement of 364 which gave an improvement of 183. Using statistics again, the increase in school population—allowing for 35 pupils per class—would have required an additional 124 teachers. Again, there was a little gain that year. In 1964, with an intake of 535, there was a loss of 466, which meant an increase of 69. To cater for the increase of 3,790 pupils, there should have been an increase of 108 teachers. So the department is well behind there.

Mr. Lewis: If you divide the number of pupils by the number of teachers available five years ago, and compare that figure with the ratio of pupils to teachers today, it will be found that the number of pupils per teacher is considerably less.

Mr. JAMIESON: The statistics show that the ratio is falling behind.

Mr. Lewis: You had better figure that out again.

Mr. JAMIESON: The Commonwealth must be wrong.

Mr. Lewis: Yes; the Commonwealth must be wrong.

Mr. JAMIESON: The Minister had better take it up with the Commonwealth. I will now pass on to 1966, which is the last year for which we have statistics of all features. In 1966 there was an intake of 739 and a loss of 513. That gave an increase of 226; and, with 35 pupils to the teacher, for the increase of 5,937 in school population, an increase of 169 teachers would have been required. Those figures do not allow for any wastage at all.

Virtually, the 1964 figures should apply to the year 1966, because it takes two years for the trainees to qualify. If we bring the 535 intake for 1964 up to 1966—when there was a retirement of 513—not much progress had been made.

Mr. Lewis: All right. I tell you we have looked at our figures and the Commonwealth figures.

Mr. JAMIESON: I do not know how the Minister uses the Commonwealth figures. The only figures I am using from the Commonwealth refer to the increase in

school population. The other figures were supplied to me by the Minister in answer to a question.

Mr. Lewis: I can give you figures to show that enrolments are increasing.

Mr. JAMIESON: Those figures can be obtained from the statistics I have been using. The figures are right, because last year I asked the Minister how many schools had under 20 pupils. The Minister said there were 43 schools, and that is what the statistics show. I do not think there is much wrong with the statistics.

Mr. Lewis: There is nothing wrong with that number of pupils.

Mr. JAMIESON: No. I am just saying that I ran a quick check in order to see whether the figures were similar to the Minister's, and they were. Therefore, I do not see where the Minister can find fault with the figures.

The whole situation is that we are not getting a big enough teacher intake. Despite what the Minister says to the contrary, I say this is due to the inability of the Government to provide reasonable accommodation. This is particularly evident in country centres where teachers are obliged to serve. The Minister will say, "It is really out of my hands now and it belongs to the Government Employees' Housing Authority," but this does not overcome the problem. The situation would not and could not be tolerated in the Medical Department. If there were not accommodation for the hospital staff, the nurses, and the nursing aides, the staff just would not be available.

Mr. Lewis: Accommodation is no worse than when your Government was in office.

Mr. JAMIESON: We have been out of office for a long while now; in fact, for eight years. It is too far to go back to that time. I am not excusing anything which the Labor Government did or did not do. I am merely stating that accommodation is one of the criteria which are militating against people staying in the department.

I know of cases where single people have been forced to buy houses in which to live when they have gone to country areas, because their only alternative was to live in the hotel which they maintained was detrimental to their well-being.

Mr. Lewis: Some would rather live in a substandard house than pay rent.

Mr. JAMIESON: That might be so, but I personally know of cases where single people have gone to a place such as Norseman and, because there was no other accommodation available, they have gone to the extent of buying a house. These are single people to whom I am referring—they are not married.

We have heard of the proposal that flats will be built for single people, but then, of course, the Government is going to apply some sort of moral condition on

them whereby males will not be able to live alongside females. At this stage, when the accommodation is not available, the Government does not care very much about these matters; they can all live together in the same house for all it cares. However, when this accommodation is provided, and even in the case of semi-detached houses, the Government is going to say that conditions will apply whereby males cannot live close to females because it might offend their morals.

