

# Legislative Council

Thursday, the 5th April, 1979

The PRESIDENT (the Hon. Clive Griffiths) took the Chair at 2.30 p.m., and read prayers.

## ESSENTIAL FOODSTUFFS AND COMMODITIES BILL

*Assent*

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

## QUESTIONS

Questions were taken at this stage.

## DEPUTY CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES

*Election*

On motion by the Hon. G. C. MacKinnon (Leader of the House), resolved—

That, in accordance with Standing Order No. 35, the following members be elected to act as Deputy Chairmen of Committees for the present Session—The Hons. R. J. L. Williams, D. W. Cooley and T. Knight.

## COMMITTEES FOR THE SESSION

*Election*

On motion by the Hon. G. C. MacKinnon (Leader of the House), resolved—

That, in accordance with Standing Order No. 38, the following members be elected for the present Session:

- (a) Standing Orders Committee—The Hons. R. J. L. Williams, T. Knight and D. W. Cooley;
- (b) Library Committee—The Hons. W. R. Withers and Lyla Elliott;
- (c) House Committee—The Hons. A. A. Lewis, G. E. Masters, D. K. Dans and R. T. Leeson; and
- (d) Printing Committee—The Hons. H. W. Gayfer and R. F. Claughton.

## ADDRESS-IN-REPLY: THIRD DAY

*Motion*

Debate resumed, from the 3rd April, on the following motion by the Hon. N. F. Moore—

That the following address be presented to His Excellency—

May it please Your Excellency: We the Members of the Legislative Council

of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled, beg to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech you have been pleased to deliver to Parliament.

**THE HON. D. W. COOLEY** (North-East Metropolitan) [2.53 p.m.]: In rising to speak to the Address-in-Reply, I appreciate that this is the last opportunity I will have to address myself to such a motion. I think it is well known that at the end of this Parliament I will resign from public office. With that in mind, when preparing my speech I referred back to the speech I made in the Address-in-Reply debate in 1974—that being my first speech in this House. I note that the motion we are supporting today—which, of course, we are bound to support—is exactly the same as the motion we supported in 1974. Most members will be aware that most of my addresses to this House have concerned the question of industrial relations; and I have tried to project my views on that matter to the Parliament.

In my first speech in the Address-in-Reply debate, among other things I said—

It would be beyond anybody's comprehension that a Government could maintain that there was no justification for wage increases or improved conditions over the long period of 12 years. However, it is my hope that this Government—

Members will recall this speech was made in the early days of the Court Government. I continued—

—will not live in the past but will begin to recognise that industrial relations today are vastly different from those which applied 10 years or even five years ago. The Government must face the fact that the workers in this State and throughout Australia no longer recognise arbitration as the sole means of obtaining justice in respect of wages and conditions.

**The PRESIDENT:** Order! If honourable members must carry on conversations, I would like them to do so a little less audibly.

**The Hon. D. W. COOLEY:** I would agree with you, Mr President. If some senior members of the Government were to listen to speeches they may be able to put economic conditions on a better plane than they are now, because the conditions that have prevailed over the past five years are atrocious.

The matter of industrial relations seems to me to be the very basis of whether or not we will

succeed in this area. I think Government members could profit by listening intently to what I have to say today, because they have not listened much over the past five years.

The Hon. H. W. Gayfer: I always listen to you very intently.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I am sure Mr Gayfer does.

The PRESIDENT: Order! My comment was not intended to start a general debate on the matter.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: My speech in 1974 continued as follows—

We recognise that the Industrial Commission has a part to play, but it has become outdated—I think I touched upon this point yesterday—due to the conservative attitudes of Governments and a reluctance to change laws governing industrial relations to conform with modern standards. The workers of this country no longer are satisfied with minimum standards prescribed in many instances by politically appointed people while, to use the word of the conservatives, unbridled profits and prices are condoned by conservative Governments. We have entered an entirely new field of industrial relations which involves direct negotiations between employers and unionists both at the shop floor level and in the union administration itself. It must be accepted by all sections of the community and particularly by Governments that the cap-in-hand approach to industrial relations is gone and will never return.

It is a sad but true fact that industrial relations, instead of improving over the past five years, have worsened dramatically to the point where the Government is no longer in control of the situation. The Government has lost control, because it does not seem to understand. In its five years in office it has introduced in the Legislative Assembly more anti-union legislation—which has been condoned by this so-called House of Review—than has been introduced into the Parliament of Western Australia since responsible government began in 1890. By “anti-union legislation” I am referring to anti-working class legislation. The Government commenced in 1974 by introducing that infamous Fuel, Energy and Power Resources Act Amendment Bill, which has not even been proclaimed. That legislation is lying idle, ready to strike at the hearts of the workers should they act against the wishes of the Government.

The Hon. R. G. Pike: What about Wran's Act in New South Wales? It is precisely the same, but more draconian.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: In respect of fuel and energy?

The Hon. R. G. Pike: Yes. It is the same but even more draconian.

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: That is only your view.

The Hon. Lyla Elliott: Have you read the New South Wales legislation?

The Hon. R. G. Pike: He is talking about the fuel and energy legislation.

The Hon. Lyla Elliott: Have you read the New South Wales legislation?

The PRESIDENT: Order! Would the honourable member proceed?

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: On two occasions—and we are approaching the third occasion—the Workers' Compensation Act has been amended to have the effect of reducing conditions and financial benefits for people who are unfortunate to have an accident at work. Those conditions and benefits have been reduced considerably.

The Government will do something about the Dunn report. Whatever action is taken we may be sure will disadvantage further the people who have been subjected to industrial accidents.

All the legislation I have mentioned has been put into effect by being introduced in the lower House and having the rubber stamp placed upon it by this House. No member on the Government benches has shown any opposition at all to that legislation.

There have been amendments to the Industrial Arbitration Act which have extended exemptions to people who do not wish to join unions. Those people simply go to the Industrial Commission, and they opt out of their unions. The Government sees some virtue in allowing people not to belong to unions and yet being able to enjoy the benefits that obtain from the efforts of trade unions.

The Hon. W. M. Piesse: People do not all belong to the Government, but they enjoy the benefits of the Government.

The D. W. COOLEY: Members on the honourable member's side of the House do not believe that people should enjoy those benefits. I refer to the events of the last few days.

The Hon. J. C. Tozer interjected.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Mr Tozer would be happy in the Pilbara if there was 40 per cent unionism. The people who sent him to this place would have a free hand with the profits they

make, and they would reduce the wages and conditions of the working people.

The Hon. J. C. Tozer: There is no way I have ever encouraged that.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: These are the people who say it is wrong to have compulsory unionism. I do not know of the existence of compulsory unionism in Western Australia. Those people say there should not be any compulsion; nobody should be compelled to do anything. Those are the same people who were in the Liberal Party when they sent thousands of boys into Vietnam. Mr Pike is smiling, but they allowed about 400 of our boys to be killed in an unwinnable war. Was that not compulsion? They used to pull the names of the 20-year-old boys out of a barrel and sent them into battle.

