

to have a look at this point to see whether some further amendment should be made in this regard.

I think I have covered most of the points raised by members. I think we should go ahead with the Bill as printed. I say this, because I do not believe we want to become like America where rifles are being loosely used by people. We know the problems that occur there and also in the Eastern States, where rifles do not have to be licensed. However, I believe we have a system which a number of the other States would like to have.

I do not think we should endeavour to make it easy for people to obtain rifles; we should have as much control as possible. I do not wish to make it difficult for members of rifle clubs to participate in their sport. Most of them would have a rifle apart from the .303, and the .303 could be included in the license and would cost nothing or next to nothing. Therefore cost does not come into it to any extent at all.

We must have proper control and we must try to overcome the anomalies that do exist. The few instances I have mentioned, indicate there are anomalies in the Act. Some people in this State use these very high-powered rifles in an irresponsible manner to the disadvantage of a number of other people. When we have a number of people being killed by rifles that belong to rifle clubs, this measure is worthy of some consideration and I feel it should be passed at the present moment.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee

The Chairman of Committees (Mr. W. A. Manning) in the Chair; Mr. O'Connor (Minister for Transport) in charge of the Bill.

Clause 1 put and passed.

Progress

Progress reported and leave given to sit again, on motion by Mr. O'Connor (Minister for Transport).

BILLS (3): RECEIPT AND FIRST READING

1. Public Trustee Act Amendment Bill.
2. Administration Act Amendment Bill.
3. Offenders Probation and Parole Act Amendment Bill.

Bills received from the Council; and, on motions by Mr. Court (Minister for Industrial Development), read a first time.

House adjourned at 5.52 p.m.

Legislative Council

Tuesday, the 8th October, 1968

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

BILLS (5): ASSENT

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

1. Superannuation and Family Benefits Act Amendment Bill.
2. Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage, and Drainage Act Amendment Bill.
3. Illicit Sale of Liquor Act Amendment Bill.
4. Mental Health Act Amendment Bill.
5. Housing Loan Guarantee Act Amendment Bill.

MEDICAL TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY BILL

Rejection: Petition

THE HON. J. DOLAN (South-East Metropolitan) [4.35 p.m.]: I desire to present a petition from the residents of Western Australia praying for the rejection of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Bill. There are 1,609 signatures attached to it, and the petition bears the Clerk's certificate that it conforms to the Standing Orders. I move—

That the petition be received and read and ordered to be laid on the Table of the House.

Question put and passed.

THE HON. J. DOLAN (South-East Metropolitan) [4.36 p.m.]: The petition reads as follows:—

To—

The Legislative Council of the Parliament of Western Australia.

We the undersigned residents of Western Australia hereby humbly petition the Honourable Members of the Legislative Council of Western Australia to do all within their power to reject the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Bill 1968.

The main grounds of our objection are that your petitioners are deeply concerned that from the moment of conception, when a baby begins to live in its mother's womb, any direct intervention to take away its life is a violation of its right to live. It is felt that those who have the responsibility to govern this State should protect the rights of innocent individuals, particularly the helpless; and that the unborn child is the most innocent and the most helpless and most in need of the protection of our laws, whenever its life is in danger for whatever reason,

AND your petitioners will ever pray that their humble and earnest petition may be acceded to.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Does the honourable member expect any more petitions?

The Hon. J. DOLAN: I would not know.

The petition was tabled.

AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT

Tabling

THE PRESIDENT: I have received from the Auditor-General a copy of his report on the Treasurer's statement of the Public Accounts for the financial year ended the 30th June, 1968. It will be laid on the Table of the House.

QUESTIONS (5): ON NOTICE

"FAIRPLAY" NEWSPAPER

Cost and Effect of Publication

1. The Hon. F. J. S. WISE asked the Minister for Mines:

- (1) Is the newspaper *Fairplay* still in the ownership of the Government through the Totalisator Agency Board?
- (2) What is the approximate cost of the publication of this paper?
- (3) What are the receipts from paid subscriptions and from casual sales at 3c per copy?
- (4) Is the Minister of the opinion that this paper serves any useful purpose other than to incite betting on races?
- (5) Does the Minister for Police have submitted to him the weekly copies of this paper?
- (6) Is the column "In Lighter Vein" written in a Government office, or where does it originate?
- (7) Will the Minister table copies of the last six issues of this paper?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

- (1) The shares in *Fairplay* are owned by the Totalisator Agency Board.
- (2) \$65 per week.
- (3) \$60 per week.
- (4) I have been given to understand that the degree of betting incited by the paper, if any, would be infinitesimal in relation to the total volume of betting.
- (5) No.
- (6) No; it originates in *Fairplay's* publishing office at 427 Newcastle Street, Perth. The column "In Lighter Vein" will be watched carefully in future.
- (7) Yes.

The papers were tabled.

TEACHERS RETURNING FROM OVERSEAS

Appointment to Country Areas

2. The Hon. J. DOLAN (for The Hon. R. F. Claughton) asked the Minister for Mines:

- (1) Is it the policy of the Education Department to appoint teachers returning from a period of service in Canada to country schools even though such teachers may already have served in country areas?
- (2) If the answer to (1) is "Yes," is this policy designed to discourage teachers from widening their experience through service in other countries, or to discourage teachers already overseas from returning to this State?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) Answered by (1).

RAILWAYS

"Football Special"

3. The Hon. G. E. D. BRAND asked the Minister for Mines:

- (1) Is the Minister for Railways aware that the "Football Special" express which travelled from Perth to Kalgoorlie on Sunday, the 29th September, 1968, carried approximately 300 passengers?
- (2) Is he also aware that during the journey—
 - (a) many complaints were made by passengers who were unable to obtain food;
 - (b) the hot water equipment broke down;
 - (c) the supply of food, except for frozen pies, was insufficient for the trip; and that
 - (d) the buffet car attendants commenced work an hour earlier to prepare food, and finished an hour after closing time, in an endeavour to cope with those still waiting?
- (3) Will he examine the position so that in the future some imaginative planning can be undertaken to ensure that there is sufficient food available, and that extra help is available to adequately supply all of the passengers, thus removing any cause for complaint?
- (4) Will he also please take note of the admirable work by the senior conductor (Mr. Alf Valenti), his conductors, and buffet staff of two ladies only for the effort made under most trying conditions?

- (5) Could an investigation be made with a view to upgrading the type and quality of the food available in the buffet car, particularly in view of the fact that a variety of attractive meals, packed in plastic containers and capable of being kept under refrigeration, can be heated and supplied upon demand?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

- (1) The train referred to was not a football special but the Kalgoorlie express with additional accommodation provided. 264 passengers travelled.
- (2) (a) and (b) Yes. Failure of the hot water facilities in the buffet made it impossible to provide normal service.
- (c) Special arrangements were made to provision the buffet with perishable foodstuffs to the utmost capacity.
- (d) The attendants commenced duty one hour early, but ceased at their rostered time.
- (3) Provisioning of the buffet is necessarily governed by storage space and hygiene requirements. Similarly, restricted space renders the employment of more than two attendants unworkable.
- (4) The commendation of the efforts made by the conductors and attendants has been noted and will be conveyed to those concerned.
- (5) Consideration has been given to this suggestion previously, but lack of space for increased refrigeration and heating facilities renders it impracticable.

CANNINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

Gymnasium

- 4 The Hon. C. E. GRIFFITHS asked the Minister for Mines:

As the reply to my question on Wednesday, the 2nd October, 1968, regarding the completion of the gymnasium at the Cannington High School indicated that it is unlikely that the facility will be completed this financial year, will he please ascertain from the Minister for Education when the work will be finished?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

Halls are considered to be desirable, but classrooms and other teaching accommodation must take precedence. The completion of the hall at Cannington High School must, therefore, be considered in relationship to the overall building requirements.

The hall will be completed as soon as possible but a definite date cannot be nominated.

RENTAL HOMES

Allocations in Metropolitan Area

5. The Hon. C. E. GRIFFITHS asked the Minister for Mines:

With reference to the reply to my question on Wednesday, the 2nd October, 1968, regarding the allotment by the State Housing Commission since July, of rental homes in the metropolitan area, will he please ascertain from the Minister for Housing when the last applicant of the 71 homes allocated did originally request assistance?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

The 2nd March, 1964. This applicant had expressed preference for a house in an area where vacancies occurred infrequently and following an interview was allocated accommodation in another estate.

BILLS (3): INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

1. Property Law Bill.
Bill introduced, on motion by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Justice), and read a first time.
2. Health Act Amendment Bill.
Bill introduced, on motion by The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon (Minister for Health), and read a first time.
3. Land Act Amendment Bill.
Bill introduced, on motion by The Hon. J. M. Thomson, and read a first time.

FISHERIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

THE HON. G. C. MACKINNON (Lower West—Minister for Fisheries and Fauna) [4.53 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

It is desired to clarify several small matters in the Fisheries Act. They are mainly administrative and do not change the principles of the Act in any way.

In part II of the Fisheries Act, sections 5B and 5C set up the two advisory committees for the fishing industry. The chairman of each of these committees is a person nominated by the Minister. Section 5D states that each member of each committee shall be appointed for five years. It therefore follows that whoever happens to be chairman of the committee will continue in this capacity for the full term. This will happen even if he retires from his normal occupation in the meantime.

Although it is not specifically stated, it was always understood that the chairman of these committees should also be a member of the Department of Fisheries and Fauna. Indeed, it has always been the director, and it is highly desirable that this should be so. On the retirement of Mr. A. J. Fraser as director it was discovered that he continued in his position as chairman of the committees. Mr. Fraser appreciated the liaison necessary between the department and the committees and tendered his resignation. However, it is felt that this matter should be tidied up. An amendment is therefore necessary to both sections 5B and 5C to ensure that the chairman or acting chairman is an officer of the department.

Section 35C (2) was re-enacted last year. This section deals with the establishment of processing plants and the licensing of them. Originally the section contained the words "subject to such conditions as he (the Director of Fisheries) thinks fit." In the re-enactment the power to impose conditions was inadvertently omitted and it is necessary to reinsert these words.

With a coastline the length of ours in Western Australia there is a need for different conditions to exist in different parts. With the increased complexity of fishing it is also desirable that certain conditions need to be imposed. For example, there might be room for two prawn processing establishments but only room for one of them to engage in, say, fish filleting in order to retain this unit as a viable economic proposition. It is therefore desirable to reinsert these words; that is, "subject to such conditions as he (the Director of Fisheries) thinks fit."

The same section needs to be altered in order that the director may issue what would in fact be a provisional license. If a firm proposing to build a processing plant applies for a license at the present time this can only be refused after the plant has been built. Naturally the owner wants to know how he would fare long before he spends his money. At the present time the director advises the processor that he is not likely to receive a processor's license. The processor probably has no right of appeal under section 35K, because in fact the license has not been refused. In order to avoid the risk of unnecessary capital expenditure, an amendment is to be inserted in the section in order that all licensing procedures and appeals can be completed before construction is commenced.

Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 35C requires every applicant for a processor's license to furnish the names and addresses of the person who sold the various species of fish to him. It is desired to delete this, because processing establishments are already submitting this information on monthly returns under section 18 of the Act and regulation 26G.

This return is therefore redundant and its deletion will save unnecessary work for the processing plants.

It may be recalled that, on a previous occasion, for ease of administration, various sections of the Act were amended to give the Minister authority to issue notices rather than having the Governor issuing proclamations. As explained at the time, this is a speedier procedure and, quite frequently, for the opening and closing of small areas of water and estuaries and the like, speed is essential, otherwise the fish will die. I think, at that time, I used the Wonnerup Inlet as an example. When an estuary remains closed fishermen are permitted to remove the fish. Over the years this has occurred in several estuaries. However, if the Executive Council approval happens to be, say, two weeks belated, it could present some difficulties.

It is desired to extend this ministerial authority to section 12A, which refers to proclaimed fishing zones; to section 25, which refers to the length of fish and the methods by which they can be caught; and to section 29, which deals with certain fish which may be protected from being caught or from sale. It is felt that these are also matters which can best be handled by ministerial direction rather than by the more time-consuming use of the Executive Council and proclamation by the Governor.

The opportunity has been taken to bring certain aspects of the Act up to date. The Fauna Conservation Act, 1950, takes the place of the Game Act, 1892, which was referred to in section 37, and the Land Act, 1933, has been substituted for the Land Act, 1898, referred to in section 39. I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. J. Dolan.

NICKEL REFINERY (WESTERN MINING CORPORATION LIMITED) AGREEMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 3rd October.

THE HON. G. W. BERRY (Lower North) [4.59 p.m.]: I rise to support the Bill, and to commend the Government for concluding another successful agreement for the establishment of a very important industry in this State.

My mind goes back some considerable time, when as a boy—after the first World War—I went to East Rockingham to live. The then abandoned naval base project used to stand in mute testimony to development at the time. Now we find a vast industrial complex established in the region of Kwinana; and it must be with pride that Western Australians look at and appreciate the development that has taken place.

The establishment of a nickel refinery is, of itself, very commendable, because nickel refineries are not established in many

places in the world. It certainly must be a feather in the cap of this State to have one established here. I have no doubt that during the course of the negotiations to have the industry established, and for the acquisition of the land on which the refinery is to be built, probably some anomalies arose. I do not deny that. But all the matters I have heard raised in this House deal with only one side of the question; we only heard of the people who were dissatisfied. I have not yet heard of the people who were not dissatisfied with the deals which were made with them.

It is in the interests of progress that steps such as those have to be taken; and that the land—on which people have established or intend to establish homes—is not being sacrificed, but is being used for another facet of the development of this State. I feel sure that when the descendants of those people look at the industrial complex that has been established they will do so with pride, and they will not think unkindly of the Government which had to acquire the properties of their forebears to establish the refinery.

It is the great upturn of industrial development that has brought about the progress now so apparent in this State; and when one looks at the Kwinana area and what it holds one sees that the development in the short time since the BP oil refinery was first established there has been nothing short of stupendous. I can only say that it is with great pleasure that I rise to support this Bill and other Bills of this nature in the House.

THE HON. R. H. C. STUBBS (South-East) [5.5 p.m.]: I welcome the establishment of the nickel refinery at Kwinana, but I would much rather have welcomed its establishment on the goldfields. Establishing it on the goldfields would be much more tangible in the way of decentralisation. Unfortunately that is not to be the case due, we are told, to the lack of water and other factors. The refinery is to be built alongside a fertiliser plant to give access to large quantities of ammonia. I repeat the great disappointment felt by the people and the businessmen of the goldfields: that the refinery is not to be established there.

From the State's point of view I am happy that the nickel refinery is to be established in Western Australia at Kwinana; and that nickel ore will not be treated by the method adopted by Alcoa in which its final product is refined in Victoria. I know that cheap power and such factors are involved in determining the site of an alumina refinery, but as a loyal Western Australian I regret that Alcoa could not establish a refinery here.

I wish the Western Mining Corporation well and every success in this venture—success which it well deserves, because of all the activities it has undertaken in the

search for gold and other minerals. It is a very enterprising company. I realise that a lot of risk money is involved in searching for nickel, but I also know that the rewards are great.

Nickel was discovered by John Morgan and George Cowcill, while they were prospecting for gold in the Kambalda area. In 1947 they were looking for gold, and they saw a certain type of heavy sulphide rock which aroused their interest. They did not do much about this discovery. In 1954 there was a uranium boom in the world, and many people were searching for this mineral. These two prospectors obtained some rock samples and took them to the School of Mines for analysis, and were advised they contained nickel traces. In 1964 the specimens were taken to the Western Mining Corporation which immediately took an interest in the rocks. The company sent its geologists out, and it pegged leases. It is now a part of history that this is the biggest industry to enter the goldfields since gold was discovered in Kalgoorlie in 1893.

There were murmurings of nickel exploration in 1955 when an amendment was made to section 277 of the Mining Act, because a company wanted to prospect for nickel in the Blackstone Range. The Act was amended to enable 3,000 square miles of territory to be given to the company, under certain conditions.

Kambalda is the name of a township where gold was discovered in 1897. The Red Hill Mine produced 30,000 ounces of gold. It is interesting to note that the original Kambalda site was gazetted on the 2nd December, 1897. Kambalda is a native name for the area. It was named originally by a surveyor, William Rowley, on the 6th August, 1897. Apparently he had no particular fancy for the name, but it was euphonious and agreeable in sound; therefore he called the site Kambalda. The new Kambalda townsite is established on land recently leased to the Western Mining Corporation. A Crown grant for each lot was issued on as late as the 3rd October this year.

Another interesting feature of the search for nickel on the goldfields is that not only is every modern method used to find the mineral, but a watch is also kept on a certain type of tree—a red-flowered Coolgardie coral gum, *Eucalyptus Torquata*—which grows on ridges of ultrabasic rocks, and which follows country favourable to the discovery of nickel. Some mining companies are stripping the leaves of these trees, and having them assayed for nickel. The trees do give an indication of the presence of nickel.

It is estimated that in the next 25 years nickel to the value of \$2,600,000,000 or more will be extracted from the Kambalda and St. Ives areas. That will be more than

\$300,000,000 in excess of the total value of gold won in Western Australia up to the present time. It is difficult to visualise the extent of the nickel finds, and more discoveries could be made in other centres. One of the directors of the Western Mining Corporation said that it would take 50 years of diamond drilling and development before the full extent of the nickel deposits at Kambalda and St. Ives could be assessed.

Axel Cronstedt first isolated nickel in 1751. The name "nickel" originated from Germany from the nickel-copper ores which were difficult to work, and this was attributed to the work of Old Nick. That is why the mineral is known as nickel. We have come a long way since that time in extracting nickel from the ore.

One of the main uses of nickel is in the production of stainless steel; and as an alloy with other metals it adds strength and toughness. Nickel is also used in coins, in aircraft construction, in gun forgings, in armour plating, in machine tools, in heating elements, in kitchenware, and in many other directions.

Since the jet age commenced there has been a further demand for nickel, due to the need for heat-resistant alloys that can withstand great pressure. That is why we can confidently say there will not be over-production of nickel, because many additional uses for it will be found.

Nickel used as an alloy can be likened to salt in our food; the quantity required is small. Not much salt is used in the preparation of food, but it plays a tremendously important part. Nickel is plentiful in its natural state, and it comprises .01 per cent. of all the igneous rocks. But it is certainly not economical to extract, and the concentration would have to be very much greater for it to become attractive. The concentration would have to be multiplied many times before the ore became profitable.

Prior to the discovery at Kambalda, most of the nickel metal was produced at Sudbury, in Canada, from a synclinal trough 36 miles long and 16 miles wide, and associated with norite rock. That brings me back to the Norseman district where prospecting is going on around the norite deposit. A subsidiary of the Western Mining Corporation is undertaking the prospecting, and I hope for the sake of Norseman and Western Australia that a nickel find comes out of this work.

Much of the geological formation of Western Australia is very similar to the Sudbury deposit in Canada. In the Fraser Range a Canadian company is at present prospecting for nickel. This has been going on for several years, and while no reports have been made I hope that some success will come of this exploration.

It is pleasing to note that when the nickel refinery is established and becomes a going concern 1,000 men will be employed at Kambalda. This is developing into an ideal town, and is a wonderful place in which to live. The people in general are becoming accustomed to the many fine facilities which are provided. A good type of house has been built; a nice club has been formed; a supermarket has been started; and a bowling green is under construction. It will not be long before the green is ready for use. A swimming pool is also in the course of construction, and it should be ready early this summer.

A new primary school of several classrooms has been established. A medical centre has been provided, and, of course, a caravan park to cater for tourists has been built. The Western Mining Corporation is encouraging tourists; and I believe that later on it will encourage the housewives living in the town to take turns in conducting tours of the town. Kambalda is an open town and everyone is welcomed in it.

I do not intend to deal with the resumption at Kwinana, because I do not think I would be competent to speak about that side of the development. The Minister has told us that the price of the nickel will be \$1,860 a ton, and a royalty amounting to \$37 a ton will be paid. The production will be 15,000 tons of nickel metal a year.

The process used to extract the nickel is known as hydrometallurgy, and is the Sherritt Gordon method. Ammonia and hydrogen are used to separate the metal. The process was developed by Sherritt Gordon Mines Ltd. in Canada where the copper and cobalt is recovered, together with a by-product known as ammonium sulphate.

In the Sherritt Gordon process the metals are leached from the concentrate by means of an ammonia solution, using heat and pressure, and hydrogen, to precipitate the metal. It is interesting to learn that the men who played the key role in the development of the new process, in 1945-50, were Edward S. Robert, Patrick J. McGauley, and Ludwig J. Christmann. Their technique was known as hydrometallurgy.

The Sherritt Gordon Mines Ltd. at Lynn Lake, Manitoba, leach a copper-nickel-cobalt concentrate using ammonia under pressure. The pressure technique was first tried out under industrial conditions at that mine.

The first commercial application of the Sherritt Gordon process was when Chemico completed building a \$2,500,000 refinery to extract cobalt and, of course, nickel and copper. However, cobalt was the main metal because it was the main constituent in the ore. That mine proved that the process worked very well under production

conditions. As a matter of fact, that mine increased the world output of cobalt by 40 per cent. That was at the time when the cobalt bomb was designed, and other developments were taking place in America. The increased production of cobalt was certainly welcomed because until then cobalt was imported from central Africa.

I found it interesting to read that the refinery in Missouri was completed in 1953, at a cost of \$5,000,000-American. The refinery produced 700 tons of cobalt, 900 tons of nickel, 700 tons of copper, and 7,500 tons of fertiliser-grade ammonium sulphate per annum. That refinery is certainly nowhere near the size of our local refinery, but it is using the Sherritt Gordon process. A third Sherritt Gordon mine exists in Edmonton, Alberta, in Canada, where the ammonia-leach process is also used. That mine recovers 8,500 tons of nickel metal, 1,000 tons of copper, 150 tons of cobalt, and 70,000 tons of ammonium sulphate—fertiliser-grade. The cost of that refinery was \$17,000,000.

