

vested in the Crown for parks, recreation grounds, or open spaces generally—

- (a) the owner of the land may, if the Board and the local authority in whose district the portion is situated approve, pay to the local authority in lieu of setting aside any such land a sum that represents the value of that portion; and
- (b) where the owner of the land has agreed to pay cash in lieu of land referred to in paragraph (a) he shall, if the Board by notice in writing so requires, on or at any time after entering into a contract for the sale of any land to which the plan of subdivision relates pay to the local authority, within the time specified by the Board in the notice, in respect of that sale a sum representing the value of the portion of that land which he might otherwise have been required to set aside.

Mr. GRAHAM: I move—

That the amendment made by the Council be agreed to, subject to the following further amendment:—

Delete from the amendment the whole of the passage following the paragraph designation (b) where first occurring.

There was some disputation in this House as to whether the owners of blocks of land of less than 2½ acres which were subdivided into less than 10 lots could be called upon to make a financial contribution in order to provide public open space.

When this Bill was dealt with in another place it was felt necessary to amend it, and the amendment was moved by the Minister handling the Bill. After further consideration the Legislative Council decided to amend the amendment and this achieved the direct opposite of the desired effect. It was felt to be a fruitless exercise at this stage of the sitting to labour the point, and it is my intention to take steps to delete this provision in the Bill. The present terms of the legislation will prevail.

If members look at page 9 of today's notice paper, they will see that the deletion of paragraph designation (b) will mean that about four words are left. In other words, we will delete the provision for the payment of cash in lieu of land to provide public open space.

Mr. O'NEIL: Perhaps I should feel some sympathy for the Minister regarding the amendment made by the Legislative Council. It is true that the amendment completely destroys the purport of his

proposition. However, what he now proposes is completely in line with what was suggested in respect of paragraphs (a) and (b) of clause 3, which the Opposition opposed when the Bill was previously before the Chamber.

Mr. Graham: Both Chambers have now agreed to paragraph (a).

Mr. O'NEIL: This means that amalgamations of lots will be subject to approval of the Town Planning Board in precisely the same way as subdivisions are. We objected to this, but during a division my colleagues in the Country Party supported the Government, although they supported the rest of us on this side of the Chamber in respect of the other proposition. As the Minister has taken such a generous attitude, we on this side will assist him in this matter.

Question put and passed; the Council's amendment agreed to subject to the Assembly's further amendment.

Report

Resolution reported, the report adopted, and a message accordingly returned to the Council.

House adjourned at 11.18 p.m.

Legislative Council

Thursday, the 1st June, 1972

The PRESIDENT (The Hon. L. C. Diver) took the Chair at 2.15 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTIONS (2): WITHOUT NOTICE

1. GREYHOUND RACING

Reintroduction of Legislation

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS, to the Chief Secretary:

In view of the Chief Secretary's statement that he would present complementary legislation dealing with betting after the passing of the Greyhound Racing Control Bill, will he advise whether he will be reintroducing the Bill with complementary betting Bills in the next session of Parliament, if the Greyhound Racing Control Bill is defeated in this session?

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS replied:
The answer is "No."

2. GREYHOUND RACING

Reintroduction of Legislation

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH, to the Chief Secretary:

Does the Chief Secretary not think that, in the light of the answer he has just given to Mr.

Withers, his attitude is purely pedantic? Does he not think that if the Government is so keen to introduce greyhound racing in Western Australia that he would be well advised to answer the question in the affirmative, so that full consideration could be given by the House to the complete text of the legislation, because the present legislation is not written in full text?

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS replied: When I introduced the Greyhound Racing Control Bill I intimated there would be betting. If the House is not prepared to take my word and carries through the debate on that basis, and the Bill is defeated, I am not prepared to reintroduce further legislation.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Postponement

THE HON. W. F. WILLESEE (North-East Metropolitan—Leader of the House) [2.27 p.m.]: I ask leave of the House to postpone the questions on notice until a later stage of the sitting.