The Hon. R. G. Pike: One has no relevance to the other. On your argument, we should not have fought in the Second World War.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Mr Pike's cohorts believe there should not be compulsion in another field. They interfered with the control of union ballots by legislation in this place. That legislation is contrary to ILO principles. They have taken away from the unions the right to control their own ballots. They have placed that right in the hands of other people.

The Hon. R. G. Pike: The Government authority which you deny is the authority you want to give to the unions. Can you not see what you propose?

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: The Government introduced a Flour Bill which allowed it to send people into the flour mills, to remove flour while the workers were on strike. It condoned "scabbery" on the wharves when it allowed farmers to go onto the wharves to load live sheep.

The Hon. R. G. Pike: Let all the farming members in Western Australia note that comment.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: The Government will not do that again. That is the last time it will be done.

The Hon. R. G. Pike: The farmers will not forget that comment.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Mr Pike's supporters were down there.

This Government brings in legislation to control people. Recently, the penalty for not wearing seatbelts in a motor vehicle has been increased in the interests of safety. However, the Government permitted farmers to go down to the wharves on the back of a big truck. The farmers were not wearing seatbelts or anything like that.

The Hon. G. E. Masters: They went down to protect their industry. You are a very callous man—

Government members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: The truth hurts.

The PRESIDENT: Order! There is far too much interjection, and there are far too many private conversations in the Chamber this afternoon. I am asking honourable members to refrain from both unlawful activities.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Members of the Government break the laws themselves to suit their own ends.

The Hon. G. E. Masters: Absolute rubbish!

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: They break not only the laws they make in this place, but they break the moral laws as well. They did that on Tuesday in the manner in which they brought in that infamous Bill. Mr Masters was a prime mover in that. There was never any action such as that in this place before he arrived here.

The Hon. G. E. Masters: How do you know, Mr Cooley? You came here on the same day.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: People talk about pommy shop stewards. A lot of people on the other side are a bit militant.

The Government's action on Tuesday was the most militant of all. Not only has the Government provided itself with flour, but it has cast its net wide to embrace everything that we eat, drink, and move on. I do not think the public and members opposite realise the impact that this legislation will have.

The Hon. R. G. Pike: Why are you always attacking the farmers?

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I am not always attacking the farmers. Some of my best friends are farmers. They are the nicest people I know.

The Hon. R. G. Pike interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: It is not only the farmers who want an improvement in conditions. Members of the trade unions also want their conditions improved.

The Hon. R. G. Pike: The farmers have a right to sell their livestock.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: In the country, people refer to geese as a gaggle of geese. They refer to a herd of sheep. Sometimes people refer to groups of farmers as a grumble of graziers. However, they have a right to grumble when things are going wrong. They have the same right

in that respect as other people. However, never in the history of this country has anybody attempted to beat the farmers down by legislation such as that introduced in this Chamber over the last five years.

The Hon. A. A. Lewis: What have the unions done? They have stopped people from loading sheep. They have taken their livelihoods away.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: The Leader of the House said the other night that those people should receive the \$8 they were seeking.

Government members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: I said nothing of the kind. I did not say they were not entitled to it, or anything like that. You are only twisting my words, in your usual, slightly dishonest way, Mr Cooley.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: As a senior member of this Government, Mr MacKinnon ought to be down in Adelaide Terrace, in the Confederation of Western Australian Industry building, telling those people they ought to grant the \$8 to save all this disputation. In fact, if Mr MacKinnon had those thoughts in his mind before his statement in this House, he should have been down there long before now.

If Mr MacKinnon had done that, there would not have been any strife, and there would not have been the need for that legislation to have passed through the House.

The Hon. R. G. Pike: Do you want to retract your statement about allowing the farmers to load their own sheep?

The PRESIDENT: Order! Would the honourable member refrain from interjecting?

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: There is no doubt, as I indicated when I was last speaking here, that it was not the Minister for Labour and Industry—I thought for a moment I might have been unjust to Mr Grayden—who was the catalyst. It was not the former Minister for Labour and Industry. Neither was it the present Minister for Labour and Industry whom I have known for a long time. He is a fair man. It is some invidious force behind these men which is bringing about all the disputation we have seen and there is only one reason for it; that is, for political advantage.

Everyone knows, including the members on this side of the House, that due to a campaign of villification the public of this State have a feeling against the unions. They know the unions are not

in favour with the Government and if the unions are—

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: When did a political party last do something to political disadvantage?

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: There are some limits of morality, surely.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: Answer my question.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Is the Leader of the House telling me he would obtain political advantage at the expense of people on \$120 a week? Members of the Liberal Party are sufficiently ruthless to do anything. We can look at the track record of the Government over the last five years to see that.

The Hon. T. Knight: You only need to look at the family unit to prove we consider the workers and are prepared to protect their families.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: The Liberal Party has been in power a lot longer than has the Labor Party. If the Government believes in the family unit it would not be necessary for the breadwinner to work at two jobs, for his wife to work, or for him to work excessive overtime to obtain a real wage. That is what the average wage worker has to do these days. He cannot live on his wages. A man ought to be able to work 40 hours a week and earn sufficient money to provide for his family. How can a man live in reasonable comfort on \$120 per week and support a wife and two children?

The Hon. T. Knight: Your party backed the transport strike to starve out those same families.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I do not think the honourable member would know. He is like the rest of his wealthy colleagues—he does not know or understand.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: You are one of the wealthiest men in this House.

The Hon. Grace Vaughan: But he still understands.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: They tell me you are an absolute capitalist. You are the only bloke who can afford to commute 200 miles every weekend.

The PRESIDENT: Order! Would honourable members remember that it is my responsibility to ensure decorum is maintained in this House and without your co-operation it is impossible for me to do so. I ask the honourable member on his feet to proceed with his speech without inciting other members.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: The Leader of the House is far wealthier than I. When he retires he will receive a big, fat parliamentary pension.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: I could not afford to commute 200 miles every weekend. Goodness knows what you have accumulated.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: When I leave this House I will receive a service pension. Do members know how much that service pension represents? It represents the same amount as the age pension.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: Look what the ALP did to you. You are talking a lot of hogwash. You commute 200 miles to Augusta every weekend.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: The Leader of the House has made some outrageous statements since he has been here, but the one he has just made tops them all.

The Hon. R. G. Pike: I think you are a complete capitalist.

The Hon. Grace Vaughan: He does not forget what it is like to be poor.

The Hon. A. A. Lewis: You are not leaving Parliament for the same reasons Mrs Vaughan is leaving.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Mrs Vaughan will be back.

The Hon. Grace Vaughan: The richer you are the more you ought to be able to understand poor people.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I am too moderate—

The Hon. Neil McNeill: We will be sorry to see you go.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I will be sorry to go in some respects, but in other respects I will not.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: We will all be sorry to see you go and we think what the ALP did to you was disgraceful.