However, it does not seem to offend the Government to send these people to the country. Some of these young women have never been away from their homes before, and yet they are sent to places where they have to endure conditions which they should not be expected to endure. If it is good enough to provide accommodation for the staff of the health services of the community, it is good enough to provide it for the education services of the community. Not enough is being done in this regard and a considerable amount more ought to be done.

Mr. Hall: The Commonwealth is subsidising the rents for P.M.G. employees.

Mr. JAMIESON: The Commonwealth has to look after its own, of course, and I say that we have to look after our own. We have a responsibility to recruit teachers and maintain them, but from the present trend of figures, we are not doing that.

While on the subject of schools, I would like to point out that I am still somewhat concerned about some of the very small schools in existence in this State. The Minister and I exchanged a few words on this subject last year and, once again, I find the situation objectionable, particularly at Paynes Find.

In order to refresh the Minister's mind in case he does not appreciate what I am saying, I remind him that the children are all from one family. One is still under the legal age to go to school. The eldest one needs specialist training, and that leaves three who actually can be taught by the teacher there. Yet, we wonder why employees leave the Education Department. Teachers find they are put into a place such as Paynes Find, which is a one-horse town. In fact, I do not think there is even a horse there; there is a kind of stop-over hotel and that is about all.

The Minister talked about the battery starting up again. What has happened to it? It does not look as though it will be starting up and, of course, it is still costing thousands of dollars per year. The person whose family I have mentioned is a fencing contractor and he could be gainfully employed anywhere in the State. Of course, it might be politic to keep him there—I do not know. However, on the other hand, I think the Government would incur far less expense if it boarded this family at Mt. Magnet and paid the cost of

the board. The children would receive a better education with the other children at Mt. Magnet; instead of running into confrontation with directions of their local schoolmaster, who has nothing better to employ his attention than to look after three children.

I do not think the Leader of the Opposition would have liked that situation when he was teaching. I know he would not have liked to find himself in a place such as Paynes Find with only three children to look after. It would drive a teacher whacky, but this is what is happening in many of the country districts. Not only must the Government have regard for the responsibility to teach the individual person, but it must be responsible for the welfare of the teaching staff who are situated in these areas.

I would like to turn to another subject because I can see that my time is moving on. Last year I indicated to the Minister for Industrial Development that I was not very happy about some of the things the Government was doing in a financial sense; namely, in regard to the amount of revenue it was taking from racing taxation—the commission it was deducting from totalisator sources by comparison with one of the standard States—and also in regard to the matter of the Electoral Department not having a composite roll with the Commonwealth.

Of course, the Minister for Industrial Development told me the Grants Commission would not be interested in my submissions. Strangely enough, of course, it is. When I put my submissions forward, the Grants Commission was not very interested in the one which I thought would interest it—that is, the racing taxation—because it is mainly interested in the total amount that comes to a State from the sources of racing. Because of our system of T.A.B. where we pay dividends immediately and they are often reinvested, the whole of the amount of our investment more than matches the amount in the standard States. Consequently, the Grants Commission could not do much about this matter.

However, it is very interested in the situation of the electoral roll. I would like to read the entire letter which I received, because I am sure it will be of some interest to the Premier. Mr. Melville, the chairman, wrote to me and said—

Dear Mr. Jamieson,

I thank you for your letter of 2nd December.

The two subject matters which you raised are under constant consideration by the Commission. In regard to Racing taxation, the Commission only takes into account the amount of betting taxation which is applied directly in aid of the State budget. That is to say, what amount of money a State applies from the proceeds of betting

taxes in aid of the racing clubs is a matter for the State and does not come under review by the Commission.

I stop at this point to explain that our total turnover is comparative with the Eastern States, and by that factor alone we receive an additional amount which is applied to revenue. The letter continues—

The second matter in regard to the cost of the Electoral Department comes within the ambit of the cost of general administration of the States and the Commission is giving particular attention to this matter during the current year. In this regard your attention is directed to paragraphs 171-175 of the 33rd Report (1966).

Yours faithfully,

L. G. MELVILLE,
Chairman.

In the report which Mr. Melville referred to, specific reference is made to the high proportion of administration costs of the two claimant States by comparison with the standard States.