The PRESIDENT: Leave granted.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE: SPECIAL

THE HON. W. F. WILLESEE (North-East Metropolitan—Leader of the House) [2.28 p.m.]: I move—

That the House at its rising adjourn until 11.00 a.m. tomorrow (Friday).

Question put and passed.

SEX SHOPS

Banning Legislation: Motion

Debate resumed, from the 31st May, on the following motion by The Hon. L. A. Logan:—

That in view of the Hon. Premier's emphatic statement as reported in *The West Australian* of the 3rd March, 1972, when he said "No" to sex shops, and subsequent statements that the sex shop would not get to first base and that legislation would be introduced to ban them, this House deplores the statement of the Hon. Premier in *The West Australian* of Tuesday, the 25th April, 1972, that the proposed law to ban sex shops had been shelved, and as it is now eight weeks since the Hon. Premier's first statement, this House requests the Hon. Premier to legislate immediately in accordance with his original statement.

THE HON. L. A. LOGAN (Upper West) [2.29 p.m.]: If ever the Premier dodged an issue through a Minister, he has certainly done so on this occasion. In speaking to

the motion yesterday the Chief Secretary said he was at a loss to understand why I had asked the House to pass a motion of this nature. He went on to say—

As the motion, as framed, avoids the full text of the Premier's statement, it is only fair and reasonable that I should deal with the matter in its full context. What the Premier said was that the State Government had shelved its legislation to close Perth's sex shop till Commonwealth and State Ministers had discussed the operations and advertising of sex shops.

What the Premier did not reply to was my assertion that he made his first emphatic statement on the 1st March. It was not until the 25th April that he made the statement that the legislation was to be shelved.

When I introduced the measure I asked what had happened in the meantime, because it was not until a few days before the 25th April that the Commonwealth intimated there would be a meeting of Ministers concerned. So it can be seen that the Premier has, through the Minister, dodged the real issue. The real issue is what transpired in the period of six or seven weeks to make the Premier change his mind on his emphatic statement. I do not think there is any need for me to repeat what was said because it appears on page 1008 of *Hansard*.

The issue has been shelved by the Premier. Since then, of course, a second sex shop has been opened in Kalgoorlie. Also, the Guild of Undergraduates at the University—and I am sorry I cannot quote the paper I have in my hand because it is not fit for publication—at a recent meeting passed a resolution authorising one of its members to negotiate with the owner of the sex shops in order to buy products at a reduced rate. This action has occurred because the Premier did not carry on with his intention to close the sex shop.

In my motion I ask that immediate legislation be introduced. I now realise that because of the delay which has occurred in dealing with my motion, and the fact that the House will rise tomorrow until the end of July or the beginning of August, it would be impossible to introduce legislation at this time.

Because my motion would now serve no useful purpose I ask the permission of the House to withdraw it.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn.

PERTH REGIONAL RAILWAY BILL

Receipt and First Reading

Bill received from the Assembly; and, on motion by The Hon. J. Dolan (Minister for Railways), read a first time.

Second Reading

THE HON. J. DOLAN (South-East Metropolitan—Minister for Railways) [2.34 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This Bill is the necessary legislative requirement for the construction of an underground railway and for discontinuance of portion of the Fremantle to Guildford railway, as a consequence of the decision made by the Government to construct an underground railway through the City of Perth and to replace the existing rail passenger service between Perth and Fremantle with a bus service. However, before any planning can be put in hand it is first necessary to present legislation to Parliament for its approval.

The Bill provides initially for construction of approximately six miles two chains of electric railway—three miles of it underground—linking West Leederville, East Perth, and Victoria Park. The second provision is for closure of 10 miles seven chains of railway between Perth and a point near Leighton to enable conversion of the right-of-way to a bus-way.

Details of the line to be constructed and the portion of line to be discontinued are shown on W.A.G.R. plans 64936 and 64937 which it is my desire to table, together with a copy of the report of the Director-General of Transport.

The Director-General of Transport is the chairman of the steering committee of the Perth Regional Transport Study Group. Mr. John Knox's report in the matter covers the details of both of these proposals and in explaining the Bill to members I shall lean heavily on that report.