The Hon. Grace Vaughan: They did not do anything.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: The selection committee told him to get out. Everybody knows that.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Mr President, I am addressing you. I hope you will keep the Leader of the House under control, because in the last three minutes he has been guilty of telling two lies and that is not becoming of Ministers of the Crown. They should not tell lies; they should tell

the truth. The Leader of the House should not be making such statements, because they are not true. Most members like to tell the truth.

The Hon. A. A. Lewis: I do not know.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I should like to give an indication of how far back we have gone in respect of industrial relations. I have been told, I have heard, or I have read somewhere that one of the members of the Liberal Party who is currently a member of the other House and has an electorate near the seashore has made a statement as to what he thinks of unionists. He has given his opinion about these great union people who the member for Warren said were protecting the poultry farmers and no action would be taken against them. The member of the other place said, "They are the gutless guttersnipes whom members opposite support. They are the ratbags whom members opposite represent." That is what a prominent member of the Liberal Party said.

The Hon. R. G. Pike: You are not allowed to allude to debates in the other place.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I am not alluding to a debate in the other place. I am referring to something which was said.

The Hon. G. E. Masters: He did not say that about unions, did he?

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: He said they were gutless guttersnipes whom members opposite support.

The Hon. G. E. Masters: He was generalising and you are saying they are unionists.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: He said also, "They apply a foul-mouthed epithet to anyone who breaks a strike. They use their strong-arm tactics and their union thugs."

The Hon. A. A. Lewis: Can we ask what you are quoting from?

The Hon. R. F. Cloughton: He is reading from notes he made.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I am reading from a document and I am quoting what was said by a prominent member of the Liberal Party. I must draw attention to the hypocrisy of these people when they talk about what the unionists get and what they should not get. I must preface these remarks by saying that never in my life have I opposed anybody receiving a pay increase, be they politicians, judges, people in the lower income groups, or anyone else. I do not believe I have ever heard any of my colleagues in this place—I have certainly never heard anybody in Trades Hall—opposing pay rises. I want to draw the attention of the House to the Liberal Party—

The Hon. A. A. Lewis: Was there not a bloke called Mr Dowding who said something about pay rises?

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Perhaps there is. I may be wrong. I shall speak for myself. I have never opposed pay rises.

Since 1975 a campaign has been conducted by the Liberal Party which has said that the economy of this country will never get moving unless we break down real wages. The Liberal Party has been advocating that situation in the Industrial Commission for the best part of four years.

The Hon. A. A. Lewis: Is that Liberal Party policy?

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: It has been expressed through the arbitration system and the Liberal Party has been successful in achieving its aim, because wages are barely increasing adequately to compensate for the movements in consumer prices. The Liberal Party has been saying the workers should not receive a full flow-on of indexation. Whether it is right or wrong, that is what the Liberal Party has been saying.

The Hon. A. A. Lewis: But do you think that wages relate to production? What is your answer to that?

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: A report in *The West Australian* of the 21st December, 1978, said that 150 000 people in this State got a 4 per cent pay rise.

The 4 per cent pay rise to a person on a weekly wage of \$150 represented \$6 per week. On the 13th December, 1978, another article appeared in *The West Australian* under the heading, "Court: jobless lose". The article, in part, reads—

The Premier, Sir Charles Court, said that the national wage increase would do nothing to enable the State Government or private employers to create more jobs.

The decision would add \$13 million to the Government's wages and salaries bill for the rest of this financial year, and \$25 million in a full year.

Following that, on the 21st December, another article appeared in *The West Australian* under the heading, "Arbitration is a flop: Sir Charles". In part, the article reads—

The industrial arbitration system will be reviewed by the State Government in the New Year.

The Premier, Sir Charles Court, said today the industrial arbitration system had failed.

"It was the greatest scourge facing Australia," he said.

On the 7th February, 1979, another article in the Press stated that the Western Australian Liberal Party members of Parliament had accepted the 9 per cent pay rise gazetted on the previous Friday. What hypocrisy!

The Hon. A. A. Lewis: What did you do? We knocked ours back. You did not knock yours back.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I know we got ours, because we believe in pay increases. We do not criticise them, but the party of the member opposite does. I ask members to listen to the following comment. The arbitration system is a scourge; it is not something that was very nice according to Sir Charles' beliefs. The comment was—

The feeling of the meeting was that the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal was a responsible and experienced body.

Because the Western Australian Industrial Commission gives a worker on \$150 per week an increase of \$6, it is a scourge! However, our parliamentary Salaries and Allowances Tribunal is a responsible body, because it shoves more money into the pockets of members of Parliament.

The Hon. A. A. Lewis: You recently said the back-benchers of the Liberal Party were not asked; they were told. However, today you are castigating us because we accepted a pay rise. You have to go one way or the other.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I am not altogether criticising the member opposite, but he has to go along with the Premier. He has an iron fist on members opposite, and they go along with him. The Premier had said there was not a full regard for the national implications of the pay rise. Yet, in the news report to which I have referred—and I assume it is right—it is stated the decision would add \$13 million to the salary bill. I wonder how much was added to the salary bill as result of the increase for members of Parliament. Why is the Industrial Commission wrong in granting increases to workers, when the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal is regarded as being right?

That is not all. It would not be so bad if the 4 per cent increase had been passed on. However, it was not 4 per cent, it was 9 per cent and the argument was—and I might say it was correct, and one has to be consistent—that an additional 5 per cent should be added to it. Members opposite accepted it. If members opposite were true to

their principles they would not have accepted the additional 5 per cent.

The increase for Ministers, including allowances, amounted to \$60 per week, or 9.19 per cent. Yet, it is considered to be wrong for the workers who are earning \$150 per week to receive an increase of \$6 per week. Because of that it seems we have to get rid of the arbitration system.

That is not the worst of it. These statements were made after Sir Charles Court and his Government had commissioned one of the industrial commissioners, Eric Kelly, to bring down a report to the Government with regard to the redrafting of the Industrial Arbitration Act. I daresay—and I would almost bet—that no consideration has yet been given to that report. I would be surprised if it had. The gentleman who was calling us ratbags and thugs—people in the Labor movement—was the same gentleman who criticised Mr Kelly's report. He knows as much about industrial relations as would Mr Eric Kelly's little finger.

The Hon. A. A. Lewis: You are berating backbenchers this evening about the decision they reached and about the statements they made. However, the other evening you told us that only the Premier made decisions and we went along with him like sheep.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Shame on you!

The Hon. A. A. Lewis: Which argument do you want to use?

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Does the member opposite go along with the Premier?

The Hon. A. A. Lewis: What are the rules? You did ask me to stay and listen to your comments.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Another matter which has concerned me since I have been here is the fact that there has been no attempt during those five years to give consideration to any type of reform in this Chamber, either to the method by which members are elected or to the powers they have under the Constitution.