The refinery at Kwinana will cost a little more than double the cost of the refinery at Edmonton, but the production figures will be double those of the refinery at Edmonton. The cost of the Kwinana refinery will be \$45,000,000, and it will produce 15,000 tons of nickel metal as against 8,500 tons at Edmonton. Our refinery will produce 140,000 tons of ammonium sulphate—fertiliser-grade—as against 70,000 tons being produced at Edmonton.

So I think that when the figures are related the costs are fairly similar. One refinery was built in 1953, and the other will be completed in 1969 or 1970. So allowing for the increase in money values, our refinery will be comparable with the refinery in Canada.

I wish briefly to draw the attention of the Government to the industrial hazards which could possibly be associated with the nickel refinery. I have done some research regarding industrial hazards, and I find that these exist not only in Canada, but in other places also. I will refer to nickel itch, which is a form of dermatitis. It affects men working in the nickel mines and the smelters, and in the refineries where nickel is being processed. Nickel itch occurs in the web of the fingers and apparently it is hard to get rid of. Some men have had to leave the industry because of nickel itch.

I would like to be sure that the people working in association with the nickel industry will be covered by our Workers' Compensation Act. In the past, certain types of dermatitis have not been covered completely by workers' compensation. I can mention several cases and one comes clearly to my mind. This case concerns a man at Norseman who used up his hospital and medical entitlements, and then had to pay his own way. So I think we should make sure that all the people who

will be working in association with the refinery will be adequately covered by workers' compensation.

During my research I also discovered that the inhalation of nickel gases in refineries causes haemorrhagic bronchopneumonia. Also, the inhalation of dust in the refining of nickel gives rise to cancer of the lung and nasal sinuses. This occurs where the men are exposed to the gases. So, again, I hope no time will be lost in tackling this problem should it occur.

I remember we were told that lung cancer would not be associated with the asbestos mines, but events proved this to be wrong and it has been recognised that some men suffered an injustice. I again appeal to the Government to show some generosity to the men working in the refinery.

I imagine there will be a good deal of noise associated with the refinery because of the use of powerful and noisy fans. There will also be a lot of noise associated with breaking the ore which will eventually find its way to the refinery. The men working in these sections will suffer from hearing loss due to noise. I appeal to the Government to recognise that hearing loss caused through industrial noise should be covered by workers' compensation. This disability is associated with the mining industry now, and it will be accentuated when the nickel refinery, and other new mines, are opened up.

I suggest to the Minister that the men be examined before they enter the mining industry and a hearing measurement be taken. The men entering the industry have to be X-rayed every year, and hearing tests could be carried out at the same time and a record kept from the time they enter the industry right through their period of employment.

I appeal to the Minister to inaugurate a hearing conservation programme in the mines and in the refinery. Pre-employment hearing tests could be carried out, under medical direction. Also ear protection campaigns could be commenced so that the miners will be protected against noise. I have heard it said that the men will not wear noise reducing equipment. However, the men wear hard helmets, leg-gings, goggles, safety boots, and safety belts, and I am sure they will co-operate with any other safety measures that may be introduced.

In conclusion, I say again that I regret the refinery is not being established on the goldfields. I sincerely hope we do not miss out on the smelter, when the time comes for it to be constructed, and that it will be built on the goldfields. That would be a wonderful step towards decentralisation. I wish the Western Mining Corporation Limited every success and I am sure the refinery will be of tremendous benefit to the people of Western Australia.

THE HON. F. R. H. LAVERY (South Metropolitan) [5.26 p.m.]: This Bill is another measure which comes to Parliament containing an agreement which has already been signed. The Bill gives us an opportunity either to criticise or applaud the conditions of the agreement. At the moment, I will acclaim the attitude of the Western Mining Corporation Limited because of its expansion in Western Australia.

Recently I listened to the Minister for Mines, when he was speaking on television, and he said that Coolgardie was entering a new era. I was born in Coolgardie in 1898, and at that time I weighed 3lb. 10oz. I am one of the old era.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You have grown up since then.

The Hon. F. R. H. LAVERY: Good stock was produced in those days, and I was built up from that. Western Mining Corporation Limited was also built from good stock. It is a Western Australian company which has grown from very small dimensions. I would say, without any fear of contradiction, that Western Mining Corporation Limited would be one of the most respected and reputable companies with which this State has had occasion to do business.

On looking at the reports of the company up to 1967, I still believe that the majority of the finances of this company are of Western Australian origin. Also, the research being carried out in Western Australia, and the amount of prospecting going on, must inevitably bear fruit for the company. When companies such as this are prepared to go out and look for additional minerals—other than gold—they deserve every success at the end of the long road of searching, and investigation below the surface.

Referring now to Kwinana, I think that those of us who have lived through the past 15 years of development will be able to record in our memoirs that this would be the greatest period of expansion of secondary industry that has ever occurred in Western Australia. I doubt whether in the next 50 years we could improve on the rate of progress which has occurred in this area.

During the vast development of the industrial complex many people have been displaced from their holdings by various means. Some of the holdings have been purchased outright, and some of the people have been happy to accept what was offered to them and get out. Other people, however, have felt that they have not had a fair go at all.

I do not believe that people yet realise just how much further restriction of the residential section of the area will be involved in the final result. Mr. Stubbs quoted some figures with reference to the

amount of nickel that will be found. I have read the gold production reports which indicate that in the period from 1886 to the 31st July, 1968, gold valued at \$1,579,942,000 was produced. Western Mining Corporation has given figures so far as Kambalda and other areas are concerned which indicate a 400-years' supply of nickel on the basis of the ore which has already been discovered and at the present rate of production at Kambalda. This is not a fairy story, but figures which geologists have worked out.

As Mr. Stubbs said, at the present rate the company will produce ore valued at \$3,000,000,000 in the next 25 years. It must be conceded that a company such as this will not continue at the present rate, but will use every endeavour to increase its production. Therefore it is my opinion, and the opinion of quite a number of engineering people concerned with the mining field, that the amount of ore which is to be treated with the building of the refinery at Kwinana will be only a start.

I offer a warning to the people who live there that there may be a great amount of further disturbance to private ownership of property in the future. However, so far as the Western Mining Corporation is concerned, I do not think the people of Western Australia, and particularly those in the Kwinana area, will have anything to fear with regard to the company being unfair in its treatment. History has shown that whenever the company has dealt with private businesses or private homes, it has always been reasonably generous to the people concerned.

I think it is a pity that the Government itself possibly brought the Western Mining Corporation into some disrepute so far as the Kwinana area is concerned, in so far as the Government set out to purchase land in order to acquire it for the company. The company would have been much better off, and its prestige would not have been affected—as it is at the present time to a certain extent amongst a group of people in the area—had it, itself, negotiated for the properties which will now be utilised.

Of course, a larger area of land has been taken on behalf of the company than it will use in the first development stage. I warn the people who live seven or eight miles inland—in such areas as Mandogalup—that they can wipe off any idea of attempting farming production, because there is no doubt at all that the industrial area will swing right across to the east of the Rockingham Road in the future. Already the alumina refinery has acquired about 800 acres for the disposal of mud and effluent. Of course the Western Mining Corporation has a reasonably large share in the alumina refinery; as a matter of fact, I believe Western Aluminium, or a section of it, belongs to Western Mining.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Do you think the value of the land in the areas which you mention will rise substantially as a result of this?

The Hon. F. R. H. LAVERY: I was referring particularly to the people who are resident there.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Do you think the value of the land will rise?

The Hon. F. R. H. LAVERY: The point I was making in my previous remark, which I think the Minister is querying, is that the people will have to bear in mind that in future they might not have the security of continuing to live in the area. Whether they will receive increased amounts comparable to the increased prices paid for the prestige land of the City Beach estate that was sold on Saturday, is another story. However, that was a scandalous set-up. The people in the area to which I previously referred, are prepared and know what is in front of them; anybody with any property will plan accordingly.

A few nights ago I referred to one man whose property had been resumed three times in the past 15 years. He has now sold out to the Government and, finally, is getting out altogether. It will be a loss to Western Australia, but he has finally received a reasonable sum of money for his estate which he had never received before in comparison.

To return to the Bill and all those associated with the Kwinana district, I know the local council is prepared for still further building in the industrial area. I should like to pay tribute to Miss Feilman for what has actually happened there. The lady must feel very proud today about the proposition she made to the then Labor Government, in 1953-54, that Medina should be $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles inland from where it was originally suggested, and one mile further south from where the then Minister for Works (Mr. Tonkin) wanted the townsite established. She advised that the Government should move into that area and her views were finally accepted by the Government. The reason was that the area between the new Rockingham Road, which has been developed, and the townsites of Medina and Kwinana—in addition to those of Calista and Orelia, which will come in the future—would at least have a ring belt of timber of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to filter the gases.

This brings me to another point. I well remember that when legislation was before the House some years ago for the alumina refinery to be established in the area, an engineer from the Western Mining Corporation was sitting in the President's Gallery. He heard those of us who represent the area ask for protection from dust and so on. Afterwards he assured us out-

side the House that his company would be doing everything possible to avoid this type of nuisance.

Following the remarks made by Mr. Stubbs a few moments ago with regard to the gases which will come from the smelting of the products, this will be a further reason for the clean air authorities and others concerned to keep their eyes on the area, right from the inception of the company's activities there.

So far as the company is concerned, I feel that no member of Parliament could do less than offer it the very best wishes for the future; because it has meant so much to Western Australia in the past and it is my personal opinion that it will mean a lot more to Western Australia in the future, even before I leave this Parliament.

THE HON. R. THOMPSON (South Metropolitan) [5.40 p.m.]: The Bill before us is one which I am sure we are all pleased and happy to see brought forward, as far as the establishment of another industry in Western Australia is concerned.

As provided in the schedule to the Bill, the company will expend \$7,000,000 on its works at Kambalda for the production of nickel, and on other ancillary works there. Some \$45,000,000 is to be spent on the construction of a refinery at Kwinana. This is very good indeed.

Mr. Lavery said that he considers the Kwinana area, and the area east of Kwinana, will be absorbed for industrial purposes in the future. I entirely agree with him. In my opinion the Kwinana area is virtually untouched as yet. If we look at the development plans which were laid down in the 1950s we find that some 7,000 acres of land were reserved for industrial purposes in the area. It even goes back as far as Yangebup Road in Jandakot, which is some 10 or 12 miles from the site of the proposed refinery at Kwinana.

I know the Minister for Mines was most sincere in bringing a Bill of this nature before the Chamber. However, the agreement is a *jait accompli*. It is something presented to Parliament merely as a talking point. We cannot vary any clause in the Bill. The only action we can take is not to ratify the agreement, but it would be bad if we did that because this company is prepared to go out and do something in our State. To my mind it is wrong that Bills of this nature, which will override other Acts of Parliament, are brought forward in this manner.

During the debate on a motion which I initiated some weeks ago, we heard the Minister for Local Government state that we have the best Public Works Act in the world. Of course, that depends on one's thoughts as to how the Public Works Act should be administered.