Both of these proposals are part of the Government's recently announced long term commitment to a Perth regional transport plan, which incorporates a high capacity rail rapid transit system and an extensive bus system feeding into rail wherever practicable.

This decision was made following some very comprehensive research work undertaken in the form of the Perth Regional Transport Study during 1970, and the subsequent evaluation of additional alternatives specified as a matter of Government policy.

In the long term a high-capacity electric rail network must form the backbone of the metropolitan passenger transport system, particularly for journeys which are oriented to, from, and within the central business district.

The Perth Regional Transport Study completed in 1971 supported this view, though it defined "long term" as from the 1990s onwards. For the interim period it recommended that the transit requirement

should be met by a bus system with buses operating substantially on exclusive rights-of-way which would be provided on rail rights-of-way by discontinuing rail services.

Such interim arrangements are considered unjustified by the Government which decided that a start should be made now on the first component of a high capacity electric rail system. It is the intention that this system be completed in stages over many years and be programmed in such a way that the first stage, incorporating the city underground section, can be operated contiguously with the remaining suburban railways and complementary to the existing bus system.

The new railways as now proposed will eventually form the southern and eastern legs of a large ring system through the city, but initially it will only be connected to the two existing radiating lines to Midland and Armadale, both of which will be converted for electric traction. The existing railway between Perth and Leighton should be closed and the land reserved for use as an exclusive bus-way.

Major bus-rail interchanges and park-and-ride facilities will be located at the three extremities of the new railway so that the underground will become the main central business district distributor of both commuter and internally generated traffic.

As the majority of public transport passengers will continue either to commence or complete their journeys by bus, buses will feed into the major bus-rail interchanges and the two radiating railways wherever this can be done with advantage. In time other radiating lines will be progressively built and connected to the underground, and the northern leg of the city ring will be completed.

The precise alignment of the underground can only be determined after an engineering study of alternative routes and of the best location from the point of view of public convenience in the long term with the need in mind that the total area eventually serviced by the underground ring should be sufficient to allow for unlimited central city expansion well into the next century.

One of the main problems in planning for future growth in our urban public transport system is that the three existing lines radiating from the city to Midland, Armadale, and Fremantle are not located on alignments which best meet the regional passenger transport task. The major proportion of this task is roughly north-south through the city, parallel to the coast. In all probability, therefore, the first new radiating line on which work could perhaps commence in 15 years' time will follow a north-south direction. Additional radiating lines in the longer term may well replace the Midland and Armadale lines on different alignments.

The requirements for the first stage of the high capacity electric rail system, which it is estimated cannot be completed in less than 10 years from authorisation, can be summarised as follows:—

- (1) Construct about 6 miles 2 chains of electric railway, including 3 miles, 32 chains of underground through Perth.
- (2) Provide underground and above-ground stations.
- (3) Electrify the remainder of the suburban system and connect it to the underground.
- (4) Provide bus-rail interchanges on the underground system outside of the city centre.
- (5) Provide new rail rolling stock and buses.

The total cost of these proposals cannot be precisely known until they are planned in detail. However, an estimate based on existing knowledge including information on several underground projects overseas indicates that the cost of this first stage will be in the order of \$110,000,000; that is, in 1972 currency value. It is estimated that investigation and design work will take at least four years and will cost approximately \$4,000,000, which amount is included in the estimated \$110,000,000 applying to the first stage of the transport plan.

Even with an immediate commencement on detailed design work it will be at least 10 years before the underground can be completed. It is therefore necessary to make interim arrangements which would allow for—

- (1) A badly needed improvement in the bus operation into the city from the north and in traffic circulation in the central city area.
- (2) Creation of substantial permanent open landscape areas in the heart of the city.
- (3) The removal of the existing barrier to development of the city northwards.

This requires the removal of the railway east of Barrack Street and substitution of a bus transit system on the vacated rail right-of-way between Perth and Leighton.