I am amazed that this House is almost unknown in the electorate in respect of the matters I have just mentioned. I do not know how many people I have brought to this place—the number is considerable—but many of them have been politically aware trade unionists. I would say that 90 per cent of them are not aware that Mr Moore sitting opposite—and I do not intend to be personal—is sent here by 7 000 people whereas I am sent here by over 70 000 people. Those people are not aware that this House is indissoluble in its time, no matter what legislation it rejects. No

matter what a member does—unless he commits some sort of crime—he is here for six years.

It does not matter what legislation is rejected here. Despite what party is in power in the lower House an issue cannot be taken to the people in respect of decisions made here. I do not think that is a good democratic situation at all.

The Hon. G. W. Berry: What do you put that down to?

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I think it is because of apathy and no knowledge of the place. When I was elected here, I found that a number of people were voting for different parties in different Houses. Many people believe this is a conservative House and so it must have a majority of Liberal Party members and National Country Party members. This may be one of the reasons; most people do not know one thing about this House.

In my opinion the Liberal Party and the National Country Party members have a moral duty to do something about the situation, and I am not being facetious. In South Australia it was realised that something was wrong and that something should be done about the electoral system. Through the Liberal Party, something was done about it. There were people there with the political courage to take action. That is how we should act in a democracy. We should not have the situation where any Government—whether Liberal or Labor—should be able to govern in a particular Chamber for such a long period as the conservatives have governed in this Chamber.

The Hon. Neil McNeill: It is debatable, Mr Cooley, whether the situation in South Australia has improved at all. Indeed, it may be worse.

The Hon. R. Hetherington: I would not think it was debatable at all!

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: The Labor Party received 54 per cent of the votes, and it did not govern. That could happen in this Chamber.

The Hon. R. G. Pike: Mr Hetherington may disagree with you. In the South Australian Legislative Assembly under the "Dunstanmander" the Liberal Party needs 54.5 per cent of the vote to achieve a majority.

The Hon. R. Hetherington: I do not think that is true either.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Whether it be Liberal or Labor, the way the votes are cast now, I believe it would be possible for a party to have a majority in this House with 33.3 per cent of the total vote.

The Hon. Neil McNeill: I do not know how correct that is.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: It is not far from it now.

The Hon. Neil McNeill: That is a phoney expression.

The Hon. R. Hetherington: It is not phoney at all.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Whether or not it does happen, that situation ought to be altered if it exists. If people believe in democracy, they ought to believe in that principle. Everybody ought to be responsible for his actions, and this is particularly true of political people. The members of this House are not accountable for their actions. They do not have to go to the people to answer for their decisions.

The Hon. T. Knight: I would like to know how you came to the figure of 33 per cent.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I said that a political party could have a majority in this House with 33.3 per cent of the vote.

The Hon. R. Hetherington: It could have a majority with 17 per cent and I will explain that to you when I rise to speak if you like.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: As the position is in this Chamber, it seems that Government members, as well as Opposition members, are only playing at politics. We are not doing anything very serious. I said this the other night in the heat of the debate. More than 500 Government Bills have been passed during the time I have been here, and not one Bill has been rejected. That is the situation. What are we doing? On 500 occasions the Government has introduced Bills, and what can we do? We can protest as I am protesting now, but nothing else.

When we discussed the Essential Foodstuffs and Commodities Bill the other morning, despite the fact that I won the argument, I could not beat the Government. The Government did not have a feather to fly with, and Government members sat through the night without a word. We outclassed and outmanoeuvred the Government in every respect, but we knew beforehand that we could not win the vote. That is the situation, and it should not prevail.

The point I am making is that we only play politics. If there is a Labor majority in another place and a Liberal majority here—or vice versa—we do enter into the political field. We are not real political people playing the real political game.

The Hon. R. Hetherington: It is just a charade.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Government members should look at themselves. What have they done in this Chamber that has not been done in the lower House? A few amendments have been passed, but the Government has never accepted any Bills introduced by the Labor Party, except one little measure to increase the penalty for being cruel to a cat from \$100 to \$150. So this indicated to us that Government members have more regard for animals than they have for people. That is the only success we have had.

The Hon. R. J. L. Williams: You asked the question about what we have done. We also instituted the Drug and Alcohol Authority legislation. It started in this House.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: With all respect, it could have been started in the other House anyway.

The Hon. R. J. L. Williams: It started in this House.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: We may just as well not have been here for the past five years, for all the good we have done.

The Hon. G. E. Masters: You seemed very grateful for the other House the other morning.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: We are here to play a part, to play a role, and in the true sense we are not playing the political game.

The Hon. G. E. Masters: You talked learned drivell for an hour.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Members should have to justify their decisions. When we reach the situation that the Premier of the State can bring about a double dissolution and call a general election as a result of a decision in this House, then this is a political House. However, at this stage it is not.

The Hon. R. G. Pike: Do you apply the same argument to the Senate?

The Hon. D. K. Dans: We are looking to that.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: We cannot apply the same arguments to the Senate. There have been periods in the Federal sphere when different political parties have been in power in the different Houses.

The Hon. Neil McNeill: You have not really been here very long, and you have not seen this House defeat Government legislation.

The Hon. R. Hetherington: We have to wait for a Labor Government to see that. Once we get into office we will see it all right.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I am just relating what I have seen.



The Hon. R. Hetherington: It is a one-way review.

The Hon. I. G. Pratt: You will not see it under those circumstances for a long, long time.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: Since the inception of responsible Government, taken overall, not even 1 per cent of Government legislation has been rejected in this Chamber. There have been 500 Bills through here since Mr Cooley entered the Chamber.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. D. J. Wordsworth: How much legislation has the Assembly rejected?

The Hon. R. Hetherington: It does not claim to be a House of Review. It is a Government House.

The Hon. D. J. Wordsworth: You do not have to reject to review.

The Hon. R. Hetherington: The Assembly rejected the Electoral Act Amendment Bill.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Time is passing; I will continue. My hope for the future is that the Labor Party will be returned at all levels of Government—Federal, State, and local.

The Hon. R. G. Pike: With absolute power!

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I do not think any party should be in power forever and a day.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: You know, Mr Pike, I have never heard you mention your own electorate when speaking in this Chamber.

The Hon. G. E. Masters: Mr Cooley is the member for Trades Hall, isn't he?

The Hon. Grace Vaughan: He makes a close study of the Labor Party.

The Hon. R. G. Pike: I get information from the library.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: You certainly cannot get Liberal Party information from the library now.

The Hon. R. G. Pike: Whose fault is that?

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: The salvation of the little people will depend ultimately—

The Hon. D. J. Wordsworth: Our policy is in the library.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: The salvation of all little people—when I talk of "little people" I refer to the great majority in our community—will depend upon the compassion and understanding which is inherent in the Labor Party's policies and thinking.

Of course, the all-powerful Press and the huge financial resources of the Liberal Party and its friends stand as a bulwark against Labor and its endeavours to obtain a better world for working people. In many cases, the living standards people

enjoy are dependent upon having two incomes, extra jobs and excessive overtime, and they do not seem to desire a change.