He was very critical of this feature in a paragraph of his report, and no doubt he will give some attention to it, even if this Government does not intend to do so.

I had a question asked in the Victorian Legislature in an endeavour to ascertain the conditions of the agreement, and it would appear that in Victoria the amounts paid by it towards the general costs of the rolls would appear to be far less than we would have to pay to maintain the Electoral Department. In 1963-64, when I think an election was held in that State, the cost was \$71,092.26, and the allowance made towards the payment of wages, no doubt, was \$2,700. In 1964-65 the cost was \$14,359.54 plus an allowance similar to that paid in the previous year. In 1965-66 the cost rose to \$55,818.52, with the same allowance.

It would appear, therefore, that Victoria is responsible for only half the cost of maintaining the electoral rolls and the department. This is an important factor and the saving effected would amount to a considerable sum if the Government would give some attention to it. It would appear to me that, with the exception of Queensland, we are the only State that is not now taking advantage of this provision. It is already in our Electoral Act, so we do not have to pass an amending Bill. The Act already gives the Government the right to take advantage of this provision.

The answer given by the Minister in the Victorian Parliament to the question I had asked also contained the following:

It is understood that like Victoria, the States of New South Wales, South Australia, and Tasmania have signed joint rolls Arrangements with the Commonwealth of Australia. Details of this Arrangement are not known.

Victoria, no doubt, would be on a similar basis to the other States, and that State is required to pay half the cost of maintaining these rolls. In this day and age it appears to me to be a ridiculous situation that we continue to have two sets of habitation indexes in the one capital when one would suffice. This could be rectified if we entered into an arrangement with the Commonwealth to have a joint roll, which would mean that the saving in cost would be better used in some other direction.

I now wish to deal with the subject of hospital charges because I was rather amazed, when the new Bentley Hospital opened, that one of the local doctors informed me the charges at that hospital were in excess of those at other hospitals which were not very far distant; namely, the South Perth Community Hospital, St. John of God Hospital, Subiaco, St. John of God Hospital, Rivervale, and St. Anne's Nursing Home. As a consequence the doctor was forced to advise those patients who he knew were in financial difficulties not to book in as patients at the Government hospital in Bentley.

To give members some idea of the charges at these hospitals, I will list them. For a patient occupying a bed in a four-bed ward—this is in the economy class—in the Bentley Hospital, the charge is \$13.50 a day; at St. Anne's Nursing Home it is \$8 a day; St. John of God Hospital, Subiaco (men only), \$8 a day; St. John of God Hospital, Rivervale, \$6.90 a day; and at the South Perth Community Hospital it is \$12 a day. So it can be seen that the hospital with a daily charge nearest to that of the Bentley Hospital, is the South Perth Community Hospital. That hospital charges \$1.50 a day less than the Government hospital.

Therefore, if a doctor has to look to a patient's well-being, he has to be careful regarding the hospital to which his patient is sent. The situation has now been reached that only as a last resort is a patient sent to the Bentley Government Hospital. This is a ridiculous situation which has only been brought about—I discovered this by making a check with the Medical Department—by this crude, idiotic formula and agreement we have entered into with the other States and the Commonwealth, and the Grants Commission. I will not be happy until I see the last of the Grants Commission and all it stands for. As a result of the bad administration, the maladministration, or the lack of administration in hospitals in New South Wales and Victoria, Government hospitals in this State are forced to charge fees above those they could economically charge. This is a tremendous impost to place on the sick of this State.

Whilst such conditions prevail, they show how stupid the situation is with the Grants Commission when it makes a determination on our financial agreement with the Commonwealth, and the sooner we can get

away from this system and adopt a more suitable one to enable us to apply our own hospital charges to meet the requirements of our own people, the better it will be for the State.