Initially, Sir, my motion was brought about by a public meeting of landowners in Kwinana who requested me, as a political representative, to bring the motion before Parliament, because they were dissatisfied with the Government's action in resuming their land. The Minister made great play of the Public Works Act and how everyone would be dealt with fairly.

I always attempt to stay within the Standing Orders of the House and, consequently, I was precluded from referring to this Bill, because I could not anticipate legislation coming to the House. However I could have answered the Minister in no uncertain terms had I been able to refer to this Bill and its schedule. There are certain things which the Minister did not tell the House when we attacked the method of resumptions in Kwinana. I refer members to clause 4(2)(d) of the schedule which reads—

the State may as and for a public work under the Public Works Act resume any land or any estate and interest in land required for the purposes of this Agreement and notwithstanding any other provisions of that Act may sell lease or otherwise dispose of the same to the Corporation and the provisions of subsections (2) to (7) inclusive of Section 17 and Section 17A of that Act shall not apply to or in respect of that land or the resumption thereof.

So members can see that the people at Kwinana had the dirty done on them by the Government—it was done on them “properly” by the Government—because the Minister for Local Government—I wish he were here to listen to me—

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: The Minister for Local Government is away temporarily attending to Government business.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: I appreciate that. That happens at times and I was not being unkind in what I said. He will have to read what I have to say and perhaps, in the Committee stage, or at the third reading, he can defend himself. I always like to be fair with my criticisms.

If we look at section 17, subsections (2) to (7), and section 17A of the Public Works Act, we will see that they were the provisions, inserted in the Act in 1955 by the then Labor Government, to protect landowners. However, under the schedule to the Bill, which is the agreement, that protection for landowners will be wiped out. This is an agreement which has come before Parliament for ratification but we cannot alter any of its provisions, even where it removes the protection for landowners.

This is what irks me because I had a full knowledge of what was to happen when I introduced my motion. Unfortunately my timing must have been wrong.

Perhaps I should have waited until the Bill had been introduced and then I could have moved my motion.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: That is up to you.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: It is rather similar to what the Minister said the other evening: The horse is in front of the cart, and it is hard to decide whether one should take the horse out of the cart or leave him there in a case such as this.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: You will still be in the cart!

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: This paragraph in subclause (4) of clause 2 of the agreement is atrocious, because people's land can be resumed, not under the Public Works Act but under section 37 of the Metropolitan Region Town Planning Scheme Act, which states—

Where any land held, taken, resumed or otherwise acquired under the Public Works Act, 1902, or any other Act, for any public work, is in the opinion of the Governor not required for that work and is required for the purposes or likely purposes of the scheme, the Governor, notwithstanding the provisions of section twenty-nine of the firstmentioned Act, may declare by notice published in the *Gazette*, that the land shall be held and may be used for the purposes of the scheme.

So members can see what sort of a rort there was in regard to the acquisition of land in the Kwinana area.

On the 19th January, 1968, the Government entered into the agreement that is now in the Bill before us. The day before that the Government notified the local shire by telephone, contrary to the meaning and intention of the Metropolitan Region Town Planning Scheme Act, that a scheme was to be put into operation. In March, at two meetings, an explanation was given of the method to be adopted in putting the scheme into operation. The landowners were ignored because, under the agreement, subsections (2) to (7) inclusive of section 17, and section 17A of the Public Works Act are not applicable. This means that the landowners no longer have the protection of the Public Works Act so far as this agreement is concerned.

I do not want to read out the six pages of the Act involved but, by a stroke of the pen, to satisfy the Government, the normal procedures under the Public Works Act are to be dispensed with, and the landowners affected by the agreement to which I have just referred will be deprived of the protection of that Act. Had all the provisions of the Public Works Act applied the department would have had to notify landowners of its intention to resume their land. From there on the whole process would have had to take its course

as regards objections, compensation, reference to the courts, and the legal rights of the people as are laid down in sections 17 and 17A of the Public Works Act. However, under this Bill, those provisions are not applicable. I do not think that is fair.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: When did you say the local governing body was notified?

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: It was notified, by telephone, the day before the agreement was signed, that the Metropolitan Region Town Planning Scheme Act provisions were to be put into operation. That was verified by letters which I have already read to the House, so that there is no story behind what I am saying.

By the provisions of the Bill before us the people affected have been denied the simple privilege that is afforded to them under the law. The protection they have under the Public Works Act is removed by the provisions of the agreement.

I should now like to refer to the Minister for Local Government who, in speaking to my motion, tried to justify his position—and he made a very bad job of it because there was no answer to what I had placed before the House. The Minister made the statement that we have the best Public Works Act in the world, and he referred to a number of cases to which I had made reference. I read out the details which were sent back to me by means of the forms which I had posted out to the landowners. I wanted to bring myself up to date on all the details and I was criticised for doing so—why, I do not know.

The Minister for Local Government dealt with one landowner—and members would probably recall that this man was the one and only person who, up till that stage the company was prepared to negotiate with, and within half an hour the two parties had come to an agreement on the land in question. The agreement which was reached provided for an alternative house, and the removal of the furniture and personal effects, the cost for which would be borne by the company.

A copy of the Minister's speech on my motion was forwarded to Mr. Godwin, the landowner concerned. During his speech the Minister had said that Mr. Godwin would be given another house but this proposition would not exceed the offer made by the Public Works Department—Mr. Godwin would be re-established but at a cost which was within the price offered by the Public Works Department. However, by letter dated the 23rd September, 1968, Mr. Godwin disagrees with the Minister because he said—

Dear Sir,

I was amazed to read The Hon. L. A. Logan's remark in *Hansard*, re my late home at 80, Office Road Kwinana, inferring that my replacement value

does not exceed the cash value of the Government offer of \$12,500 which included a 10 per cent. allowance for disturbance.

Mr. Logan should re-read the agreement between 1st Part, Western Mining Corporation Ltd., 2nd Part, The Hon. Leslie Arthur Logan, Minister for Town Planning and myself in exchange for my property. If he is then of the same opinion, let him challenge me publicly and I will prove him wrong. Mr. Logan's statement "It is not going to cost the Department any more than the original \$12,500 offered," may have been added so that the Hon. Member could back out gracefully by saying that Western Mining would pay the difference, whereas in fact they are, as far as I know, paying the lot. No mention by the Minister has been made of the 10 per cent. included in the \$12,500.

His other statement, "he was living in a four-bedroom house with two bedrooms in lean-to's," in my opinion was as an attempt to degrade my property. The house was Tradesman built, the only addition was a front bedroom (by a tradesman) and this according to Webster's Dictionary is a Wing of a building. The Hon. Member failed to mention in this statement the other assets of my Home, Fruit trees, lawns, 2 car ports, $\frac{1}{2}$ acre of land on the apex of two roads, etc., which seems to re-affirm his verbal attempt to de-grade or de-value our home.

To me it seems criminal that the problem of resumptions, which could be resolved so easily on a re-establishment basis in 95 per cent. of resumption cases, should be done by means of threats and bombastic Government Valuers. I have nothing but respect for the Representatives of the Western Mining who I have had dealings with, they were truthful, honest and sincere and still help-ful after an agreement had been signed. With the present increase in Government salaries perhaps these representatives could be invited to join them to put back a bit of the democratic flavour we used to know.

The letter is signed, "G. E. Godwin."

It is all very well for the Minister to make disparaging and untruthful remarks about a person, but in this case a man, after reading the Minister's speech, dissociated himself with the text of it.

About 16 or 17 landowners sent replies to the questionnaires sent out saying that I could use their names in Parliament, and I have one in front of me signed by T. S. Higgins which makes interesting reading. In the questionnaire he says —

I approached the Public Works when I was offered \$4,000 for land they said it was going to be resumed and the most I could get was \$1,500 for a

quarter-acre. It was a little over a quarter so they paid me equivalent it being a corner block made no difference. I was informed it was no use taking action so I sold it. I paid rates on this land plus rubbish and burning off for 25 years and finished up at a loss a very poor setup after all these years.

This man was actually offered \$4,000 for his block of land, but then he was told that it would be resumed and the most he could get was \$1,500. That falls into line with what Mr. Godwin said—it was one of those \$1,500 take-it-or-leave-it blocks.

Since I moved my motion I have had a good deal of correspondence on the matter. Resumption notices started to issue somewhere in May, and a Miss W. D. M. Clark was one person affected. Her land resumption file number is 503/68 and she received her first resumption notice on the 25th July, of this year.

An offer was made on the 3rd September and the notification in the *Government Gazette* was sent to her on the 16th September, 1968. This home consists of nearly 19 squares, though as yet it has not been lived in. The building was transported to its present site, and it has been re-erected over the course of a couple of years. When completed it was to have provided a livelihood for Miss Clark, because she intended to let rooms or take in boarders, catering for the people working in the complex.

This lady was offered \$12,500. The building itself comprises three actual flats—the verandahs have been enclosed to constitute flats. Apart from a flat inside, which comprises Miss Clark's own accommodation, there is also a flat for her brother. She finds that in order to replace this house with anything nearly similar will cost her \$18,600. The alternative accommodation, however, is four squares smaller than the place she is having re-erected.

A good deal of new material has gone into the re-erection of her house. It has been completed perfectly inside, though there yet remains painting to be done outside, together with some work which must be done on the bathroom.

Miss Clark has put four years' work into completing this place and now she is to be denied a living. This is where I would like to make mention of section 17 of the Public Works Act. Previously it would have been possible for her to appeal to the Minister under that section of the Act, but even that has been denied her. Under the Metropolitan Region Town Planning Scheme Act, the Minister for Town Planning hears all appeals. But what has happened in this case? The Minister for Town Planning has been made nothing more nor less than a pawn in this game between the Department of Industrial Development and the provisions of the Public Works Act; because on the 19th

January this land was given away; it was given to the company for the cost incurred by the Government on the resumption.

Is it democratic or just that a landowner should have no right of appeal to the Minister? The Minister informs us that he has received appeals. But what happens when he does receive an appeal? He must dismiss it. A person cannot say, "I want my land"; because it has been disposed of by a signed and sealed agreement. It is in this respect that these agreements are so wrong.

Parliament makes the laws and deals with all legislation; Parliament is master of its own destiny, and if these Bills and agreements are to come before Parliament at all, they should do so on the understanding that Parliament has the right to agree or disagree with such legislation. It should be the master of its own destiny, even in regard to these agreements.

It is not right that people should be ejected from their homes. But this is what is happening in most cases. Some people get frightened and move out of their own volition; though they can be ejected with no democratic right of appeal to the Minister.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Do you know how many people had their land resumed in these cases?

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: I think there were 68 blocks in all, I may be out by one or two in my calculations, but there were probably 23 small landowners involved, and about six or seven homes.

Further resumptions, however, are taking place outside the scope of this Bill, so resumptions have not ceased by any means.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: And the remainder were done by private negotiation?