However, it is an indictment on our society to find that one income is not sufficient to provide the average family with a reasonable standard of living. Unfortunately, the predominance of wealthy people within the ranks of Liberal Party politicians who currently dominate the political scene does not allow much hope for a change in this mode of living.

The Hon. Neil McNeill: What are you reading from, Mr Cooley?

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I saw the Hon. Norman Moore read his speech when he moved the Address-in-Reply motion last Thursday evening and I have seen Mr Tozer and others read all their speeches. I am simply concluding my remarks.

People must ultimately look for the support of the Labor Party if they want to be freed of this yoke of interference to their family life.

I am sure there would be less crime, drug addiction, and fewer overall problems with young people if family life could be restored to a single breadwinner basis. This would also have the effect of greatly reducing our unemployment problem.

The Labor movement can provide this relief only when ordinary people understand they are being constantly exploited by the small percentage of excessively wealthy people and companies within and beyond our shores.

#### *Tabling of Document*

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS: Mr Deputy President, Standing Order No. 150 states—

A document quoted from by a Member not a Minister of the Crown may be ordered by the Council to be laid on the Table; such order may be made without notice immediately upon the conclusion of the speech of the Member who has quoted therefrom.

I move—

That the papers referred to by the Hon. Don Cooley in quoting statements made by a certain person relating to unions be tabled.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The Hon. Gordon Masters has moved that the Legislative Council require the Hon. Don Cooley to table certain documents. All those of that opinion say "Aye"; to the contrary "No". The Ayes have it.

Motion (to table document) thus passed.

*Point of Order*

The Hon. D. K. DANS: Mr Deputy President, I would like the definition of what is a "document". In this Chamber, a document normally is something which is suitably folded and stapled together. If the Hon. Don Cooley was quoting only from a newspaper article, any decision of this Council to require him to table that "document" could lead to a bigger charade than already exists. I would like your ruling as to what is regarded as a "document".

The Hon. T. Knight: There must be some authenticity.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Order! In order to give due consideration to the point raised by the Leader of the Opposition, I will leave the Chair until the ringing of the bells.

*Sitting suspended from 3.43 to 4.06 p.m.*

*President's Ruling*

The PRESIDENT: Order! Mr Dans has asked for a ruling in respect of the definition of the word "document" as it relates to a resolution of the House calling for the tabling of a document. I rule that it is my view for the purposes of the implementation of Standing Order No. 150 that a document is any paper from which quotes are made during the course of any member's speech. The honourable member who quoted from the paper concerned will please table the document.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Am I obliged to table all my notes?

The PRESIDENT: Order! The member is obliged to table the document from which he quoted.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Could you tell me, Sir, what paper that was? I think the honourable member said something about the unions. A lot of people say lots of things about unions.

The PRESIDENT: Order! A resolution of this House has referred to a document quoted by the Hon. D. W. Cooley which, at the completion of whose speech, the Hon. Gordon Masters asked to be tabled. I presume that during the course of the passing of the resolution the particular document was identified and it is that document I am asking the member to table.

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS: Perhaps I could clarify the matter. Certain comments made by Mr Cooley referred to a person who I believe is in another place. His comments referred to the fact that this person called unionists thugs and Mr Cooley made a broad statement indicating that person had referred to intimidation by unions.

The PRESIDENT: Order! All I wish to do is identify the document. I would have thought that during the passing of the resolution asking the honourable member to table a certain document that document would have been identified. I ask the Hon. D. W. Cooley whether he would table the document? In fact, I am telling the member to table the document.

The Hon. D. K. DANS: I do not think the honourable member has any objection to tabling the document. When I went over to speak to Mr Cooley I noticed he had a sheaf of papers which was quite thick. I understand the situation to be that when a member is quoting from a document—and I accept your definition of a document, Mr President—it is immediately after he has quoted from it that he is asked to table it.

The PRESIDENT: Order! That is not the situation.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: I understand that this Standing Order is a little difficult to interpret as it asks for the tabling to be made at the end of the speech. Perhaps it would be better if you ruled, Mr President, that we suspend the sitting until we obtain a copy of the transcript from *Hansard*. When Mr Cooley was quoting from the document which he seems loath to hand over someone did make an interjection. Perhaps we could inspect the transcript and so sort out the problem.

The PRESIDENT: We are now entering into a general discussion. Unfortunately as honourable members know I was out of the Chamber when the resolution referring to the document was passed. As your President I was asked to make a ruling as to the definition of the word "document" as it relates to Standing Order No. 150. I made that ruling on the assumption there was a piece of paper that already had been identified. My ruling still stands. The only problem is to identify that document.

The Hon. Lyla ELLIOTT: Is it in order for someone to request the tabling of a document that might have been quoted from perhaps an hour or more earlier when there might have been four or five other documents quoted from in the meantime? Should the request be made at the time the quote is being made?

The PRESIDENT: Order! The Standing Order is quite specific. If members read Standing Order No. 150 they will see it does not provide for the person quoting from a document to be requested to table that document until the completion of his speech. That is what apparently has taken place and the only problem I can see is that no matter

what we call the paper, no-one seems to know which paper it is.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I think that is where we are in error. If you may permit me, Mr President, if I was reading from a certain document and the Standing Orders were applied obliging me to table the document I would do so, but I did not under any circumstance quote from a piece of paper. I bring a lot of papers into this House from which I quote and which I would not table even under the threat of being suspended from this House.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: It would be starting a dangerous precedent.

The PRESIDENT: Order! With respect, Mr Cooley's views on the matter are of no consequence at the moment in regard to what might happen on a future occasion. A request has been made for a document to be tabled. Frankly I am at a loss as to what to do, because apparently no-one in this House can identify the document. I may have to take the lead from the Leader of the House who has suggested I leave the Chair to enable us to get the transcript of Mr Cooley's speech from *Hansard*. I am inclined to accept his suggestion, because I do not think it will take hours for *Hansard* to produce a copy of the transcript which may enable us to identify the words in question and then allow us to ask Mr Cooley to table the appropriate document.

The Hon. J. C. TOZER: Mr President, you have been asked to rule on a point of order raised by Mr Dans seeking clarification of a definition.

#### *Point of Order*

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: I am sorry to interfere but is a debate on your ruling in order, Mr President?

The PRESIDENT: I am not taking it as a debate on my ruling. No-one has questioned my ruling. The members who are commenting now, including the Leader of the House, are doing so in an endeavour to find the document. There has been no question as to my ruling. I have given my ruling and as no-one has moved to disagree with it I assume the House has accepted it.

On the other hand I am loath to have members one after another giving me their opinion of the situation. The House is the controller of its own destiny and a motion in this House has resolved that Mr Cooley should lay on the Table of the House a document from which he quoted certain things. Mr Cooley has said that if we can identify the document he is prepared to lay it on the table. As no-one apparently is able to identify the

document I say we should follow the suggestion of the Leader of the House and ask *Hansard* to produce for us urgently a transcript. If we can find the words we can then show them to Mr Cooley who then ought to produce the document. Unless Mr Tozer can identify the document there is no way in which I want to hear what anyone else has to say.

