

Legislative Assembly

Thursday, the 15th September, 1966

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

DECORUM OF THE HOUSE

*Conversations between Members:
Statement by Speaker*

THE SPEAKER: I would like to draw members' attention to the fact that there seems to be an increasing tendency for members to indulge in all sorts of conversations whilst the House is sitting. Yesterday, while the member for Boulder-Eyre was speaking, I counted no fewer than seven conversations being carried on in the Chamber; and I think there might have been some others which I did not count.

There is also a tendency for members who are holding conversations to block the passageways, and officers of the House are hindered in their movements. I would direct members' attention to Standing Order 66. It is better that conversations be carried on outside the Chamber. Some conversations are necessary for the running of the House, but they should not last up to a quarter of an hour, which was the length of one I timed yesterday.

QUESTIONS (14) : ON NOTICE FRUIT PROCESSING ORGANISATIONS

Payments to Growers

1. Mr. DUNN asked the Minister for Agriculture:
 - (1) Can he advise how long growers have to wait for payment for fruit sold to fruit processing organisations?
 - (2) If the period is so extended as to have the effect of indirectly financing the processing industry, could anything be done to make the situation more equitable?

Mr. NALDER replied:

- (1) and (2) Without details of the kind of fruit and the firms concerned, it is not possible to provide an answer. Private contractual arrangements may be involved, in which case the information may not be available for public release.

FRESH WATER FISH

Report of Dr. Donald Francois

2. Mr. ELLIOTT asked the Minister representing the Minister for Fisheries and Fauna:
 - (1) Does he intend to act on any of the recommendations contained in the report on fresh water fish compiled by Dr. Donald Francois?
 - (2) If so, would he give details, particularly of those concerning marron?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) and (2) Dr. Francois' report contains some sound recommendations, but the non-availability of trained personnel is, at the moment, a limiting factor. The possibility of securing suitable men, both for investigation of the fresh-water fisheries in general and for the initiation of studies on marron, is now being explored.

POWER STATIONS

Oil Fuel: Variations in Cost

3. Mr. MAY asked the Minister for Electricity:

On the 8th August, 1961, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition asked a question on the quantity, cost, and price of fuel oil used in power stations.

Will he advise if the cost of oil as shown in the answer has varied; if so, the extent of such variations from 1961 to the present time?

Mr. NALDER replied:

The price has varied since the figures were given in 1961. Fuel

oil is now being bought under contract. The contract price is confidential.

**BOYUP BROOK-KOJONUP
RAILWAY LINE
Closure**

4. Mr. HALL asked the Minister for Railways:

Has any decision been made to close the railway line between Boyup Brook and Kojonup?

Mr. O'CONNOR (for Mr. Court) replied:

Closure of the Boyup Brook-Kojonup section of railway is not intended at this juncture.

**ROAD TRANSPORT
Albany-Esperance: Provision of
Service**

5. Mr. HALL asked the Minister for Transport:

As there is a growing need for a public road service between Albany and Esperance and a growing demand for better communications, will he agree to carry out an extensive survey with a view to implementing public road services between the two centres?

Mr. O'CONNOR replied:

The need for a public road transport service between Albany and Esperance has already been under observation. A previous examination indicated that the over-all volume of traffic had not developed to the stage where a regular service could be justified but a further review is to be made in the next few weeks.

For the advice of the honourable member, the Mayor and the Shire Clerk of Albany were here this morning discussing the same point. I informed them of the above information.

**SUPERANNUATION AND FAMILY
BENEFITS SCHEME FUND**

*Credit, Payments, and Government
Contributions*

6. Mr. HALL asked the Premier:

- (1) What was the amount standing to the credit of the superannuation and family benefits scheme fund as at the 30th June, 1961 and 1966?
- (2) What was the total pension payments for each of the years the 30th June, 1961 to 1966?
- (3) What payments have been made to the fund by the Government for each of the five years?

Mr. BRAND replied:

- (1) The 30th June, 1961 .. £7,003,045
The 30th June, 1966 \$26,233,883

(2) 1961	....	....	£1,058,633
1962	....	....	£1,087,109
1963	....	....	£1,201,858
1964	....	....	£1,327,623
1965	....	....	£1,455,915
1966	....	....	\$3,119,428

- (3) Nil.

Pensioners: Increased Payments

7. Mr. HALL asked the Premier:

What increases have been granted to pensioners under the Superannuation and Family Benefits Act from the 30th June, 1954 to the 30th June, 1966, and in what years did these increases take place?