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: That is possibly so. It was said that this was done by private negotiation, but it was done more by threat than by private negotiation.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You do not choose your words very kindly at times. Was it done by private negotiation? Do not say, "possibly so." Let us know.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: It was necessary for the officers of the Public Works Department to negotiate with these people, because they were denied the other privileges under the Public Works Act. That is why it was done by private negotiation.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You are suggesting that the Public Works officers use intimidatory tactics.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: I did not suggest that at all. The people I referred to have been told.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You did not say it was not correct.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: I mentioned the last letter we received from Mr. Godwin, and I read it out.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: These are the same people who have worked for previous Governments.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: I realise that, but their scope has been so limited that it is necessary for them to negotiate to obtain land at the cheapest price. The Minister says that justice is being meted out to these people. If that is so, why are they complaining? Why are they denied the protective sections of the Public Works Act? To my way of thinking, that is not at all right.

Sitting suspended from 6.7 to 7.30 p.m.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: Prior to the suspension I outlined where I considered that the Minister for Local Government, as the Minister who resumes under the Public Works Act—notwithstanding that he said in the House that we had the best Public Works Act in the world—did not tell the full truth when it came to the subject matter with which I was dealing.

Point of Order

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Mr. President, am I being accused of being a liar? Because if I am I object.

The PRESIDENT: Do you ask that the words be withdrawn?

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Yes.

The PRESIDENT: Will the honourable member please withdraw his remarks?

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: Yes, if they offend the Minister.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Don't you think they would offend?

Debate (on motion) Resumed

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: I think I have proved that what the Minister did not say was that with these resumptions being effected in Kwinana the company and the Government did not have to comply with section 17, subsections (3) to (7), and section 17A of the Public Works Act, which are the protective sections of the Act. Therefore any appeals he received would hardly be worth the paper they were written on. The Public Works Act is the law as far as the Metropolitan Region Town Planning Scheme Act is concerned; and section 37 of that Act is farcical inasmuch as the Minister could not, under the terms of the agreement, honour the legislation which was passed by this Parliament. These people have been ridden over in a roughshod manner, and some were not notified until six months after the signing of this agreement.

That is why I say these agreements are wrong in principle. When they go before Parliament for ratification, democracy does not exist as the rights of people are taken

away from them, and they have no right of appeal. The resumption of any block of land, whether it be six acres, 10 acres, or a quarter-acre, under clause 3 (2) of the schedule to this Bill cannot be upset. I will read what clause 3 (2) has to say—

(2) As regards any part of the said Area 1 (and also of Area 2 and Area 3 hereinafter mentioned) which is not Crown land—

This is the important part—

—the State will for that purpose acquire the same from the existing owners either by agreement with the consent of the Corporation—

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: From where are you reading?

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: Page 6, clause 3 (2).

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Thank you.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: To continue—

—or by resumption under or pursuant to statutory powers and this Agreement. The State will not make any offer or amended offer of compensation or settle out of court any claim for compensation for any such resumption without the approval of the Corporation.

So we come to the stage where a figure would have been arrived at and held to for the resumption of vacant land. I read out the case concerning Mr. Higgins who owned land for 25 years and paid rates and taxes over that period. He could hardly be called a speculator. He was offered \$4,000; and if the Minister deals with the appeals, let him have a close look at this one, because Mr. Higgins was offered \$4,000 for the block and had to accept \$1,500 as compensation.

The Bill is watertight and there is no room to manoeuvre. It gets to the point that the first price offered is the price people are expected to accept. So much for resumptions at Kwinana.

I think the company has a very good agreement. I know it is an excellent company and I have no complaints to make in regard to its actions in connection with Alcoa. I think the company has tried to do the right thing and it will do so in connection with the nickel refinery. In this instance I blame the Government because, as I mentioned previously, no protection under the Public Works Act has been given to landowners.

Several weeks ago I heard a question asked in the House about homesites in Kambalda. I have not seen Kambalda, but the answer to the question was that homesites would not be made available to private people. I think this is bad because at Whyalla, which is a company-owned town and where there is a large steel complex, this has not had a good effect

as far as community interests are concerned and, from time to time, it has been the cause of considerable trouble in the town.

I think the Government should have an early look at this provision so that homesites can be made available to people who are working at Kambalda and who desire to construct their own homes. It is the desire of everybody to own his own home where possible.

As Mr. Stubbs said, the fields seem to be proven. I do not think Kambalda or Kalgoorlie will ever die, and I seriously suggest that blocks of land be made available to local people who wish to build homes there. At this stage, the houses that are being erected at Kambalda by the corporation under the agreement are on leasehold land. At the present time the charge is \$6 per annum for a townsite lot of a quarter of an acre and \$9 for a townsite lot of one acre or more. The schedule to the Bill goes on to state—

the Corporation at any time during the currency of the lease to purchase for the sum of ten dollars per townsite lot the fee simple of any townsite lot on which buildings or structures have been erected.

I realise these blocks could not be made available to a private individual at the same price, because of survey fees, the cost of roadways, water services, and so on, which would have to be added to the price. However, I suggest provisions be made at an early date for people to be able to buy land privately, because we do not want a company town at Kambalda, but one which is integrated, which will be in the interests of the community. I hope to have a look at Kambalda shortly.

I have no further criticism to offer at this stage and I wish the project well. Possibly, as provided for in the agreement, there will in future be some variations.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: There could be, not "there will be."

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: I said I hope there will be.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: There could be.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: I hope there will be as far as royalties are concerned. Having regard to the amount of money that is to be spent at Kambalda and Kwinana, the company should be assured of a reasonably high profit rate. I think a royalty of approximately 2 per cent. is a very small amount, because nickel is a mineral which is in short supply. There is no oversupply of nickel anywhere in the world, and I do not think there ever will be.

Stainless steel is becoming popular for household and sanitary ware, and it will not be long before it is used in motorcars more than it is now. Ships are being constructed of burnished stainless steel to

reduce maintenance costs. Therefore I trust that the State will receive its fair share of money. Last year when speaking to a Bill on offshore oil, Mr. Dolan stated that in Venezuela the oil companies were paying a royalty of 70 per cent. after the fields had been proved, although they had been paying lower royalties for a number of years prior to that. When the Government decided to take over the oil wells the companies were quite prepared to pay a royalty of 70 per cent.

Therefore I trust our royalties will increase and that Western Australia will not pay too great a price for this mineral development. We are paying a high price at the present time. We are to receive what would appear to be handsome royalties, but when one takes the housing position at Kwinana into consideration, this is going to be costly. After construction of the refinery is completed specialists will be brought here, and there is a long waiting period for houses at Kwinana at the present time.

I know plans are well in hand for the construction of Orelia, the new townsite. Calista is just about completed, but this construction will tax the State. The purchase of land by the Government for the treatment of effluent is another avenue where the State is having to spend large sums of money to resume land which has to be held for many years. It will probably be used then for the treatment of effluent, or for the future extension of the company.

That money could well be used at the present time to build houses for the people. Our housing situation is pretty bad, and I trust the company will come to the party and build some homes in and around Rockingham, Safety Bay, Medina, and Calista. I have been critical of other companies in the area over this very matter. The companies do not contribute anything towards housing yet we find that people are forced to pay high rents, which they can ill afford to do. The Broken Hill Pty. Co. Ltd., and Alcoa, have moved into Rockingham, and are paying high prices for houses and flats. The companies are then letting the houses and flats to their own personnel. This places a heavy burden on the average worker, because usually, in between the holiday periods, those houses are available at cheaper rentals.

In the housing areas at Medina and Calista, where homes can be found at a cheaper rental, we find that the majority of the houses which become vacant—and the majority of houses which are built for rental—are made available to the companies which nominate who shall be the tenants. A person who has been waiting for some time is denied a home because the companies, in most cases, are receiving preference over individuals.

By and large, I am most pleased that the refinery is being established. It is another cog in the wheel of development, as far as the Kwinana area is concerned. The treatment of effluent could possibly cause me concern in the future. At present the proposed site is not in my province, but just across the border in the Rockingham area.

I know that the Public Health Department, and the local health officers, will keep a watch on the treatment site. However, I feel that the effluent should be pumped a lot further away from the nearby residential area, which will be Rockingham. In the near future—I think the Minister for Health can bear this out—a public hospital will be constructed not far distant from the effluent disposal area. Perhaps the Minister might have second thoughts on constructing the hospital in that locality. A hospital is definitely required now that there has been such a large influx of industry to the area.

With those few reservations I support the Bill.

THE HON. G. E. D. BRAND (Lower North) [7.49 p.m.]: It gives me great pleasure also to support this Bill. Although the actual mining operations at Kambalda are not taking place in my province, an agreement to build a refinery at Kwinana, and the mining of nickel, is of the greatest importance to us all.

I congratulate the Government on this piece of legislation, even though the agreement is in operation and is here now to be ratified. It is not my intention to go into the machinery provisions in the Bill because this has already been done. However, I would like to refer to prospecting and the retention of the railway line from Kalgoorlie to Leonora. This railway, at some time in the future, could be of use in the mining of nickel and the treatment of the ore. The railway line from Kalgoorlie to Leonora, in the Lower North Province, is a very important line to the people in the area, but at the moment it is not important to the Railways Department, and the people in the surrounding area are worried about that.

From time to time it has been said that nickel can be found all over the State of Western Australia, although not in such quantities or quality as is found at Kambalda. We feel, therefore, it is most important that the line from Kalgoorlie to Leonora be retained for at least 12 months in case nickel, or some other mineral, is found and it is necessary to transport the ore to Kalgoorlie or Kambalda for treatment.

Members are also aware of the find at Scotia, which is about 36 miles from Kalgoorlie. I do not know whether it is considered economical to send that ore by rail for treatment. I feel sure the railway would be well used for the cartage of

ore in the event of new workings being found north of Kalgoorlie, and it would be as well to leave the line where it is.

A bitumen road extends from Kalgoorlie to Leonora, and it is a very good road. However, the people in the pastoral areas and the mining towns want the railway left where it is. This railway provides an avenue for the transport of goods, and also provides employment for the station-master, porters, enginedrivers and firemen, and the native workers in the maintenance gangs. The railway helps to support all those people and their families.

The line is due to come up for review in the near future and perhaps the Minister will delay closing the line for another 12 months.

I would also take this opportunity once again to pay tribute to the Western Mining Corporation. A few years ago things were really bad in Kalgoorlie and nothing seemed to be going right. The expected rise in the price of gold did not eventuate. However, the Western Mining Corporation was quick enough and astute enough to look further afield. It spent all the money it had, and all the money it could get hold of in investigating all sorts of claims. As a result, the company went from the poor brother stage to the rich uncle stage.

We most sincerely congratulate it on its foresight and on its good fortune. We were also reminded that originally it was a Western Australian company, financed with Western Australian money. The company is highly regarded throughout the world, and it has a good command in respect of finance in most parts of the world.

With those few remarks I wish to say how pleasing it is to support the Bill. I also thank the Western Mining Corporation for what it has done for mining in the goldfields area, and for what it has done for Western Australia as a whole.

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (North Metropolitan—Minister for Mines) [7.55 p.m.]: It is very refreshing to me to be able to introduce a Bill of this nature, and to have it supported so generally. The speeches made by Mr. Willesee, Mr. Berry, Mr. Stubbs, Mr. Lavery, Mr. Ron Thompson, and Mr. George Brand—with the exception of the remarks made by Mr. Ron Thompson—have given general accord to the agreement. With respect to Mr. Ron Thompson's remarks, I feel it incumbent upon me to offer the House some answers to the criticism he has raised.