On part of the land released it is intended to provide a major centrally located bus station, which will significantly reduce the number of buses from the northern and western suburbs actually entering central business district streets and will also improve the throughout running times of these bus services. It will facilitate the one-way operation of William and Barrack Streets and enable the Perth City Council to develop further its pedestrian precinct philosophy.

The proposed interim arrangements are compatible with the long-term transport plan, and involve the following works:—

- (a) Accelerate the building of the new W.A.G.R. administration offices adjacent to the East Perth terminal. Balance of funds required — \$1,300,000.
- (b) Provide a narrow gauge connection from Kenwick to the Cockburn junction and arrange to service W.A.G.R. commercial customers located between Perth and Cottesloe by other means—\$2,400,000.
- (c) Terminate the existing Armadale and Midland lines at a new station immediately east of Barrack Street, and provide segregated pedestrian access to the south side of Wellington Street and the north side of Roe Street. This will allow demolition of the existing station. Including land resumption and pedestrian access costs for this section—\$1,800,000.
- (d) Demolish the Perth Central Station, relocate the country parcels and passenger depot and W.A.G.R. District Office; provide narrow gauge passenger train servicing facilities at Forrestfield—\$2,300,000.
- (e) Take up the W.A.G.R. lines between Barrack Street and a point between Cottesloe and Leighton, and convert the vacated right-of-way to a bus-way; provide additional buses—\$3,700,000.
- (f) Provide a bus station north of Wellington Street for buses from Fremantle and the northern suburbs. Provide pedestrian access to the south side of Wellington street. Including land resumption and pedestrian access costs — \$1,700,000.
- (g) Landscape all vacated area, widening Wellington and Roe Streets from the freeway to Pier Street, and provide at-grade direct alignments for William Street and Barrack Street. Provide segregated east-west pedestrian access from the new railway station to west of William Street and to the central landscaped area from the cultural centre and Forrest Place — \$1,400,000.

This section totals \$14,600,000.

Whilst greatly improving in the short term the urban passenger transport flow, these proposals give expression to the public's concept of extensive open space in the centre of the city and satisfy the Perth Cultural Centre Planning Committee's thoughts on the layout and surroundings of the cultural centre. Restraints to northern expansion of the city are removed and the urgent requirement for a bus terminal adjacent to Wellington Street is met, enabling

a rearrangement and improvement of traffic circulation in the central business district.

It is the wish of the Government that this legislation be passed during this session for the obvious reason that no planning can take place before authorisation is granted.

Plans are available for perusal by members. Arrangements will be made to bring them down this end, where members can examine them closely. They cover the diagrammatical layout of the proposed underground line and also the diagrammatical impression of the design of the centre of Perth once the railway is removed.

By comparison with the proposed Nielsen bus-way plan, the total concept of which was estimated to cost \$435,000,000, the first stage of the present plan, including undergrounding bus depots, etc., will mean an outlay of \$450,000,000 on the part of the State.

Dr. Nielsen looked at a number of schemes and settled on the one at the price I mentioned because he thought it would be more acceptable. His plan would have covered a similar area, and it could have been financed as he suggested, if it was thought necessary.

However, with the Commonwealth Government showing an interest in urban transportation development, it is hoped that within the next three, four, or five years some finance might be forthcoming from that source. If Commonwealth finance is not available we will be forced back onto our own resources and we will be no worse off than we were when the Nielsen bus-ways were suggested. A return to a railway system was envisaged in that plan in the ultimate.

I now commend the Bill to the House.

Adjournment of Debate

THE HON. L. A. LOGAN (Upper-West) [2.48 p.m.]: Due to the importance of this measure and the time factor, I move—

That the debate be adjourned to the first sitting of the next period of the session.