The Hon. J. C. TOZER: I am not able to identify the document, but we are working in this House on the wrong premise. The fact of the matter is that a motion was moved. The Deputy President put it to the House and called for the ayes and noes to identify themselves and then immediately Mr Dans rose on a point of order. The Deputy President did not say whether the motion was carried. I suggest that must be done before we know whether we need to look at the transcript.

*Sitting suspended from 4.17 to 4.37 p.m.*

The PRESIDENT: I have the *Hansard* transcript of the speech Mr Cooley was making. At one stage Mr Cooley said—

The member of the other place said, "They are the gutless guttersnipes whom members opposite support. They are the ratbags whom members opposite represent." That is what a prominent member of the Liberal Party said.

Mr Pike interjected and said—

The Hon. R. G. Pike: You are not allowed to allude to debates in the other place.

Mr Cooley then said—

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I am not alluding to a debate in the other place. I am referring to something which was said.

Mr Masters interjected and said—

The Hon. G. E. Masters: He did not say that about unions, did he?

Mr Cooley replied—

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: He said they were gutless guttersnipes whom members opposite support.

Mr Masters interjected and said—

The Hon. G. E. Masters: He was generalising and you are saying they are unionists.

Mr Cooley continued—

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: He said also, "They apply a foul-mouthed epithet to

anyone who breaks a strike. They use strong-arm tactics and their union thugs."

Mr Lewis interjected, asking—

The Hon. A. A. Lewis: Can we ask what you are quoting from?

Mr Cloughton said—

The Hon. R. F. Cloughton: He is reading from notes he made.

Mr Cooley then said—

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I am reading from a document and I am quoting what was said by a prominent member of the Liberal Party.

Mr Cooley, it is that particular document that I am asking you to lay on the Table of the House.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I still feel that the document has not been identified.

The PRESIDENT: I am saying the document has now been identified and I am asking you to lay it on the Table of the House.

*The document was tabled (see paper No. 102).*

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: Mr President, might I request that the document be checked in order to see that it bears some resemblance to what the document was purported to have contained during the time of the debate, for obvious reasons?

The PRESIDENT: The document repeats the words used by the honourable member in the debate, and I can only take it that it is the document from which he was quoting. I have no reason to believe otherwise; it does contain all of those words.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: Mr President, can we ask who the author of the document was?

The PRESIDENT: Mr Cooley. They are handwritten notes.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: This is the problem in identifying documents. The Standing Order should be looked at.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: There is no trouble in identifying that.

#### *Debate Resumed*

Debate adjourned, on motion by the Hon. R. Hetherington.

#### **ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE**

**THE HON. G. C. MacKINNON** (South-West—Leader of the House) [4.43 p.m.]: I move—

That the House do now adjourn.

#### *Tabling of Documents: Standing Orders*

**THE HON. D. W. COOLEY** (North-East Metropolitan) [4.44 p.m.]: I wish to raise the strongest objection I possibly can to the decision you made in respect of the tabling of that document, Mr President. I fear you created a very dangerous precedent, as did the honourable member who requested that the document—

The PRESIDENT: Order! The honourable member is not permitted to criticise a decision of the Chair at this stage.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: I thought I had permission to speak to the adjournment motion, Sir.

The PRESIDENT: You have, but you certainly do not have permission to criticise a decision of the Chair. If you wish to speak on the adjournment motion, I ask you to confine your remarks to some other matter.

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Sir, I would say that the tabling of a document at the request of a member of an opposite party, without the document being fully identified and quoted by the member who had it in his possession, creates a very dangerous precedent.

The PRESIDENT: Order! I will not permit the honourable member to persist in this line of discussion. There has been a resolution of the House, and there is no provision for you to comment on it at this stage. I refer the honourable member to Standing Order No. 82. If he refers to that Standing Order he will find I am perfectly correct in preventing him from discussing the matter.

#### *Point of Order*

The Hon. LYLA ELLIOTT: I rise on a point of order. I readily agreed that the Minister for Lands should table the answer to question 28 in order to save the time of the House. However, my attention has been drawn to the fact that if the answer was tabled it would not appear in *Hansard*.

The PRESIDENT: The Minister asked that the answer be taken as read. It will appear in *Hansard*.

#### *Tabling of Documents: Standing Orders*

**THE HON. G. C. MacKINNON** (South-West—Leader of the House) [4.47 p.m.]: May I make a general statement with regard to Standing Orders?

*Points of Order*

The Hon. D. W. COOLEY: Mr President, I thought we had a motion before the Chair.

The PRESIDENT: I take it that the Leader of the House is closing the debate.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: Yes, Sir, and I had the call.

The Hon. D. K. DANS: On a point of order, Mr President, I thought the Minister had moved that the House do now adjourn.

The PRESIDENT: He moved that motion. Then he subsequently rose in his place and I gave him the call.

*Debate Resumed*

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: That is correct, Sir. I wish to suggest to the House that the Standing Orders are provided for our guidance as you, Sir, so rightly said a moment ago. There is a committee which considers alterations and modifications to our Standing Orders and if anyone does not like a particular Standing Order the appropriate course of action is to speak to the Standing Orders Committee. I understand Mr Cooley is a member of that committee, and he may raise any subject he wishes. Indeed, I would think he is in an ideal position to call a meeting of the committee.

If my memory serves me right, there is a Standing Order which says points of order must be taken at the time, not after a motion has been put. Miss Elliott should have taken her point of order at the time. I believe implicitly that there is a serious obligation on every member of Parliament to read Standing Orders and, indeed, the Interpretation Act, at least six times in the first month after entering Parliament in order to gain some understanding of what is entailed.

The Hon. Lyla Elliott: Why did not the Minister move the correct motion?

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: He did. He asked that he be permitted to table the answer and that it be incorporated in *Hansard*.

The Hon. D. J. Wordsworth: That is right.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: It behoves members to listen carefully, particularly when they have a personal interest in the matter.

I would like to mention another matter, and I would request Mr Cooley, in his capacity as a member of the Standing Orders Committee, to have a look at it. It is my belief there is no provision for a resolution of the House calling for the tabling of papers. A member may only request that another member table a document, and the President may make such an order. I have never seen such a matter put to the vote in this House or in any other House of Parliament I have studied. The tabling of a document may be requested by any member, even if he is on his own. If a member is foolish enough to quote from a confidential document, he deserves all that he gets, because we have plenty of typists available to type an excerpt from a document.

Our Standing Orders are there for good reason and are designed to give advantage to no-one. They are extremely fair to both Opposition and Government. Indeed, were they not so I am certain our President would make jolly sure they were interpreted in an even-handed manner.

I am convinced no vote was required in respect of that matter earlier and I want to go on record as saying so, because I believe a bad precedent has been established today which should be corrected. I suggest Mr Cooley in his capacity as a member of the Standing Orders Committee should look at the matters of the tabling of documents and the necessity to vote on the issue.