It is of satisfaction to me to see a Bill of this nature so well accepted, for two very obvious reasons. Firstly, it is another mineral industrial agreement attached to the mineral development of Western Australia. Secondly, of course, with regard to

the mining side of the agreement, I played a prominent part in the negotiations with the company.

With regard to the remarks made by Mr. Willesee, there is really no comment I can make because his support of the Bill is quite straightforward. To Mr. Berry I can only say that his association, in his boyhood days, with the area of Coogee generally, and the few remarks he made about the Kwinana industrial area, are appreciated. Whilst I do not remember the district as well as does the honourable member, I am sure all of us here realise that from the days when the BP refinery was established at Kwinana great progress has been made.

We also remember that with the establishment of the BP refinery at Kwinana a blanket reserve was put over the whole area because of the necessity to secure the situation at that time.

I share the view expressed by Mr. Stubbs, and I mentioned this during my second reading speech. The Government was disappointed that it was not possible to establish the smelter on the goldfields, or at Esperance. The simple fact remains that the refinery has to be serviced with a large quantity of water, and it has to be close to associated and allied industries. It does seem that Kwinana was the logical place to establish the industry.

Whilst the Government was disappointed, so was the company and it will be found, in the agreement, that whilst the company has undertaken the construction of a refinery at Kwinana, it has also undertaken to use its best endeavours to see whether it is possible to construct a smelter at Kalgoorlie or Kambalda, or some other suitable place.

As members have indicated, I do not think we have any occasion to doubt the sincerity of the efforts that this particular company will make in order to ensure its success. The mention of Alcoa by Mr. Stubbs is outside the ambit of this Bill, but we shared the disappointment with respect to the establishment of the alumina refinery at Alcoa. Our disappointment was that the metal was not being smelted from the alumina into aluminium. However, once again it was the very important question of power. We simply could not provide the power in Western Australia at a figure which was acceptable.

Mr. Stubbs spoke of industrial hazards and I can assure him that his remarks will receive consideration, and investigations will be made. I would remind Mr. Stubbs that my colleague, the Minister for Health, introduced the clean air legislation, and this legislation is beginning to operate extremely well in its effect upon industry, and the Government has accepted it as an appropriate way to combat air pollution.

I was pleased to hear Mr. Lavery's unqualified support of the Bill. I agree with him that the Kwinana area is becoming a wonderful industrial complex. If those of us who know the area just a little can cast our minds back over the years, we will recall when we used to travel down to Rockingham and pass through areas which contained only bush, interspersed with small areas of development that were beginning to take shape. We will also recall, as Mr. Lavery knows, that the land could be bought for a mere song, but now its value has been enhanced considerably as a result of the growth of the industrial complex at Kwinana itself.

I cannot agree with the remarks of Mr. Ron Thompson that the Government brought this company into disrepute. In my second reading speech I made the point that it became quite clear in the early stages that a large industry of this nature could not be established until the company was sure that the land necessary for its establishment would be made available to it. In the course of my remarks I went on to say that, whilst it may have been possible for the corporation to have achieved the consolidation of the site under one ownership by private negotiation with each of the individual owners, it is more than likely that considerable delay would have taken place in acquiring the land had that procedure been followed. Instead, the Government undertook to acquire the land and make it available to the company.

I would like to remind the House that if reference is made to page 9 of the Bill it will be noticed the company had an obligation to notify the Government by the 30th June, 1968, that it was going ahead with the project; but if it had not done so by that time it could have an extension until the 30th September, 1968. In fact, the notice was received by the Government well ahead of time and, as I said a few moments ago, the refinery is well on the way towards being constructed.

However, being obliged to give notice to the Government of its intentions, it was essential that the company knew the land was to be made available to it. As indicated by the plans which I laid on the Table of the House, the land is in three sections; Areas 1, 2, and 3. This land is to be made available to the company according to its requirements as time goes by. The reason for the agreement contracting out—if I may use that term—of sections 17 and 17A of the Public Works Act, is that if the Government had not done so, and had used the ordinary machinery for the resumption of the land, the resumptions could not have been made in time and the land may not have been made available to the company even now, because the time taken to determine ownership, to

settle appeals to the court, and to agree on final valuations and the like, could have taken up much valuable time.

Also, as Mr. Ron Thompson has said, if the land is not used for its original purpose the company has to fulfil the provision whereby the original owner is given the opportunity to repurchase the land from the company.

The Hon. R. Thompson: Not under this Bill.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: No, but under the provision of the Public Works Act. So if the Government had not contracted out of the relevant sections of the Public Works Act a situation of uncertainty could have been reached in relation to the land, and, as I have said, it was extremely important that the company knew the land was to be made available to it, especially in view of the capital outlay the company was obliged to make. In concluding my remarks on this point, I think Mr. Ron Thompson has gained some advantage by reason of the fact that this Bill follows a motion he introduced on the question of the administration of the department controlled by my colleague, the Minister for Local Government. The honourable member had the opportunity to introduce his motion; he had the opportunity to reply to the debate on the motion; and he has had a further opportunity this evening to speak on the same subject for the third occasion.

The Hon. R. Thompson: I did not go over it tonight.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The honourable member did not go over it as fully as he did previously, and we can all be thankful for that.

The Hon. R. Thompson: The members behind you had better not laugh, because we have not yet gone through the Committee stage of the Bill.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I can assure the honourable member that it does one good to laugh now and again. In my second reading speech I endeavoured to explain the reason for the land having to be acquired in this way. This is not a new concept. The concept of resumption of land by the Government for industry is written into other agreements that have been before the Parliament, so the concept is not new. The advantage of having an agreement of this nature is that, as a result of negotiations, there is agreement between the Government and the company on the exploitation of mineral deposits, and the conditions which are set down for the working of those deposits. It is those conditions which make it clear to both parties to the agreement the direction in which the company shall travel. Further, the obligations of the company, and the obligations of the Government are clearly stated; and this is satisfactory to both parties.

The Hon. R. Thompson: The only persons left out of the satisfactory negotiations are those who have had their land resumed.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I doubt whether that is basically correct; because, by way of interjection, I asked the honourable member that of those people who had had their land resumed, how many had parted with it after negotiation; and, following the answer I received, I think it is true to say that more people parted with their land after negotiation than parted with it as a result of resumption.

The Hon. R. Thompson: Under this agreement they have to part with their land.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I admit that under this agreement they do, but the honourable member, in the course of an argument such as the one he pursued on this occasion, always tells us about the bad features of resumption, but never tells us about those features which are satisfactory to both parties. I think many of these people were satisfied with what they were paid for their land.

The Hon. R. Thompson: That is not true. I read out the names of three people who were satisfied with the prices they received.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: If the honourable member read out the names of three people who were satisfied, there may be others he does not know about. Land which less than a decade ago could be bought for next to nothing is now bringing up to \$6,000 an acre, and that is not a bad price. The fact remains that in agreements of this nature, and in the establishment of an industry of this kind, the Government could not have a situation whereby a limited number of owners could hold out for an unreasonable price for their land and so prevent the establishment of the industry. Quite plainly, that is the position.

As members have stated this evening, the Western Mining Corporation has an excellent reputation in this State for being fair, and that is the company which will pay the price for the land acquired. It is not a question of the Government's paying the price. The Government will certainly acquire the land, but whatever price is paid for it will be recouped from the Western Mining Corporation. It is most satisfactory to have an arrangement of this nature.

If a company or an organisation establishes an industry at Kwinana, or anywhere else within the State, it has the responsibility of constructing its plant or factory and engaging its employees, but the Government has the responsibility of providing the amenities and facilities necessary to enable people to reside in the area in which the industry is established.

In this instance, the company is building homes for its employees at Kambalda. The Government is not responsible for constructing them. The roads and the provision of water supplies are being paid for by the company.

It is a pity the honourable member has not inspected the area. At some time in the future he may be able to see it because it will do his heart good to witness what this company has achieved in an area which, until two years ago, did not seem to offer any opportunity. It was an area which had been travelled over by prospectors and others, because it was an old goldmining district in years gone by, but to all intents and purposes it was finished. It was not until some gold assays had been handed in to the School of Mines by some people a few years ago that the discovery was made that the area was worth further investigation to prove the nickel deposits which appeared to exist.

In any case, from this incident has emerged the birth of this very excellent industry, and also another which, I repeat, I am glad to know is based on the discovery of minerals.

The Bill generally has made an extremely favourable impression on members of this House, and in answer to the point raised by Mr. Ron Thompson I think I should say something on the payment of royalties. It is difficult to determine royalties. The agreement contained in this Bill will bring in some \$500,000 a year to the Government when the optimum point of production is reached. But that is not all the State gains. To me it is important that the State gets a fair share in royalties, but it is also extremely important that, with a company such as this, the State is able to take advantage of the opportunities that are made available for the employment of its own people; employment of both professional and unskilled labour. Such an industry holds out opportunities to young professional men; men who are engaged in the commercial field, and also those who are qualified as tradesmen.

To me it is encouraging to realise that the project manager of this organisation is a young man. I doubt whether he is 40 years of age. He is the son of a member of Parliament in another place, and he is a very valuable man. He is intensely devoted to carrying out his job and getting this company under way until it reaches the production stage. It is certainly heartening to meet a young man such as this who is holding one of the key positions in the company. In addition to those who are already employed there will be many opportunities for other people to follow in their wake.

Further, whatever is done in Western Australia will be of benefit to Australia as a whole, because from every dollar of

profit the company makes the Commonwealth Treasury will receive its fair share in the form of taxation.

The agreement provides for a review of the royalty after five years if the smelter is not established in Kalgoorlie, and in any case it provides for a review of the royalty at the end of 10 years. I do not think we can have propositions which are fairer than this one.

I join with those members who wish this company success. The Western Mining Corporation is a good company; it is an old established goldmining company which has diversified its interests in other directions. I wish it success, but that does not mean that the Government has bestowed any favours on the company. No favours have been bestowed on it; it has been given a temporary reserve for nickel, and it is exploring this reserve. The agreement provides for the relinquishment of the area, and in certain circumstances for leases. I thoroughly endorse the remarks which have been made this evening. This is a good agreement which is worthy of support, and I thank members for the support they have given the measure.

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.

RAILWAYS DISCONTINUANCE AND LAND REVESTMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 3rd October.

THE HON. H. C. STRICKLAND (North) [8.19 p.m.]: This is a very necessary Bill. In the main it deals with three sections of railway lines which have been relocated in and around the township of Merredin, as a result of the construction of larger marshalling yards to operate in conjunction with the standard gauge and the narrow gauge systems. Approximately 4½ miles of railway line is to be closed.

One section affects the main Kalgoorlie-Perth line through Merredin; another section affects the Merredin-Dowerin spur line to the wheatbelt; and another section affects the Merredin-Wickepin wheatbelt line. The lines in each case are of relatively short length, and their discontinuance is very necessary. With the closing of these lines the railway facilities at Merredin will be improved.