Mr. BRAND replied:

Pension supplementation increased from £26 per annum to £52 per annum	....	1956
All units increased from 15s. to 17s. 6d. per unit per week	....	1958
Widow's rate increased from half husband's rate 8s. 9d. to 11s. per unit per week	....	1961
Pensions above eight units which were in existence prior to the 1st January, 1958 and which were paid at the rate of 15s. per week per unit plus a supplementary payment of £52 per annum, were increased to 17s. 6d. per week per unit	....	1961
The value of units was raised to the present current level and represented a graduated increase for all pensions. A widow's pension was raised to 22/35ths of the husband's entitlement	....	1963
The child allowance for widows was increased from £1 to £1 10s. per week for each child and in the case of orphan children, the payment was increased to £2 per week	....	1965

**TOURIST DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY**

Acceptance of Travellers' Cheques

8. Mr. HALL asked the Minister for Tourists:

- (1) As the Tourist Development Authority is now faced with increased demands by patrons, what plan has the Government to extend services by allowing the authority to receive payments by travellers' cheques?
- (2) If there is no plan to extend services would he be prepared to have this matter looked into with a view to implementation?

Mr. BRAND replied:

- (1) Treasury approval for the acceptance of travellers' cheques by the Tourist Development Authority was obtained in July, 1947, and the authority has continued the practice of accepting travellers' cheques from clients ever since.
- (2) Answered by (1).

9. *This question was postponed.*

NICKEL MINING

Kambalda: Presence of Silicon Dioxide, and Number of Men to be Employed

10. Mr. EVANS asked the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

- (1) Is it expected that the presence of silicon dioxide will be as prevalent arising from mining operations of nickel as is the case of mining for gold bearing ore?
- (2) What is the maximum number of men likely to be employed underground in mining of nickel ores at Kambalda when present plans for full production are in operation?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

- (1) No. The ultra basic and serpentine rocks which will be associated with the mining of nickel at Kambalda contain less silicon dioxide than gold bearing ore.
- (2) About 50 to 60 in the initial production stage. The final development cannot be stated at this stage.

TUBERCULOSIS

Miners: Cases Detected at Kalgoorlie

11. Mr. EVANS asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health:

What number of cases of tuberculosis were detected among miners at the Kalgoorlie X-ray laboratory during each of the years 1964 and 1965, and the number of such cases already detected this year?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

1964—3.
1965—5.
1966—3.

ROAD MAINTENANCE TAX

Road Hauliers in the North: Concessions

12. Mr. DAVIES asked the Minister for Transport:

As it is understood a number of road hauliers, who are purchasing the trucks they operate on hire purchase, are finding work difficult to obtain due to a slackening of activities in the north, is it possible for any concession or credit to be extended to them in regard to payment of the road maintenance tax?

Mr. O'CONNOR replied:

There is no provision in the Road Maintenance (Contribution) Act for concessions or exemptions. The rate of contribution is fixed at five-eighths of a cent per ton per mile calculated on tare-weight plus two-fifths of the load capacity. Payments on this basis are required to be made within 14 days after the month of operation, which in itself constitutes a few weeks credit after the roads are used.

In any case, a reduction in mileage travelled, irrespective of the reason, would automatically reduce the amount of road maintenance charges payable.

RAILWAYS

Rail Link to Wharves at Bunbury

13. Mr. DAVIES asked the Minister for Railways:

When will the rail link to the landbacked wharves at Bunbury be completed and operative?

Mr. O'CONNOR (for Mr. Court) replied:

All permanent way work on Nos. 1 and 2 berths and construction of the viaduct have been completed and it is expected that the project will be operative before the 30th June, 1967.

14. *This question was postponed.*

QUESTIONS (2): WITHOUT NOTICE

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION: BROCHURE

Civil Servants: Clarification of Attitude

1. Mr. CORNELL asked the Minister for Lands:

I refer to a brochure put out by Mr. Means on behalf of the Western Australian Development Corporation. On page 6 of this brochure, reference is made to two officers—one in the Department of Agriculture and one in the Lands Department. In reading this article one could reasonably infer that these two gentlemen are thoroughly in support of this proposition, whereas I understand that this is not the case.