Question put and passed.

*House adjourned at 4.52 p.m.*

# QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

## ENERGY: SOLAR

### SERIWA Publication

12. The Hon. F. E. MCKENZIE, to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Fuel and Energy:

Will the Minister advise the name of the author and the journalist responsible for the S.E.R.I.W.A. publication *Solar Prospect* which was released on the 18th March, 1979?

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF replied:

The booklet was produced by SERIWA staff in conjunction with Mr John McIlwraith.

## EDUCATION

### Early Childhood Committee: Report

13. The Hon. R. HETHERINGTON, to the Minister for Lands representing the Minister for Education:

Further to my question without notice on the 28th November, 1978, can the Minister now advise—

- (1) Has the report of the Early Childhood Committee (0-4 Committee), promised in November, yet been presented?
- (2) Can the Minister advise when the results of Cabinet deliberations on that report will be known?
- (3) Is the Minister in a position to make a statement on the conditions of service for teachers in community based pre-school centres, and can he state whether they have any guarantee of continuity of employment?
- (4) When will staff of community based pre-school centres be informed if they are to be employed next year?
- (5) Is the Minister in a position to inform me whether it is intended that the conditions and salaries of the staff of community based pre-school centres will continue to have parity with staff of pre-primary centres?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH replied:

- (1) Recommendations of the 0-4 committee on early childhood services are still under consideration by the Education Department and other departments.
- (2) No.

- (3) Other than exclusion from transfer and promotion within the Education Department, conditions of service for pre-school teachers are the same as those for pre-primary teachers.

Pre-school teachers giving good service are guaranteed continuity of employment.

- (4) With continuity of employment, notice of re-employment is not necessary.
- (5) Yes.

## MINING: NICKEL

### Kalgoorlie Smelter: Radiation

14. The Hon. R. T. LEESON, to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Mines:

Would the Government enquire into the amount of radiation, if any, emanating from the Kalgoorlie Nickel Smelter during the treatment for the extraction of cobalt?

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF replied:

Cobalt is not extracted in the metal form in Western Australia.

## HEALTH: NURSES

### Family Planning.

15. The Hon. LYLA ELLIOTT, to the Minister for Lands representing the Minister for Health:

With reference to the committee set up to examine the proposals in my Private Member's Bill of 1976 concerning Family Planning Nurses, will the Minister—

- (a) now table the committee's report; and
- (b) advise what action the Government proposes to take from the recommendations contained therein?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH replied:

- (a) Yes; (Paper No. 103).
- (b) the Government has released the report for public comment. A decision regarding implementation of the recommendations has been deferred until comments have been received and evaluated.

## EDUCATION

### *Teachers: Education*

16. The Hon. R. HETHERINGTON, to the Minister for Lands representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) Is it a fact that the Commonwealth Minister for Education, Senator Carrick, asked the State Government in July 1978 to set up a working party to make submissions to the Commonwealth's inquiry into teacher education?
- (2) (a) Have the members of the working party yet been appointed; and  
(b) if so, who are they?
- (3) Has the Minister considered appointing a representative of the Opposition to the working party?
- (4) When does he expect the working party will hold its first meeting?
- (5) Is it his view that the delays in implementing Senator Carrick's request will affect the quality of the submissions made by the working party?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) The Minister for Education has constituted a Western Australian Committee to Enquire into Teacher Education with the following membership:—

Dr Robert Vickery—Chairman, Principal, Nedlands College of Advanced Education

Sr Denise Desmarchelier—Principal, John XXIII College

Mr Keith Lockhart—WA Council for State School Organizations

Mr David Carlson—Teachers' Union: Principal, Belmont Senior High School

Mr James Davies—Director of Schools, Education Department

Mr Barry Colvin—Principal, Sorrento Primary School

Dr Anthony Ryan—Executive Officer, Western Australian Institute of Technology.

- (3) No.
- (4) Shortly.
- (5) Not applicable.

17. *This question was postponed.*

## POLICE

### *Recruits and Resignations*

18. The Hon. Lyla ELLIOTT, to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Police:

- (1) What was the intake of new recruits for the police force in 1978?
- (2) How many policemen left the force in 1978?

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON replied:

- (1) 219.
- (2) 88.

## EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

### *New Structure*

19. The Hon. R. HETHERINGTON, to the Minister for Lands representing the Minister for Education:

As, in January, the Minister for Education announced that changes were contemplated in the organisation of the Education Department, will the Minister inform me—

- (a) the precise nature of the proposed new structure of the Education Department;
- (b) the rationale behind it; and
- (c) just what are the expected administrative and educational benefits?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH replied:

- (a) to (c) A decision has been made to appoint a person at the level of Deputy Director General of Education to head the administrative and financial operations of the Education Department.

It is envisaged that the administrative efficiency and the financial management of the Education Department will be improved, and that educational activities within the department will benefit from a flow-on from improved administrative efficiency. Other changes will be implemented during 1979.

## MINING: HERDSMAN LAKE

### *Katanning Holdings*

20. The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON, to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Mines:

- (1) Is it a fact that Katanning Holdings is mining on Herdsman Lake as reported in the "North Suburban Supplement" of *The West Australian* on the 21st March, 1979?

- (2) If so, who issued approval for the mining?
- (3) Has an opportunity been given for the hearing of objections to mining on the lake?

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) No mining tenements have been granted in respect to the Herdsman Lake area.
- (3) Yes.

### RAILWAYS

#### *Cash Loan No. 1*

21. The Hon. F. E. MCKENZIE, to the Minister for Lands representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) What was the total expenditure incurred in connection with Westrail's Loan No. 1?
- (2) What was the total amount subscribed at time of closing?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH replied:

- (1) \$243 000.
- (2) \$4.023 million—with the balance of the loan being subscribed subsequently by the underwriters and subunderwriters.

### HOUSING: GEHA

#### *Air-conditioning*

22. The Hon. R. HETHERINGTON, to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Housing:

- (1) Is it correct that the Government Employees' Housing Authority houses in the north of the State are having a second air-conditioning unit installed in the living area?
- (2) Is this programme beginning at Wyndham?
- (3) When is it expected that the programme will be completed?

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Wyndham installation commenced in November, 1978.
- (3) 1980-81 financial year.

### EDUCATION

#### *School: Oakley Ridge*

23. The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON, to the Minister for Lands representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) Is it a fact that the Minister has promised to commence construction of Oakley Ridge primary school, and for the work to be completed in time for the commencement of the 1980 school year?
- (2) If not—
  - (a) when will construction commence; and
  - (b) what is the projected completion date?
- (3) What facilities will be provided in the first stage of construction?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH replied:

- (1) to (3) The Doveridge Primary School comprising eight classrooms and an administration block is planned for an opening in February, 1980.

Doveridge school is situated on what used to be called Okely Road.

Another school of similar size is to be erected in Heathridge which may also be the school referred to.