It is not easy to understand these closures without reference to a map. We in this House were not extended the courtesy of having a map tabled. In the Legislative Assembly a map was tabled, and I went

into that Chamber to look at it. Not that I mind walking there, but I think this House should have been extended the same courtesy as was extended to another place.

The Bill also affects another section of railway line which has become redundant; that is, a part of the old Geraldton-Ajana line which extended from Geraldton to Bluff Point. It was thought that it might be possible to use this line for some industrial purpose, but it has since been found to be redundant and it is to be closed to meet main roads requirements.

Clause 4 of the Bill authorises the department to delete the capital expenditure—by very small amounts—from the books of the department. That will be an improvement in the accounting system, and in future the accounts of the Railways Department will look much more satisfactory, because the capital expenditure for redundant and closed lines will be deleted from the capital accounts of the department.

The other evening I remarked that more capital expenditure has been used on the railways in the past eight years than in the previous 80 years. On top of that the losses have grown larger. This Bill is very necessary, and I support it.

THE HON. L. A. LOGAN (Upper West—Minister for Local Government) [8.23 p.m.]: I thank the honourable member for his support of the Bill. I apologise for the fact that the map was not presented to this House. When I received the notes for the introduction of the second reading they indicated that a map was to be tabled, but I discovered that it was not available. Since then I have obtained a map, and it is available to any member who wishes to see it. I apologise for the fact that the map was not tabled, because it did not reach me in time.

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.

DIVIDING FENCES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

THE HON. L. A. LOGAN (Upper West—Minister for Local Government) [8.26 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This Bill contains six clauses, and the purpose of each of these clauses is indicated.

Clause 1: This clause refers to the title.

Clause 2: This amends section 5 of the principal Act to include under the definition of the word "repair" the words "to

re-erect and realign." At present, there is no provision permitting the owner of property to apply to the court to realign an existing fence, or a fence which has been damaged or destroyed and which requires to be repaired or re-erected. A case in point is where a common boundary is in the bed of a brook and is quite often affected by floods washing away the fence; one party wishes to have the fence realigned on more solid ground but the other disagrees. The Act makes no provision for this.

Section 8 of the the Act permits an owner to apply to the court to have specified the line upon which a proposed boundary fence shall be erected where, on account of the physical features of the adjoining lot, it is impracticable to construct a fence on the common boundary. This provision, however, only applies where there has never been a dividing fence and where one owner seeks to have the adjoining owner contribute to the construction of the fence.

Clause 3: This clause provides for an amendment to subsection (3) of section 13 to remove any ambiguity in the present phraseology and to ensure that this section applies where both owners occupied their respective lands prior to the fence being erected.

Clauses 4 and 5: These contain amendments to sections 14 and 15 and are designed to enable a court to determine the extent to which a dividing fence should be repaired. The amendment to section 14 merely replaces the term "out of repair" with "in need of repair." There is provision in clause 5 for realigning a fence and for providing for compensation to cover the extra expenses of an owner who, through a court order, would have to provide additional fencing and includes provision for consideration of loss of occupation of any land.

Clause 6: This clause provides for an amendment to section 18 to include reference to section 15 in the provisions relating to the recovery of money payable under this section and for the certificate of a court concerning an order made under the provisions of the Act.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. W. F. Willesee (Leader of the Opposition).

ART GALLERY ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 3rd October.

THE HON. J. M. THOMSON (South) [8.29 p.m.]: The provisions contained in the Bill for the establishment of regional and branch art galleries as proposed will be received with much satisfaction by the many patrons who are concerned with the activities and who are actively engaged in

the extension of the cultural arts throughout the State. Considerable interest has been displayed in numerous country centres where some art schools and weekend courses have been held. These have been responsible for revealing, on many occasions, hitherto unknown and hidden talents possessed by some of those attending such schools and courses.

Here I would associate myself with the Minister in paying tribute to the Art Gallery Board for the work it has done and the encouragement it has displayed in helping to stimulate the interest and activity now evident throughout the State. I would also like to take this opportunity to highly commend the annual summer art schools held at Albany for the past six years. The number of enrolments at the commencement of this school, six years ago, was 70, while the enrolment for the last school, in January of this year, was over 300. The efforts to maintain a high standard of work and production have stimulated interest in people as far afield as Carnarvon, Perth, Kalgoorlie, Esperance, Bunbury, and elsewhere, resulting in their regular attendance at the school which now extends over a period of 12 days in early January.

I would take the opportunity also to pay tribute to the art courses held in Bunbury, Esperance, and other centres where the interest and activity are sufficient to warrant the holding of such courses.

I would appeal to the Art Gallery Board to give favourable consideration to acquiring the old warehouse of the Queen—the old bond store. This is situated at ground level in the old Albany Post Office. I think Mr. Medcalf will recall the particular site to which I refer. Because of his appreciation of the cultural arts, it would be of interest to him.

I make this request about the old post office building because of its age. Naturally it would require a certain amount of money to be spent on it, but I think its historical value warrants this expenditure. The building would be of interest to people who are concerned with the extension and retention of things of historical value and interest in the State. I consider that this building would be an appropriate place in which to establish, at an early date, an art gallery, bearing in mind the interest already evidenced by the presence of various cultural groups in Albany. I refer particularly to painters, sculptors, and writers. It would also be of vital interest to the many people who patronise the various art courses.

I appreciate, too, the work which has been done by the Adult Education Board and the adult education groups in country centres. I wish to compliment them on their activities. I particularly commend the adult education groups for the work they have carried out in maintaining interest in cultural activities in certain centres.

In conclusion I would like to express my concern and disappointment that the Adult Education Board, as we have known it, has been forced to curtail its activities throughout the country because of lack of finance. It is to be hoped that this is merely a temporary curtailment of its activities and that ere long we will see the return of the activities of the board, in conjunction with the Art Gallery Board, in maintaining the interest in cultural arts which is today so evident in country districts and throughout the State generally. I have much pleasure in supporting the Bill.

THE HON. J. G. HISLOP (Metropolitan) [8.35 p.m.]: When discussing art galleries, I cannot fail to mention Sir Claude Hotchin. If it were not for this gentleman, there would be very little art in country centres. I have sometimes wandered around the art galleries in country centres and have found some of them to be very well kept indeed. However, others have less accommodation than they should have and consequently the display of the pictures is not what it should be.

I feel we should contemplate what Sir Claude has done in relation to pictures, paintings, and drawings, in this State. One has only to walk along the central corridor in this building to see that it is filled with pictures of old houses of Western Australia—a wonderful gift from Sir Claude and one which reminds us very keenly of those who lived here in the very early days of Western Australia.

Apart from the pictures he has donated to Parliament House, he has given an enormous number to various hospitals. At Royal Perth Hospital the pictures are changed from time to time, and I am certain that they have some influence, even on sick people in hospitals.

As recently as Saturday morning, at a gathering of rotarians in the Fremantle City Hall, I saw again evidence of the generosity of Sir Claude Hotchin.

I cannot remember the name of the artist, but when I was a small boy there lived a painter whose work was more or less associated with the fields, and always he would have included one, two, three, or four of the most magnificent horses of the time. On Sunday morning I found a picture by George Whinnen, from South Australia, and it took my mind back to the time I had spent in that State.

These are the factors which make art of this type really important. There are others, of course; and if one cares to study the works in the galleries of this city, one will realise that they cannot be criticised at all.

I hope that one of these days there will be sufficient funds to obtain more paintings such as the precious gifts of Sir

Claude and others so that they may long be cherished and give pleasure to the various sections of the community.

THE HON. J. DOLAN (South-East Metropolitan) [8.40 p.m.]: I want to pass a few comments on this Bill. They were inspired by the words of Dr. Hislop in his well-deserved praise of Sir Claude Hotchin. I wish to mention the names of a few people whom I know well and who have done a considerable amount for art in various parts of the State.

I refer first of all to Charles Hamilton, an artist in his own right, who had a gift for transmitting that art to others. Another one who comes readily to mind is the art superintendent of the Education Department (Mr. Jock Campbell), who by conducting art schools in all the big centres of the State fostered a love of art, not only among children but also among many adults of the districts. This Bill, if it accomplishes what is intended, will ensure that the work he commenced is carried on.

The third man to whom I would refer is Henrik Froudist who, for many years, has conducted the art schools of the Adult Education Board, and the summer schools at the University. His work has been singularly successful and he is more responsible today than any other man for the actual teaching of art, and the creation of a love of it. With those remarks, I support the Bill.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. W. F. Willesee (Leader of the Opposition).

POLICE ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 2nd October.

THE HON. J. DOLAN (South-East Metropolitan) [8.43 p.m.]: In supporting this Bill I would refer firstly to the beginning of the Minister's second reading speech when he said—

At the last meeting of the Standing Committee of Commonwealth and State Attorneys-General, the question of bringing our law within the requirements of the international convention for the suppression of the traffic in persons and of the exploitation of the prostitution of others was discussed, and the Commonwealth has since requested all States to take appropriate action so that Australia may accede to the convention.

In this regard it is interesting to note that last week in the New South Wales Parliament steps were taken to accede to the Commonwealth's request, the same as we are doing this week.

The New South Wales Parliament gave attention to two matters, one being an increase in the penalty for a second offence

from three years to five years' imprisonment; and the second was to tighten the procedure under which the police may obtain search warrants for premises suspected of being used for prostitution.

We are doing the same thing under this Bill, but the Minister further said that there was one respect in which the Western Australian law did not meet the requirements of the convention; and that is the absence of any punishment for the female who lives on the earnings of prostitution.

This situation is being rectified by a simple amendment to section 76G. In four places where it occurs the word "male" is being deleted. The previous section—section 76F—contains the word "person" without the word "male" and therefore those provisions of the legislation apply to a person of either sex. However, section 76G at present applies only to a male.

By removing this word, the section will apply to both sexes. In that respect, Sir, all members would know that the average Australian workman, who is a right-down-to-earth fellow, has the greatest detestation of anyone who will not pull his weight—who, in other words, poles on his workmates. They have always applied a certain term to those people, and that same term is the one applied to men who live on the proceeds of prostitution. Probably there is no need for me to repeat the word, because it is well known; but it indicates what the average Australian thinks of these people. What name would be given to the female of the species, I would not know. However, in the debate in New South Wales last week reference was made to the fact that the Police Commissioner in New South Wales had referred to the ladies concerned as "Mrs. Sin and Miss Sin."

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: The name you are referring to here would probably begin with "B."

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: It is not a four-letter word.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: Mr. Wise is right; it is not a four-letter word. Some members might recall a certain incident, and I think the incident I have in mind is worth recalling, too. I do not think there is anything indelicate in it. Members might know that the Commonwealth Minister for Immigration also is the gentleman responsible for looking after the estates of enemy aliens. There was a period in our local history when an Austrian became an enemy alien, and he owned five houses which were operating in a street not far from here. When the matter came under the control of the Commonwealth Minister, it meant that the Commonwealth Government was the principal agent in Western Australia for this type of vocation or profession—call it what one will.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: Did it pay tax?