If the Minister has not already done so, will he peruse this epistle, particularly page 6, and, in fairness to the civil servants concerned, make some statement in respect of Mr. G. H. Burvill and Mr. John Morgan of the Public Service?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

Although I received a copy of the brochure to which the honourable

member has referred, I have not yet had an opportunity to read it. I will read the document at the first opportunity and then make proper inquiries. The Minister for Agriculture might also give some consideration to the matter. I will certainly confer with my ministerial colleague on the subject.

Mr. Hawke: A rather charming reply.

Mr. Brand: We are always charming.

COMMONWEALTH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Western Australia and Queensland: Comparison

2. Mr. CORNELL asked the Premier:

In *The Australian Financial Review* of Wednesday, the 14th September, 1966, appears an article with the heading "Vital Talks on Sugar Today" which makes reference to the fact that the Queensland Premier, Mr. G. F. R. Nicklin, and the State Treasurer, Mr. G. Chalk, are flying to Canberra to seek Federal Government assistance to the tune of \$20,000,000 to alleviate the problems of the sugar industry. According to *The West Australian* this morning the Commonwealth came to the party to the extent of \$19,000,000, thereby, I would say, creating a record by way of expedition. Apart from the hangover of the Dawson by-election, and the fact that there is a good sugar lobby in Queensland, what has the Queensland Government got that the Western Australian Government has not got?

Mr. BRAND replied:

I should say that at present it has about \$19,000,000, but in further replying to the member for Mt. Marshall, I can only hope that Western Australia, in its turn, will receive the same sort of favourable consideration regarding its special projects. Everyone knows that the sugar industry, which is vital to Queensland, is in a very bad way, and to my knowledge negotiations on this matter have been progressing for weeks. It may be that the Premier and the Treasurer of Queensland felt it appropriate to approach Canberra at this time to see if the acting Prime Minister (Mr. McEwen) could make an early decision.

PENSIONERS (RATES EXEMPTION) ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction and First Reading

Bill introduced, on motion by Mr. Graham, and read a first time.

BILLS (2): THIRD READING

1. Public Works Act Amendment Bill.

Bill read a third time, on motion by Mr. Ross Hutchinson (Minister for Works), and transmitted to the Council.

2. Eastern Goldfields Transport Board Act Amendment Bill.

Bill read a third time, on motion by Mr. O'Connor (Minister for Transport), and transmitted to the Council.

TOTALISATOR AGENCY BOARD BETTING ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Third Reading

MR. CRAIG (Toodyay—Minister for Police) [2.31 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a third time.

MR. CORNELL (Mt. Marshall) [2.32 p.m.]: Last night I promised the House I would make a few observations on the measure in so far as it relates to T.A.B. doubles betting facilities on racecourses. I have just received an assurance from the Minister that doubles betting operations by the T.A.B., as he has said, will be confined to one double for the day. I am a little concerned that, having got a leg in, the T.A.B. might spread its wings and operate substantially on doubles betting to the exclusion of specially licensed bookmakers who cater for that type of betting. I would like the Minister to assure me that what fears I have in mind are groundless.

MR. TONKIN (Melville—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) [2.33 p.m.]: I want to take advantage of the opportunity afforded by the third reading of the Bill to make a few remarks. Unfortunately an official engagement yesterday evening prevented my being present in the Chamber, which I regret. I noticed in this morning's issue of *The West Australian* the Minister was reported as having said that 3.6 per cent. of the board's turnover is for credit betting. Yet in the board's report it is stated that all its business is for cash, and it has been stated by the Minister several times, and by the chairman, that the board deals only in cash.

According to the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Act the only person or body that can legally bet off course in a totalisator region is the board. No agent is permitted to bet on his own behalf. If an agent bets he can only do so, legally, on behalf of the board. So we have to take it that the only betting of which we have knowledge, and which has been reported, is betting through or with the board in a totalisator region. If all the board's betting is for cash—and in the last

annual report of the board there is a statement that all the board's betting is for cash—will the Minister explain how 3.6 per cent. of the board's turnover can be for credit?

I might be a little obtuse, but I cannot see how that would follow. If somebody tells me all the board's business is in cash, I fail to see how it can have any credit betting whatsoever. Yet the Minister has said—and his statement was reported in this morning's newspaper—that 3.6 per cent. of the board's turnover is for credit betting. It is time we were told what is going on in regard to this matter. Is all the board's betting for cash, or is it not; and, if it is not, why are we being told it is? I want to know exactly what the situation is.