### CYCLES AND CYCLEWAYS

#### *Advisory Committee: Report*

24. The Hon. LYLA ELLIOTT, to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Local Government:

When is it anticipated that the Government will receive a report from the advisory committee set up last year to examine the question of cycleways and bicycle use in the metropolitan area?

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF replied:

The terms of reference of the advisory committee require that it report progressively to the Government as it completes individual areas of study.

I understand that the committee is presently preparing a report on its initial study and that this will be completed within a short period.

### EDUCATION

#### *Teachers: Port Hedland, the Pilbara, and the Kimberley*

25. The Hon. R. HETHERINGTON, to the Minister for Lands representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) How many teachers are employed by the Education Department in—
  - (a) Port Hedland;
  - (b) the Pilbara, excluding Port Hedland; and
  - (c) the Kimberley?
- (2) Of these teachers, how many have more than three years' experience?



The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH replied:

- (1) (a) 142.  
(b) 387.  
(c) 177.

(2) 367.

The numbers in (1) and (2) include pre-school teachers.

#### RAILWAYS: FREMANTLE-PERTH

##### *Expenditure*

26. The Hon. F. E. McKENZIE, to the Minister for Lands representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) From the total expenditure of \$12 419 421 for the year ended the 30th June, 1978, on suburban rail operations, how much is attributable to the Perth-Fremantle section?

(2) Of the—

- (a) traffic and motor power total \$4 303 421;  
(b) mechanical and ways and works \$4 862 000;  
(c) general administration \$2 435 000;  
(d) depreciation \$359 000;  
(e) interest \$460 000;

how much of each of these amounts is attributable to the Perth-Fremantle section?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH replied:

- (1) and (2) The expenditure for the suburban rail passenger service is assessed on the total operation and is not compiled on a "section of line" basis. However, for the Perth-Fremantle section, an assessment of the expenditure for 1977-78 is as follows—

	\$
(a) Traffic and Motive Power	1 007 000
(b) Mechanical and Ways and Works	1 352 000
(c) General Administration	653 000
(d) Depreciation	144 000
(e) Interest	121 000
	<hr/>
	\$3 277 000

#### RAILWAYS: FREMANTLE-PERTH

##### *Goods Services*

27. The Hon. F. E. McKENZIE, to the Minister for Lands representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) For goods services operating over the same lines as the suburban rail passenger service, what was the operating expenditure incurred in the—

- (a) traffic and motor power;  
(b) mechanical and ways and works;  
(c) general administration;  
(d) depreciation; and  
(e) interest?

- (2) How much of each of these amounts is attributable to the Perth-Fremantle section?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH replied:

- (1) and (2) The information is not separately recorded and is therefore not available.

#### HEALTH

##### *Brockway Rubbish Tip*

28. The Hon. LYLA ELLIOTT, to the Minister for Lands representing the Minister for Health:

Further to my question No. 7 of the 3rd April, 1979, concerning the effects of the Brockway rubbish tip on Manning House patients, will the Minister advise—

- (1) Why he will not accept my description of the problems being created for Manning House patients in view of statements by—

- (a) *Daily News* reporter Michael Cumming on the 23rd November, 1978;  
(b) Graylands Hospital Nursing Superintendent, Miss Elizabeth Munroe, in *The West Australian* on the 23rd November, 1978;  
(c) Former Swanbourne Mental Hospital Health Nurse, Mr David Northcott, in *The West Australian* Fremantle and Suburban News on the 8th March, 1979; and  
(b) Director of Mental Health, Dr F. Bell, in *The Weekend News* of the 10th March, 1979, and the *Daily News* of the 12th March, 1979;

all of whose comments confirm the existence of the situation as described by me?

- (2) What is the remedial action to which he refers in the third paragraph of his reply?
- (3) Why he did not answer my question No. (3) as to what his department attributed the cases of diarrhoea in Manning Ward in January and February?
- (4) As the tip is on Mental Health Department land—
  - (a) why was it allowed to be established there in the first place in such close proximity to Swanbourne Hospital; and
  - (b) why will he now not take action to close that part which is causing such discomfort to Manning House patients?
- (5) What are the improvements to Manning House referred to in the last paragraph of his reply?
- (6) What is the action taken in regard to the rubbish tip to relieve any remaining nuisance as referred to in the final paragraph of his reply?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH replied:

- (1) The Minister does not accept the honourable member's description of the situation on the basis of his own observations and on the information provided by officers of his department. Dr Bell and Miss Munroe's comments, to which the honourable member refers, are temperate. In any event, the honourable member's question of Tuesday, the 3rd April, 1979 refers to the present situation and not to that which may have existed in November, 1978.
- (2) The management of the site has been discussed with the zone. Dumping of rubbish will be varied according to prevailing weather conditions, in order to minimise the problem of smell and dust. Noise nuisance will also be considered in the choice of tipping operations. Regular daily coverage of refuse has been improved so that all putrescible material is covered with 15 cms of clean fill at the end of each working day. This will further prevent fly breeding and help to avoid smell.

Regular watering down of operation sites and access roads by water tanker is now being carried out

during periods of operation and has produced a striking abatement of dust levels at the tip.

Regular checks by pest control officers of the Minister's department reveal that no fly breeding is occurring at the tip. Appropriate measures to deal with adult flies are taken, as required.

The Air Pollution Control Council has been asked to consider the operation of a sand and soil blending company operating on the site with a view to imposing necessary dust control. The zone managing the site has readily agreed to co-operate and has also agreed to provide a detailed management plan of the entire site, which will be made available before the 1st June, 1979. This plan will be examined in conjunction with the planning for the full use of the Mental Health Services site, and amended if there is likely to be any interference or incompatibility with this development.

- (3) No specific organisms have been found in the specimens examined. Unfortunately intermittent diarrhoea is fairly common in institutions of this type, despite every effort on the part of the staff. A search for a cause has been unsuccessful, and this is the usual result.
- (4) (a) The site was established in 1970 after a thorough review of the refuse disposal needs of the local authorities of Nedlands, Claremont, Subiaco, Cottesloe, and Peppermint Grove. No alternative site was available within an economic distance. The situation was fully discussed with Mental Health Services who agreed to make the site available.
- (b) The Minister believes that the action taken will relieve any discomfort experienced by Manning House patients. Management problems do arise from time to time in the operation of any solid waste disposal site and the Director of Mental Health Services (Dr F. Bell) has stated on a number of occasions that this is, in general, a well managed tip.
- (5) The improvements in Manning House referred to were improved ventilation, improved fly control, elimination of fly breeding around

Manning House and the introduction of a device to eliminate unpleasant odours arising within Manning House itself.

(6) Answered by (2).

The Minister feels that the honourable member's purpose in asking these questions is to benefit the patients of Man-

ning House. The Minister's interest is the same and he would not permit patients to live in conditions anything like those described. Regardless of what conditions were like in November, 1978, the situation is satisfactory now. The Minister will be happy to visit the area with the honourable member to make an on-site inspection.

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