Having had a nod from you, Mr. Acting Speaker (Mr. Crommelin), I had better bring my remarks to a close, otherwise you will be calling me to order. I did have a few other matters to discuss, but I will have to refer to them on some other occasion. There is one matter I would like to mention in brief; namely, the question of migrant housing. I hope the Government will press ahead very quickly with its inquiries into this problem. As you are well aware, Mr. Acting Speaker, I asked the Premier a question on this subject and publicity has been given to the subject matter in this evening's Press. There is no doubt this article will be published in newspapers in other parts of the world, and this State will not get a very good name when such circumstances are known to exist. Perhaps a statement could be made to the Press in the United Kingdom, through our Agent-General in London, setting out the true position, but, if these pests in migrant housing do exist, steps will have to be taken to get rid of them quickly.

MR. GUTHRIE (Subiaco) [5.7 p.m.]: Like other members I would like to address a few remarks to the Address-in-Reply debate, firstly by paying my tribute to the late Mr. George Cornell. I knew Mr. Cornell for about 40 years and long before I entered this Parliament. Over the years I learned to appreciate his excellent good humour and also his extremely quick wit. I mean that in the sense of his quick thinking. As is probably known, he was brought up in my electorate and at one stage both he and the present Minister for Industrial Development attended the same school and were in the same class.

I also extend my congratulations to the Leader of the Opposition and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition on their preferment in office, and I wish them a happy time in their respective offices. I did not intend to intervene in this debate until I received in this House yesterday a publication called *The Critic* which is put out by our University. I felt there were three articles in that publication which call for some comment because, to my mind, they are evidence of a very dangerous type of thinking that is developing among the so-called intellectuals of this community. The sooner we put a few nails in the coffins of these so-called experts the better it will be for democracy in this country.

The first article in this publication is headed, "Expertomania, Expertophobia, and Politics." This is dealing, of course, with the City of Perth, and its problems

with Mr. Ritter. It is not my intention to speak of Mr. Ritter and the City of Perth, but I wish to read to the Chamber one paragraph and to comment on it. I think the contents of this article indicate warped thinking—and I used the word “warped” advisedly—by people we are creating among ourselves, who are living in ivory towers and who are somewhat superior in their thinking to we lesser beings. The article in question reads—

Organisations of laymen, like city councils and parliaments, must come to depend more and more, as governments come to do more and more, upon the services of experts, of men whose expertise they do not understand, but over whose activities they expect, and are expected, to exercise some measure of supervision. This is not the only way of running a government. Government-by-expert, a system of philosopher-kings, can be conceived of, with the expert making political decisions as well as professional judgments; but this is not the theory of our governments, national, state, or local. And there seems to be no great rush to dispense with elected parliaments and councils. They may not abdicate.

At the same time, constitutional theories need to be stretched a little to accommodate the expert. If his peculiar knowledge and skill are to be of use, he must not be expected to work with other eyes over his shoulder and other hands guiding his.

That is the first of the particular articles I wish to read. Incidentally that article is attributed to a gentleman named E. D. Watt. The next article headed, “Public Inquiry Seems the Obvious Next Step” appears over the name of E. J. Braybrooke which, I presume is Professor Braybrooke, though I thought his initials were E.K. In the article he refers to the City of Perth and says—

What seems to emerge from the present controversy is not so much the need for the “public meeting” or referendum machine of local government, but for a more continuous and active public scrutiny of certain of the processes of local government, notably the planning processes.

I will pass on and comment after I have read all the extracts which I propose to read. I turn now to the third one which is headed, “They Are All Knowledgeable Men.” It is written by a gentleman whose initials are M.O.T. He deals with the committee the Minister for Education has set up to advise on education in our schools, and during the course of the article he states—

Producing one of those *bon mots* for which he is becoming famous, the Minister said that the members would not represent organisations as such

but would receive submissions from organisations. It can only be by chance, therefore, that at least seven members of the committee are responsible for running the organisations which stand to be most directly affected by its recommendations, whereas organisations representing persons involved at the lower levels, such as teachers, parents and employers, must send in their submissions. Thus the Committee is neither flesh nor fowl. On the one hand it is not widely representative commission of inquiry under an impartial chairman. On the other it is not an expert working party charged with a limited job of curriculum organisation. It will behave like a panel of citizens examining ‘the future of secondary education in Western Australia’, soliciting submissions and considering ‘secondary education developments abroad and in other States’. But it will be biased to defence of procedures which have suffered too long from lack of constructive criticism.