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

Ayes—17

Hon. C. R. Abbey	Hon. T. O. Perry
Hon. N. E. Baxter	Hon. S. T. J. Thompson
Hon. G. W. Berry	Hon. F. R. White
Hon. A. F. Griffith	Hon. R. J. L. Williams
Hon. Clive Griffiths	Hon. F. D. Willmott
Hon. L. A. Logan	Hon. W. R. Withers
Hon. G. C. MacKinnon	Hon. D. J. Wordsworth
Hon. N. McNeill	Hon. V. J. Ferry
Hon. I. G. Medcalf	(Teller)

Noes—10

Hon. R. F. Cloughton	Hon. R. T. Leeson
Hon. D. K. Dans	Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs
Hon. S. J. Dellar	Hon. R. Thompson
Hon. J. Dolan	Hon. W. F. Willesee
Hon. J. L. Hunt	Hon. Lyla Elliott
	(Teller)

Motion (adjournment of debate) thus passed.

TOWN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Assembly's Message

Message from the Assembly received and read notifying that it had agreed to the amendment made by the Council subject to a further amendment.

MAIN ROADS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Assembly's Request for Conference

Message from the Assembly requesting a conference on amendments insisted on by the Council, and notifying that at such conference the Assembly would be represented by five managers, now considered.

THE HON. J. DOLAN (South-East Metropolitan—Minister for Police) [2.53 p.m.]: I move—

That the Assembly's request for a conference be agreed to.

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (North Metropolitan—Leader of the Opposition) [2.54 p.m.]: First of all, Mr. President, I draw your attention to the Standing Orders of the Legislative Assembly which state that when a request is made to the Council for a conference, the names of the managers appointed by the Legislative Assembly shall be stated. At least, that is what I think the relevant Standing Order provides.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: What is the number of the Standing Order?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: It is Standing Order 321, which reads—

Every Notice of Motion for requesting a Conference shall contain the names of the Members proposed by the Mover to be the Managers for the Assembly.

Therefore, could the names of the managers be made known in accordance with that Standing Order?

The PRESIDENT: Can the Minister for Police obtain the names of the managers?

The Hon. J. Dolan: I could very soon obtain them, Mr. President.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Could I help the Minister? The names are Messrs. Jamieson, O'Connor, Brown, Gayfer, and Fletcher.

The Hon. J. Dolan: Those names are correct, and, with permission, I could now formally nominate them.

The PRESIDENT: Not at this juncture.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I thank the Minister for his co-operation.

In the first place, Mr. President, I seek your co-operation and opinion—if you, Sir, care to interpret it in that way—on Standing Order 394 of this House, because during the period of nearly 23 years I have

been in Parliament it is unusual for five managers to be appointed by the Legislative Assembly. I may be incorrect in making this statement, but the usual custom is that the number of managers shall be three from each House. Legislative Council Standing Order 394 reads as follows:—

At all Conferences the Managers for the Council shall be at liberty to confer freely by word of mouth with the Managers of the Assembly. If no agreement be reached the Bill or other matter referred to the Conference shall be deemed to have been determined.

It is my understanding that the determination, if one is made, must be unanimous. If a determination to agree is not made by reason of a dissentient voice or two—in other words, if the decision is not unanimous—then the concluding words, “If no agreement be reached the Bill or other matter referred to the Conference shall be deemed to have been determined,” will be an interpretation of the actual position. Is it your understanding that the decision of the conference of managers, irrespective of the number, has to be unanimous?

The PRESIDENT: In reply to the question by the Leader of the Opposition I have no doubt whatsoever. It has always been the custom that when a conference of managers does not reach a unanimous decision the conference has broken down.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Thank you, Mr. President. That was my understanding of the position also. I merely wished to hear from you on the question.

Question put and passed.

Council's Managers

THE HON. J. DOLAN (South-East Metropolitan—Minister for Police) [2.59 p.m.]: I move—

That the managers for the Council be The Hon. C. R. Abbey, The Hon. N. E. Baxter, The Hon. S. J. Dellar, The Hon. N. McNeill, and the mover; and that the Conference be held in the Select Committee Room at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday, the 1st June.

Question put and passed, and a message accordingly returned to the Assembly.

INHERITANCE (FAMILY AND DEPENDANTS PROVISION) BILL

Receipt and First Reading

Bill received from the Assembly; and, on motion by The Hon. W. F. Willesee (Leader of the House) read a first time.

METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY, SEWERAGE, AND DRAINAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL

In Committee

Resumed from the 31st May. The Chairman of Committees (The Hon. N. E. Baxter) in the Chair; The Hon. J. Dolan (Minister for Police) in charge of the Bill.

Clause 4—Amendment to Section 5:

The CHAIRMAN: Progress was reported on clause 4, to which Mr. Logan had moved the following amendment:—

Page 2, line 18—Insert after the word “opening” the words “over one hundred feet in depth”.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: I undertook to make certain inquiries and I think it would help if I conveyed the overall impression. This might expedite matters. The statement I have reads as follows:—

Intention to meter Bores

It is not intended to meter bores throughout the whole of the metropolitan area. The meters could be installed in cases only where bores are licensed in proclaimed areas subject to a limitation in drawing of water or where wastage of water is considered to be apparent.

It is repeated that the whole object of the legislation and control measures is the protection of water resources for the benefit of the public generally, and rights of appeal are contained in this legislation.

If anybody is unhappy about a particular situation he has a right of appeal. The information I have continues—

Proposed amendment in regard to “Over 100 feet in Depth”

The source of shallow water, although such water is being obtained from bores to a depth of in excess of 100 ft. could be from aquifers less than 100 ft. from the surface.

Hon. Members must realise that the depth of underground aquifers does not follow the surface contours of the ground, e.g. a householder in Mounts Bay Road Crawley could be drawing water on the same aquifer as his friend in Park Road yet by this arbitrary depth of 100 ft the treatment could be entirely different in the two cases.

I would like to quote another example which relates to the district in which I live. At the top of the hill it is necessary to go down 40 feet for water but even though I live in a hollow I must go down 120 feet. The strata takes a dip and the unusual circumstances can be seen. To continue—

It is admitted that this is an area which is not intended to be the subject of control. It is quoted as an example because the location would be known to most members.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: At last we have the facts and we find that the original statement made by the Minister for Works in *The Sunday Times* of the 6th February was correct even though he denied what he said later. There was no doubt about the situation right from the jump. Now the Minister tells us that this will take place in an area prescribed.

It does not concern me whether the depth is 100 feet or 60 feet. I know all about the contours to which the Minister referred; I have had 12 years experience in this direction. We do not have to be told that. If the next amendment is carried, and even though I do not like it and I might vote against it—that is, if the Government accepts it—there will be no point in my continuing with my amendment.

The CHAIRMAN: Does the honourable member wish to withdraw his amendment?

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: No.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: Mr. Logan has raised an important matter. This is not an isolated case. We have had the same thing happen in the last year or two, and I think it warrants some examination and discussion. We know that Mr. Jamieson, probably for very good reasons, said that bores would be metered in the metropolitan area.

In line with my thinking which was expressed yesterday about the problems in the south-west part of the State I felt this was probably not a bad idea at the time. If people in the metropolitan area are obtaining bore water, which is valuable water, and are wasting it I feel that some action should be taken.

What alarms me, however, is that a Minister of the Crown makes a statement one day and retracts it the next. I do not know whether or not the Minister concerned is a member of the Lions Club but it is evident that the tail-twisters got at him, because the next day he denied what he said.

There was an occasion on which Mr. Clive Griffiths chided Mr. Dolan on the matter of seat belts, when the Minister made a statement one day and denied it the next.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: There have been so many such cases that one is inclined to lose track of them.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: That is so. Now Mr. Dolan tells us that Mr. Jamieson's initial statement was the right one.

The Hon. J. Dolan: I did not say that; you deduced it from what I said.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: The Minister said that in proclaimed areas where people are wasteful of water, meters could be installed. I said I did not think it was a bad idea.

What I do think is wrong is for the Minister to make up his mind on one day, have that opinion published in the paper and then, for some reason—not because of what has occurred in this Chamber or because of what members of Parliament have told him he should or should not do, or can or cannot do, but because someone not elected to Parliament has told him something—the next day deny it; then sub-

sequently admit that the first statement was right. This is confusing and wrong, and I think Mr. Logan did us a service to point it out.

As Mr. Clive Griffiths said by interjection, there are so many instances of this behaviour that we are becoming a little confused.