MR. CRAIG (Toodyay—Minister for Police) [2.36 p.m.]: I will answer the Deputy Leader of the Opposition first. In closing the debate on the second reading of the Bill last night, from memory I quoted the figure of 3.69 per cent. as being the amount of the total telephone betting by clients with agents on credit, handled by the T.A.B. The Deputy Leader of the Opposition says there is a different construction to be placed on this figure in that it conflicts with previous statements that the whole of the board's transactions are in cash. This is so. The whole of the board's transactions with the agents are in cash. The Deputy Leader of the Opposition might smile, but that is so.

As I explained last night, whatever arrangement the agent makes with the credit bettor is his own responsibility. Nevertheless, the agent, on his own behalf is responsible to the board in ensuring that all transactions are in cash. So as far as the board is concerned it is a straight cash transaction between the board and the agent.

In reply to the query raised by the member for Mt. Marshall and his seeking an undertaking on the board's operations in regard to doubles betting on the racecourse, I am given to understand it is the intention of the board to operate only on one double on Eastern States events. It could be that a request might come from the W.A.T.C. or from some other source for the number of doubles to be increased; but, as I gave an undertaking that the board's operations would be restricted to one only, I wish to confirm it now. If there is any alteration in the board's policy in regard to doubles betting, I consider it should be referred back to Parliament to meet the satisfaction of the member for Mt. Marshall and other members.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time and transmitted to the Council.

STOCK DISEASES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 13th September.

MR. BRADY (Swan) [2.39 p.m.]: This is a very small Bill, but in the eyes of those who are raising poultry it contains a most important amendment, which the Minister seeks to incorporate in the principal Act. As the Minister has said, there was a scare in the early part of this year that a disease known as Newcastle disease had found its way into Western Australia, and this caused some apprehension among poultry breeders. The department, in an endeavour to ensure that all aspects of the disease will be covered, has sought an amendment to the Act to have the definition of "poultry" read as follows:—

"Poultry."—Any poultry, poultry products, the carcase or any portion of the carcase of any poultry, newly hatched chickens, or the eggs of any poultry for hatching purposes or for food purposes:

Some might argue that eggs are not poultry; but having the definition determined along these lines will give the department the right to exclude eggs from coming into Western Australia should Newcastle disease, or any other disease, threaten the industry in the State in the future.

Accordingly, and speaking for the Opposition, I have no objection to the amendment being incorporated in the Act. The last time the Act was amended was by Bill No. 24 of 1960. At that time there was also some threat to four-legged stock in Western Australia, and the interpretation was amended accordingly. At the present time the word "stock" in the interpretation includes poultry, but it does not define what poultry is.

By having the word "poultry" defined and included in the interpretation section of the Stock Diseases Act, there will be no doubt that eggs are included. I understand that at the time when there was a scare because of disease in Western Australia, the poultry farmers thought the correct definition should be "avian products." That definition, however, did not strictly cover eggs, and to make sure that eggs were included, the present interpretation has been put forward.

In conclusion, I would like to say that in the *Oxford Dictionary* the word "eggs" has at least half a dozen different definitions, and the word "stock" has about 12 or 13 definitions. It would seem that by placing this new definition in the Act we will actually be creating a new definition of the word "eggs"; and the people who talk about an Australian language will probably have some justification for their

argument when they find that poultry, in Australia, means eggs.

It is as well to remind the House that we should give very careful consideration to any amendments that affect the poultry industry, because this industry has now assumed great proportions. In Western Australia alone the egg industry is worth £2,250,000 a year.

The *Pocket Year Book*, No. 38 of 1956, points out that on the 31st March, 1953, there were in store in Western Australia—

The **SPEAKER**: Order! There are people blocking the passageway. It must be kept clear. I do not propose to speak about this again. I spoke about it a few minutes ago.

Mr. **BRADY**: I was about to point out, Sir, that on the 31st March, 1953, the production of eggs for the year amounted to 8,813,717 dozen, and the production in the year 1954 was 8,091,811 dozen. If we make a quick calculation at approximately 5s. a dozen it will be seen that the estimated value is £2,000,000. That is borne out by the *Statistical Register* part V, for 1963-64, which shows that for 1954 the value of eggs produced was £2,053,984, and the value for 1963-64 was £2,437,592.

It can be seen, therefore, that we cannot afford to take any risks with the poultry industry, particularly in regard to egg production. I think it is most advisable to have the amendment contained in the Bill included in the Act, and I have much pleasure in supporting it.