I suppose there is something from which to take solace in that the three different writers have three different approaches to the problems of our community today. The first gentleman, Mr. Watt, would favour, I would gather the impression, government by experts. “God help us” is all I can say to that.

The second gentleman, who I presume is Professor Braybrooke—and I do not wish him any ill-will—would have more control and more general meetings. In other words, both of them reject the idea of a parliamentary democracy as we know it, where people are elected and have the responsibility of making decisions, having before them the knowledge or information which is so essential on which to base decisions.

These people would have, on the one hand, the experts who are not elected at all, and, on the other, would have the rate-payers, or electors, coming along to a general meeting, backing their hunches and giving decisions.

It amazes me that such propositions could be put up in this day and age, and put up by men who claim to be learned. It makes me wonder, sometimes, just where we are heading, because people read and accept what such individuals say. I will come back later to this question of professional advisers and experts.

The final article criticises the very setting-up of a committee of so-called experts who, as I understand it, with one exception, are educationalists, to consider the problem of education. It is obvious that the three writers did not get together. The third writer does not, apparently, altogether like the choice of pure experts. He would have a committee of some experts, and some without any knowledge, preparing a report.

I do not think he can have it both ways. He cannot have two bob each way on this sort of thing. We can either set up a committee entirely of experts, or one that is not made up of experts at all, but of people of sound judgment who listen to evidence, reach a conclusion, and submit a proposal. I do not see how we can mix the two.

I read this with some concern, because it leads to what I want to discuss this evening. I feel we are getting in our community too many new professionals who are taking it upon themselves to assume that they are extremely knowledgeable, not only in the subjects which they are supposed to have studied, but in subjects well beyond their spheres. These professionals have come into being mostly since my schooldays, and they have very little background on which to base their opinions, and very little experience themselves in seeing the results of their own advice and their own recommendations. Yet they claim to themselves the right to dictate and to demand that their advice be accepted without question. I would group all these professionals who come quickly to mind—and there may be others—as, firstly, town planners, secondly, economists, and, thirdly, psychologists.

With the utmost respect to them, I would say that none of the people in these professions is properly trained in his particular profession. These professionals may graduate from universities with degrees but, so far as I know, they have not had the appropriate clinical course which would provide them with the practical background which is so necessary in a man who emerges as a graduate from a university, before he is entitled to call himself a professional adviser.

These people rather show their lack of tradition, one might say, by the fact that they do claim to be experts. For example, I have never heard a lawyer, doctor, or an engineer who claims to be an expert. He claims to be a professional adviser, purely and simply. He never claims that he is a person who is imbued with expertise, expertomania, or expertophobia, to borrow words the University of Western Australia has coined recently; he claims purely that he is there to give advice.

There is another field of professional men that comes into this category. They are the academic members of our professions who take on a teaching role in our Universities and technical institutions, but who have had little experience in practice in their profession, and who, with the greatest ease, pronounce opinions on subjects on which, I would suggest, it would be better for them to remain silent. After all, no professional man is capable of fulfilling the function of a major adviser the day he emerges from a university.

It takes years and years of practical experience, after a period of clinical training, before he can reach that stage

and that standard. I suppose the finest example in my profession is Professor Brett and the dreadful book he wrote. It shows that the professor did not even appreciate the principles of the law and of justice, otherwise he would not have written about some of the things which he did write about. I do not want to go into a discourse on that matter; I want to return to the subject of the newer professions.

These new professions should learn the lessons of the older ones. They should be more circumspect in their advice, and they should realise that their role is to advise, and not to dictate. Their task, I suggest, is one of advising laymen in simple, concise, and straightforward language, so that the laymen can clearly understand the advice. Their task is to explain and to demonstrate to laymen, by analogy and by other means, what is meant and what has to be overcome. Until such a person can do that, in my humble opinion he is not entitled to the title of professional adviser.