The Hon. J. DOLAN: It was run as a business of course, and it came under the control of the Minister. To his credit, when he found out what was happening, he gave orders that the premises should be closed.

The next section to be amended relates to the plant known as *Cannabis sativa*, and in that connection I would refer to what I consider is very skilful draftsmanship. The following interpretation of "cannabis" is given

"cannabis" means the plant known as *Cannabis sativa*, sometimes known as the marijuana plant, and includes any part of that plant;

I am interested in the words "any part of that plant," because marijuana is made from the flowers of the female plant and the seeds—that is the part of the plant which is concerned. After it is dried it is prepared as marijuana. In Egypt it is known as hashish, and in China it is known as bhang; so it has a pretty universal use.

That particular part of the plant is not known as *Cannabis sativa* but as *Cannabis indica*. The whole plant is prohibited in Britain, and it is also a prohibited plant in Australia because of the danger that this particular drug would become a drug of addiction.

I would say that there are many medical men throughout the world who feel that it is not as bad to be smoking marijuana as it is to be smoking tobacco. They feel people will not get the same bad effects from marijuana as they will from other forms of smoking.

I would like the Minister to look particularly at the next amendment, even before we go into the Committee stage, as that stage may be affected. In order to bring marijuana—or cannabis, as it is called—under the Act, something similar to the amendment proposed to section 76G is provided; that is, whenever we find the word "opium" the words "cannabis or" are to be inserted in front of it. Consequently we find that section 94B, subsection (1) (a), will read as follows:—

If any person—

manufactures, sells, or otherwise deals in cannabis or prepared opium.

It is quite simple; the two words will just be inserted. In paragraph (b) the same thing is done and this will read—

If any person—

has in his possession any cannabis or prepared opium.

So it goes on through paragraphs (c) and (d); but when we come to paragraph (f),

in section 94B, we find that the Act at present reads as follows:—

If any person—

Has in his possession any pipes or other utensils for use in connection with the smoking of opium—

I was wondering whether the words "cannabis or" should be inserted before the word "opium." The paragraph continues—

—or any utensils used in connection with the preparation of opium for smoking.

Again I was wondering whether the two relevant words should be inserted, because in both cases they have been omitted.

It is quite possible there is a simple explanation for this. I know the impression is current that opium is smoked with a pipe. I can recall that generally the Chinese used to sit around in opium dens, light an opium pill, and each one would have a puff as the pipe was passed around. Eventually they would become drugged and pass out.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: You seem to be fairly familiar with the process.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: I know all about it. The thought went through my head that the customary thing when they have these "parties" is for the marijuana to be made into cigarettes. One person has a puff, and passes it around, and so on. In the same way as some smokers roll their own cigarettes and use the same tobacco when they smoke a pipe, is it not possible that marijuana could be smoked in the same way as opium? I feel it is possible. That is the point I would like the Minister to clarify.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: I do not think it is.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: Perhaps it is not smoked in that way at present, but is it not possible that the process could be carried out in the way I have mentioned? I ask the Minister to have a look at that, because it seems that if we are to put the words "cannabis or" in four of the paragraphs there must be some reason for not putting it in the other one. I am sufficiently inquisitive to want to find out the reason.

Paragraph (g) of section 94B has been redrafted. It is proposed to repeal the old paragraph and insert a new one in its place. In the present Act it reads—

If any person—

smokes or uses prepared opium, or frequents any place used for the purpose of opium smoking . . .

I notice that the proposed new paragraph is to read—

smokes or otherwise uses cannabis or prepared opium, or is found in any place which is then being used for the purpose of cannabis or opium smoking.

Consequently it is only in the one paragraph (f) that the words "cannabis or" have been left out, and I think the matter is worth the Minister's attention in an endeavour to find out why.

The new paragraph (g) which is to be inserted is to make sure that offenders can be apprehended. At present it is possible, when people are engaged in one of these "pot" parties, where one has a puff and the cigarette is passed around, that if there is a raid, all they do is to drop the cigarette. Perhaps someone sticks his foot on it. I think the term we used to use as boys was to "bot it" or "bumper it." When they have done that it is very difficult to pin a charge on the fellows concerned.

The Hon. V. J. Ferry: It has all gone to pot.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: It might be possible to apprehend one fellow and say that he was seen smoking it, but the others could deny that they were smoking and consequently it would be hard to pin the offence on them. By repealing the paragraph and inserting the new one, if we read it as it is in the Bill, it simply means that anyone who is found in any place which is being used for the purpose of cannabis or opium smoking is gone, and a charge can be laid and proved.

The point I have raised is the one which I would like the Minister to look at, because I consider it is worthy of attention, even if just to satisfy my curiosity; and I hope I have whetted the curiosity of other members. The move in both amendments is most desirable, and I support the Bill.

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (North Metropolitan—Minister for Mines) [8.55 p.m.]: Mr. President, if I can reply briefly, I should like to thank Mr. Dolan. He certainly seems to have an excellent knowledge of this sort of thing.

The Hon. J. Dolan: I have a knowledge of many subjects.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Yes. I have not the knowledge on this subject which the honourable member appears to have. The best thing I can do is to defer the Committee stage in order to examine the remarks made by the honourable member more thoroughly tomorrow, when I will have a chat with the draftsman.

The Hon. R. F. Hutchison: Don't go into the wrong place!

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I will be careful not to do that. I have been put right off, Mr. President.

The Hon. J. Dolan: A guilty conscience!

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: It is not a guilty conscience. I was trying to think of something appropriate to say but the words would not come to me at that moment—at least nothing that I could say came to me. Tomorrow I will have a

talk with the draftsman and ask him why he left those words out of paragraph (f). Probably there is a reason for it. On the other hand, it may be that the honourable member's appreciation of the situation is the correct one. I commend the Bill to members.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

STATE SHIPPING SERVICE

Opposition to Sale: Motion

Debate resumed, from the 2nd October, on the following motion by The Hon. F. J. S. Wise:—

That this House views with concern the suggestions contained in the published rumours that the State Shipping Service is to be sold to private ownership.

As we believe this service is at least as important to the people of the north and to the development of the north as the State-owned railways and the metropolitan bus services are to the people of the south, this House declares its opposition to the sale of the State Shipping Service.

The PRESIDENT: The question is that the motion be agreed to.

THE HON. F. J. S. WISE (North) [8.57 p.m.]: I heard one "aye," which gives me some hope. I paused in case someone had decided that this is a worthy motion and needs vocal support—not only a silent vote. I thank Mr. Strickland for giving a splendid illustration. Some of the points I made, I hope, were on a high plane. I had the responsibility of drafting the motion, Mr. President, for it to be dealt with in both Houses.

If members studied the motion and listened to the case that I presented even if they were not in agreement with it, I think they would concede that at no stage did I introduce any political aspect or endeavour to deal with it on any basis of presumption or moral assumption.

I was very disappointed with the remarks made by the Minister. It was obvious that he desired to speak the same evening the motion was moved. He had typewritten notes. They may have been copious notes, or they could have been scant references. However, it is interesting to observe that his typewritten notes must have been made before he had any idea whatever what I was about to say.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: I had a fair idea of what you were going to say.

The Hon. F. J. S. WISE: The Minister had no idea whatever; he cannot assume at any stage what I am about to say or what I may be thinking. That is reserved to me.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: That is true.

The Hon. F. J. S. WISE: It is reserved to me in the same way as I cannot know what the Minister is about to say, or is thinking. Therefore the Minister slid very gracefully, in some ways, over one or two things.

He used the time that he did use to castigate someone else who had stated that the State Shipping Service had been sold. I made no such statement; I held no such contention. My objective was to bring before this House, in an impartial way, and on a national basis, a case for the retention of this service. In so far as scant reference was made to my motion by the Minister, when he showed he preferred not to reply to me, I return the compliment and ignore his speech.

I presented the case very clearly on the basis that this shipping service was national in the service it gave to one-sixth of Australia, to 2,200 miles of Australia's difficult coastline; and that it was national because of the contribution it made to the nation as a whole, and by the nation as a whole through the Commonwealth Budget. It was national, too, because of the inability to do justice to the people who live in that area—in that very sparsely settled area—except through State ownership of such an entity.

If members are sufficiently interested to test whether the case conforms to the points to which I have just referred, they will, if they look at *Hansard*, pages 1366 to 1370, find that I am quite justified in making the claim I have just made.

There are two things I bar doing, and this has been the position all through my long parliamentary life. Firstly, I do not engage in tedious repetition—so far as I know I have never transgressed Standing Order 397—and, in addition, in reply I do not intend to introduce any new matter. Although that point is not governed by our Standing Orders it is something explicit in parliamentary practice. Therefore I shall not be repeating the arguments I advanced when I introduced the motion. I have stated the case, with supporting arguments, for the people we all represent, but particularly those of us who represent the North Province. These are people who deserve the best service that this State can give them, and without a State Shipping Service they cannot be so protected; nor can the nation be as well served unless the service is retained in State ownership. I ask that the motion be put.

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

Ayes—9

Hon. N. E. Baxter	Hon. R. Thompson
Hon. R. F. Cloughton	Hon. W. F. Willesee
Hon. J. Dolan	Hon. P. J. S. Wise
Hon. R. P. Hutchison	Hon. F. R. H. Lavery
Hon. H. C. Strickland	(Teller)

Noes—16

Hon. C. R. Abbey	Hon. G. C. MacKinnon
Hon. G. W. Berry	Hon. N. McNeill
Hon. G. E. D. Brand	Hon. I. G. Medcalf
Hon. V. J. Perry	Hon. S. T. J. Thompson
Hon. A. F. Griffith	Hon. J. M. Thomson
Hon. C. E. Griffiths	Hon. F. R. White
Hon. J. G. Hislop	Hon. F. D. Willmott
Hon. L. A. Logan	Hon. J. Heitman

(Teller)

Pairs

Ayes	Noes
Hon. J. J. Garrigan	Hon. T. O. Perry
Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs	Hon. E. C. House

Question thus negatived.

Motion defeated.

House adjourned at 9.8 p.m.

Legislative Assembly

Tuesday, the 8th October, 1968

The SPEAKER (Mr. Guthrie) took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

BILLS (5): ASSENT

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

1. Superannuation and Family Benefits Act Amendment Bill.
2. Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage, and Drainage Act Amendment Bill.
3. Illicit Sale of Liquor Act Amendment Bill.
4. Mental Health Act Amendment Bill.
5. Housing Loan Guarantee Act Amendment Bill.

AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT

Tabling

THE SPEAKER: I have received from the Auditor-General a copy of his report on the Treasurer's statement of the Public Accounts for the financial year ended the 30th June, 1968. It will be laid on the Table of the House.

QUESTIONS (21): ON NOTICE

ALCOHOLICS

Treatment

1. Mr. HARMAN asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health:
 - (1) What Government institutions are able to cater for the maintenance and treatment of persons commonly described as alcoholics?
 - (2) How many males and females commonly described as alcoholics are receiving treatment in such institutions at present?
 - (3) Can he name the non-Government institutions which cater for such persons?