Mr. **NALDER** (Katanning—Minister for Agriculture) [2.46 p.m.]: I would like to thank the honourable member for his support of the legislation. I think the purpose of this Bill is very similar to that of the measure we introduced in connection with the control of foot and mouth disease. The disease we wish to control is a very serious one, and if it took hold of the poultry industry of this State it could play havoc. Accordingly, it is necessary to make sure, in legislation of this kind, that we cover all possibilities.

Earlier, the department felt this matter was adequately covered in previous legislation, but when we found it was possible that the disease could be introduced into the State in an egg, it was necessary to amend the legislation to include eggs in the interpretation section of the Act.

I think we all appreciate the value of these industries in the production of our local foodstuffs. Although the export value is very small to Western Australia, the industry plays an important part in the requirements of the State, and we must do all we can to protect it. Accordingly, it was necessary in the interests of the poultry industry to introduce the amendment referred to.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

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

BREAD ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 7th September.

Mr. **W. HEGNEY** (Mt. Hawthorn) [2.50 p.m.]: I would like to indicate my entire support of this Bill. When the Minister introduced it some days ago he said it was as a result of an agreement between the B.M.A.—not the British Medical Association, but the Bread Manufacturers Association—the Transport Workers Union, and the Bakers' Union.

The Bread Act prescribes certain times for the delivery of bread, and one of its provisions states that no bread shall be delivered within three hours of baking. For many years the Bakers' Union has enjoyed what might be termed a five-day week, with a starting time of 3 a.m., and on one day of the week of 4 a.m.

As a result of the conference to which I have referred the times have been advanced. I might point out that the Bakers' Union was somewhat reluctant to agree to the advancement of the times. Its members might not knead more dough, but as a result of that conference the employers will need more "dough" in order to pay the penalty rates involved.

Mr. O'Neill: The employees will get more "dough."

Mr. **W. HEGNEY**: There will be no more dough kneaded by the employees, but they will get more "dough." They will receive double time from 1 a.m. to 3 a.m., and on the specified day from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m.

Mr. **Nalder**: Are you referring to dough or to dollars?

Mr. **W. HEGNEY**: The member for Swan has just mentioned something about the Australian language. I think the Deputy Premier has been in Parliament long enough to know the Australian language. To repeat, the employees will not knead more dough, but the employers will need more "dough" to pay the penalty rates to the employees.

Mr. **Bickerton**: Pay in dollars.

Mr. **W. HEGNEY**: The penalty rates will be paid in dollars. The Transport Workers Union was involved in these proceedings, because the Act prescribes that delivery shall not commence before the specified period after the baking of the bread. As the Minister indicated during the second reading, he has authority to vary these times. Since the agreement was registered in the court the Minister has exercised his discretion, and the times of delivery have not been altered. This has preserved the conditions of the bread carters.

In addition, one of the prime objects of the Bill is to ensure that reasonable time is provided for wrapped bread to be made, to be cooled, to be sliced, and to be delivered to the shops or households, as the case may be.

Another matter contained in the Bill relates to the definition of "delivery", and the provision in the Bill will clear away any misunderstanding. In future delivery will mean delivery from the time the vans leave the bakehouse—not the time they reach the first retailer or the first household. So it is apparent that all parties are happy with the Bill. The Minister was quite correct in the statements he made during the introduction of the measure, and I have much pleasure in supporting the second reading.

MR. DAVIES (Victoria Park) [2.55 p.m.]: This Bill is an example of what can be done through reasonable co-operation between management and trade unions. I think both parties, in this case, were forced into the issue by the campaign conducted by *The West Australian*, which seemed to be very much concerned because the public could not be supplied with fresh bread when Monday holidays occurred. Among some sections the experiment was not as successful or as popular as it was thought it would be.

I made some inquiries, and I found that whilst some shopkeepers tried to make an estimate of the bread that would be required, in many cases it was impossible for them to assess accurately; consequently some of them were oversupplied, while others found they did not have enough. However, the fact remains the change has been effected, and no doubt *The West Australian* will be delighted. I think its next campaign will be the opening of service stations for 24 hours a day. However, we will wait for developments in that regard.

As the previous speaker mentioned, the Bill will amend the Act in accordance with the industrial awards that were issued by Commissioner Schnaars on the 10th May, 1966. The unions are not greatly delighted with the provisions of the Bill, but by a sound appreciation of the position in which they found themselves they were able to retain for themselves, and for their members, some of the penalty rates which have applied.