What automatically follows, despite what is said in the University journal, is that the task does rest with laymen to make the decisions. The professional adviser should not put himself in such a position, unless it is in the role of a lawyer dictating tactics, or an engineer deciding the type of steel which should be used on a bridge. In those circumstances they are the ones to make the decision; but on matters of public policy, the professional advisers do not make the decisions.

They must submit advice, and they should not allow themselves to be caught up with the decisions. They should not resent other opinions being sought. Everyone knows that very few groups of professional men are unanimous in their opinion on any controversial subject, and professional men should not resent some other alternative or consultative opinion being taken on their advice.

The professional adviser should be the first to agree to, and co-operate in, suggesting who are the appropriate professional men to whom the client or patient—whichever he might be—should turn to for check opinions. After all, the professional men know the people who are the specialists in particular spheres within their own professions; but the layman very seldom knows.

In regard to my own profession, many laymen who read the newspapers and see that a Mr. Jones appears in the police court frequently, and in the Criminal Court more frequently, imagine that he is the professional man to whom they should take their income tax problems, or a case concerning the Constitution of the Commonwealth. Obviously Mr. Jones is not the appropriate professional man, and there are people within the profession who are much more competent to give the required advice.

Once a professional man becomes personally involved in a decision on public policy he loses his detachment. He may not always be able to detach himself from the issues, but if he loses his detachment completely then his judgment starts to stray. He becomes involved in the dispute and becomes personally immersed in it; consequently his personal judgment goes astray. That is the lesson which I suggest the newer professions could learn from the older professions. If they did, perhaps they would not be quite so brash in thrusting their advice—whether it be economic, psychological, or town planning—onto the laymen, and saying, "This is what we think, and this is what you have to do."

I would now like to touch on the subject of education, and refer to the education committee which has been set up by the Minister, because it relates to these articles and ties up with a subject I have been talking about. As members might recall, some two years ago, during the debates on the Loan Estimates and the Annual Estimates, I spoke at some length on the subject of education.

I was very pleased last year to see that the Director-General of Education made some reference in his annual report to the fact that members of Parliament had been seeking more information on what was going on, and he made a good effort to supply the additional information. I would still prefer the Minister to put up something in the nature of a white paper, rather than pick out titbits from here and there in the education report, scattered amongst the statistics of the number of students per classroom or the amount of money expended, and sandwiched in between the photographs of primary schools and high schools.

Mr. Davies: Have you seen any white paper of that kind produced in the State?

Mr. GUTHRIE: I have not heard of any, but it is a good idea for the Minister to submit one. I would like more information on matters of major policy. The submission of such papers would increase the standard of the debates in Parliament and raise the standing of Parliament in the eyes of the community, because the essence of our freedom is based on democracy and government by a democratically elected Parliament; and that freedom is at stake when we read the sort of thing I have mentioned.

The education committee will, I understand, consider improvements to the secondary education system. I would hope that it comes forward as a piece of advice, and I would be pleased to read it. I trust that is all that it will be—a piece of advice on which the Minister and the Government will make the necessary decisions as to what is to be done in the future.

I am not as greatly concerned, as was the writer of the article I have been refer-

ring to, with the thought that already some decision has been made to cut out the Junior Certificate. I have given a lot of thought to this subject since I spoke on education, generally, in this Parliament some two years ago. I have had the advantage of discussing the matter at great length with some senior officers of the Education Department, and I must concede that they have convinced me that the doing away with the Junior Certificate is a must in our education system.

Mr. Fletcher: Did you say a must?

Mr. GUTHRIE: An absolute must. Take, for instance, the Perth Modern School, which is one of the largest high schools in the State and which happens to be in my electorate. It has 10 different grades at the Junior level, or the third year in high school. It is fairly obvious to everybody that it cannot be hoped that every child in each of those 10 grades is of equal academic ability, and is capable of equal progress.

It is ridiculous to suggest that the children in those grades are slowly moving forward at the same rate of progress, and that the brighter children in the top grades cannot progress beyond the third year high school standard before they sit for the Junior Certificate towards the end of November each year.

It would be far more satisfactory, if one grade or one group of the children in the third year of high school had reached the required standard and had been adequately tested, to allow that group to progress to fourth-year work.

There is proof of this when related to the particular school my own son attends. Last year, at the end of the second year high school, the entire top class sat for Maths. "A" at the Junior level. As far as I know, all passed and—I am not boasting when I say this—my son got 90 per cent. for Junior Maths. "A". Even this year, though he is sitting for his Junior Certificate, he is studying fourth year maths. while in third year. It is obvious that these flexible things can be done when we get away from a rigid educational system. It is possible that the smarter children may pass the Leaving examination in the fourth year and matriculate in the fifth year.

We must accept and sell to the community the thought that there must be some form of school certificate. I do not think it is right or proper that the responsibility should be left entirely to the staff of the schools, as the pressure on them would be tremendous. It has been suggested to me that standard tests can be provided from outside and set by the school; and also that there be a system of inspection by inspectors coming into classes to check the classes to make sure

the children are being taught from the right curriculum; that they are receiving a proper schooling; and that Miss Jones does not pass Billy because his father is president of the parents and citizens' association, or for some other reason. I feel this would be a step in the right direction. We will have to get much more flexibility into our education system, quite apart from the role of the particular committee set up by the Minister in regard to secondary education.

As a Parliament, we will have to make up our minds quite clearly just what we class as our objective in education, and what we are seeking to achieve in education. Over the years, I suppose, many people have written a definition of what education really is. I cannot say, however, that I can recall ever having read one written by anybody in this State, but I am not saying that it has not been done.

My own idea is that education has a threefold purpose. First of all, it has the purpose of providing knowledge for its own sake; secondly, it has the purpose of training people to fit them for some career; and, thirdly, it plays its part in developing good citizens. I stress the fact that it plays a part in developing good citizens. I do not regard this as the responsibility of the school alone.

In dealing with the first of these purposes, I think we have to remember that in any education system, people have to be educated even though the particular education may be of no special value to them in their chosen career, if they should happen to have one at that stage.

I ask members to pause and think. If members had not learned history or geography, how could they ever possibly read a book or understand newspaper references to Tanganyika and other places? Obviously people have to be given knowledge so that they can carry on their ordinary life in an ordinary way, and so they can understand what they read in the paper. If the name of Julius Caesar is mentioned, they must have some knowledge so they will not think the reference is to a horse that won the Melbourne Cup the year before last. If they have knowledge, they will know that Bolivia is in South America and the Gurkhas are found somewhere in the Himalayas. These are things that must be taught to children, so that when they read books they will understand what they are about. We must accept the fact that one of the functions of education is to give knowledge for the sake of knowledge.

It is also necessary to be able to add up so as to check mum's household bills, if not for any other purpose. We do not want to run away with the idea that we will all have computers in our homes in the future. We will still have to add up the cricket scores and other things in the good old-fashioned way. For many

decades to come, children will still have to learn to add, subtract, and multiply.

I will stop being facetious and say that it is essential to educate people in order to give them a cultural background for their own sake. It is also necessary to give some guidance towards a vocational career, but I do not think it is part of an educational system for boys and girls to be trained in any particular career. It is necessary only to give boys and girls sufficient training to enable them to carry on with a particular subject when they leave school. The important thing is that they be properly prepared and given an adequate foundation to enable them to carry on. It obviously follows that the educational preparation in each case will have to be very different. There again it is necessary to have flexibility in our schools.

I will now turn to the question of citizenship. The first person responsible for the training of a child in citizenship is obviously the parent. In addition to parents, it is the responsibility of such organisations as sporting bodies, community bodies, and churches. They all play their part, since most people accept them. Schools also have their part to play.

We must remember that schools are responsible for quite a long period of a child's waking hours each day. Parents, in the main, have only a very small period of a child's waking hours, particularly when that child has a lot of homework to do. As a consequence, a great deal of responsibility is inflicted on the schools in assisting a child to become a good citizen by giving him physical training and cultural training in the various clubs and groups that are formed within the schools. However, it is not the entire role of a school to train children in good citizenship, although I do not think they can abdicate this responsibility.