The Bread Act has been amended regularly by Parliament. I think we amended it last year and in 1962, and if I remember correctly on several other occasions during my relatively short term in this House. Generally the amendments have been directed towards assisting the master bakers. In many respects the public has not had a fair go from the bakers, even though the public have been provided with a wide variety of bread. Bakers have been allowed to adopt certain

new processes, but I think that value for the pound has certainly gone out of bread, as it has out of many other items which we need in order to live.

It amazes me that the public is supplied with sliced and wrapped bread which does not bear any indication whatever of the day of baking. In these days when some nations are able to send astronauts and space capsules 850 miles into space, and to have photographs taken of the world from space, surely the bakers should be able to devise some system for the stamping of the date of baking on wrapped and sliced bread. In this regard I do not think the public is receiving a fair go.

I purchase wrapped bread, but at times I have had doubts as to its freshness. Naturally the shopkeepers will assure customers that such bread is fresh. The bread may be the latest that has been delivered to them, and I have no evidence that stale bread is being sold; but the point is that if wrapped bread continues to be sold some reasonable assurance should be given to the public that the bread they are purchasing is fresh.

No doubt the excuse used to oppose this practice will be that the cost of date stamping will add greatly to the cost of the bread, and to the number of factors that have to be taken into consideration in assessing the price of bread. If I remember correctly there are something like 24—or it might be 48—factors which have to be considered when the price of the daily loaf is determined. I do not think the bakers are desirous of providing this service to the public, yet it is a matter for which the Government has a responsibility to force on the bakers.

The only experience I have had is the buying of sliced and wrapped bread. On occasions I have had a suspicion that it was not fresh. I repeat, that in these days, with great technological advances taking place, it is not impossible to provide the service I have mentioned. I hope that on the next occasion when the Bread Act is amended the Government will make some attempt to give the public this protection against the sale of stale bread.

I support the Bill and think all the parties concerned, and particularly the two trade unions concerned, deserve to be commended for the manner in which they have attacked the problem and for the result which has been achieved.

MR. O'NEIL (East Melville—Minister for Labour) [3 p.m.]: I thank members for their contributions to this debate and their support of the Bill. The various matters raised by the member for Victoria Park are rather outside the ambit of the Bill and not, I think, matters upon which I can give comment at this stage.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

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

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE

MR. BRAND (Greenough—Premier) [3.3 p.m.]: I move—

That the House do now adjourn.

I would point out that the notice paper is very thin, and that is why I am moving to adjourn the House now; and I also point out that the sitting on Tuesday next will be a short one.

On Tuesday I propose to give notice of the Loan Estimates and they will be introduced on Wednesday. As members are aware, we propose rising for Show Week and this will enable the draftsman and others concerned with the preparation of Bills to catch up somewhat.

Question put and passed.

House adjourned at 3.4 p.m.

Legislative Council

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

BILLS (6): ASSENT

Message from the Governor received and read notifying assent to the following Bills:—

1. Commonwealth and State Housing Agreement Bill.
2. Foot and Mouth Disease Eradication Fund Act Amendment Bill.
3. Potato Growing Industry Trust Fund Act Amendment Bill.
4. Brands Act Amendment Bill.
5. Painters' Registration Act Amendment Bill.
6. Main Roads Act Amendment Bill.

QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

Thursday Nights

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE asked the Minister for Mines:

Can the Leader of the House advise members if he has reached a decision as to when it will be considered likely that the sittings of the House may be extended from Thursday afternoons to later hours in the evening or night?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

Judging from the number of notices that have been read today, it occurs to me that an afternoon off last Thursday energised members to the point where we have heard so many notices of questions this afternoon.

As you know, Mr. President, it has not been usual for the House to sit on a Thursday evening until this becomes necessary. When it becomes necessary it is customary to give members a week's notice of the intention that the House should sit.

Perhaps this is an opportune moment to say that I calculate the House probably will sit on Thursday evenings after Show Week. I make the proviso that we will not sit on the Thursday evening if the notice paper enables us to adjourn at tea time, but, otherwise, we will sit on Thursday evenings after Show Week.

QUESTIONS (5): ON NOTICE**NAIRN'S CREAM***Withdrawal from Sale*

1. The Hon. J. G. HISLOP asked the Minister for Health:

Will the Minister ascertain and make known the reason why Nairn's cream was suddenly taken off the market a few months ago?

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON replied: H. E., P. W., and M. E. Nairn were dairymen-vendors licensed to sell