For instance, in regard to sex education, I think it is most unfair that this should be thrust on schools. Maybe it is something that is difficult for parents, but that is a problem they will have to solve, even though they have to take the children to some other organisation. Why should the schools be responsible for something that the parent funks; and that is what it boils down to?

Going back for a moment to the question of training boys and girls for careers, I would point out that in many instances the educationist is not adequately prepared to give any foundation other than a proper educational foundation towards a particular career. After all, the educationist has not followed the particular profession; and I sometimes wonder just what our educationists do know in regard to what is required in the later careers of these boys and girls, and how they can form an opinion as to what is the right

course of preparation or what is the wrong course.

I have often wondered just what background knowledge, guidance officers have when they give advice on careers. I admit they are trained and skilled in interviewing children, and putting them at their ease and getting information from them, but I have often wondered what a guidance officer imagines is required to make a boy a lawyer. How would he know for certain that a boy might make a good engineer, or that another boy would make a good doctor, while another is suitable to be a grave digger; or why this boy is best fitted to be a town planner, a lawyer, or a scientist? How does he do these tests when he is treading a course that he has never personally trodden?

I am, as I have said before, on the receiving end of that educational assembly line. I receive into my office the final product of this education system. I receive the product after he has had seven years at primary school, five years at secondary school, and four years at tertiary level; and I have two short years in which to make him into a lawyer. I can tell members that it is awfully hard. I can assure them that at the end of it all I begin to wonder whether we do not place far too much reliance on theoretical knowledge and too little reliance on practical knowledge.

I come of an earlier era. I started my career in the law before there was a University Law School and then I attended the University for a period of some three years. Therefore I have had the best of both worlds. However, I do feel that we are inclined in the final analysis, particularly on the tertiary side, to place too much reliance on theory and too little on the clinical training which develops character and makes the complete man.

As I have said before, I have great misgivings about the ever-increasing reliance we place on Commonwealth aid for education. I feel that ultimately we will abdicate control to the Commonwealth; but that is another story I can deal with some other day when financial matters are before the Chamber.

I hope that what I have said will be of value to members; and finally I would say to the Minister for Education that if some day he can get the department to put out a white paper on the subject of education, I personally, would find it extremely interesting.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Graham (Deputy Leader of the Opposition).

House adjourned at 5.40 p.m.

Legislative Council

Tuesday, the 22nd August, 1967

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

SUPPLY BILL

Assent

Message from the Governor received and read notifying assent to the Bill.

QUESTIONS (7): ON NOTICE

NATIVES AT KALGOORLIE

Citizenship Rights, Pensions, Rations, and Offences

1. The Hon. J. J. GARRIGAN asked the Minister for Mines:

(1) How many full-blood and caste natives reside within a 25-mile radius of the Kalgoorlie Post Office, and how many—

(a) have citizenship rights;

(b) are aged or invalid pensioners; and

(c) are in receipt of Government assistance or rations?

(2) How many appeared before the Kalgoorlie Police Court for various offences during 1966?

(3) What was the total number of convictions recorded?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

(1)

	Adults	Children	Total
Aborigines	52	66	118
Part-aborigines	116	157	273
	168	223	391

(a) 25 adults and 13 children; total 38.

(b) 24 aborigines and 14 part-aborigines; total 38.

(c) 3 families are in receipt of temporary relief from the Department of Native Welfare.

(2) Kalgoorlie Police Court 63
Boulder Police Court 8

Total 71

(3) Kalgoorlie Police Court 207
Boulder Police Court 10

Total 217

SPEARWOOD SCHOOL

Demountable Classroom: Supply

2. The Hon. R. THOMPSON asked the Minister for Mines:

With reference to my question on Tuesday, the 15th August, 1967, regarding the Spearwood State School, is not the reply a contradiction of an undertaking given by the Minister for Education