We have adopted the policy—and it is a policy we should be careful to retain—that when a Minister gives us an assurance about a certain situation, we accept that assurance. I believe this sort of trust in our system is important because in business and all other circles we depend a tremendous amount on trust. This is why courts will always punish more heavily a person who betrays a position of trust. That is well known to all members.

It does undermine the system when we experience the vacillation Mr. Logan mentioned. This is something the Government should carefully consider.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! Members are departing a little from the subject matter of the amendment. I ask members to stick as far as possible to the amendment before the Chair. I have been fairly lenient.

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: A lot of debate ensued on this amendment yesterday and I made certain comments pointing out an obvious lack of knowledge about the subject. The Minister has indicated his own personal lack of knowledge in many instances as far as I am concerned.

The Minister admitted there was no definite indication as to which areas were likely to be proclaimed, but he went on to say that the Gwangara area was likely to be proclaimed. That was the inference to be drawn from his statement. He also implied that such a proclamation would not affect users in the Swan Valley. If that is the inference to be drawn I suggest the Minister have a good look at the 1970 report of the Mines Department.

The Hon. J. Dolan: I never implied anything of that kind at all.

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: I might have been incorrect in drawing that inference from his remarks, but I do believe from his comments that one of the first areas to be proclaimed will be the Gwangara area.

The Hon. J. Dolan: I do not know whether it will or not. I suggested it as a possible area of proclamation.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I am afraid I cannot connect the honourable member's remarks to the amendment before the Chair. I would ask him to relate his remarks as far as possible to the amendment.

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: If it is necessary for me to repeat what I said yesterday I will do so, and then continue as I am now, because it is all relevant.

The CHAIRMAN: Providing it is relevant, it will be in order.

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: Yesterday I went to the trouble to indicate that I intended to protect the users of water in the Swan Valley. Those people are pioneers in the area and they are dependent on the water there. I would be adamantly opposed to their water supply being metered.

I pointed out that the amendment dealt with the noncontrol of bores and wells which were less than 100 feet deep. I also pointed out that, according to the Mines Department report of 1970, water was being taken from depths greater than 100 feet.

There is an obvious ignorance on the part of many people concerning the water areas of the State and the metropolitan region in particular. Gngangara is one of those areas which is known to be a valued source of water. However, debate in this Chamber has indicated an ignorance regarding this source of water. The Minister's statements reveal his vast lack of knowledge of the area.

The Hon. J. Dolan: I told you that.

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: Reference has been made to a nice big basin full of water. However, the water there is in a ridge, and not in a basin. According to the report I have here, the water has a high point on the flat land and flows south, east, and west. This water supplies not only the bores in the Swan Valley, but also those bores in Wanneroo. The map I have here shows the extent of the small part of that area dealt with as being approximately nine miles in width and about seven miles in depth, extending from Gngangara Lake eastwards almost to the Swan River.

It was in this area that the Government itself proposed to allow industry to draw 1,500,000 gallons every day, so concerned was it with the effect upon the water table! Yet, the Government does not know how much water is being drawn by private bores.

My support of the amendment is based on the fact that although the Government is not aware of what water is drawn from the source under discussion, it was prepared to allow 1,500,000 gallons to be taken by one industry alone. In my opinion, the private bores in the area would not use anywhere near that amount per day.

Let the Government study the areas to ascertain what damage is likely to be done to the future supplies, and then submit legislation to us. Once again, I indicate my support of the amendment.

The Hon. C. R. ABBEY: If I heard the Minister correctly when he was replying initially he said that the zone which would be affected by Mr. Logan's amendment would not be controlled anyhow. Is that correct?

The Hon. J. Dolan: That is correct.

The Hon. C. R. ABBEY: Then I can see no reason for us not to agree to Mr. Logan's amendment.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Prior to progress being reported the Minister said he would consult with his colleague the Minister for Water Supplies to ascertain his and the Government's attitude to the amendment Mr. Clive Griffiths has on the notice paper. I am sorry I have been absent from the Chamber. Perhaps the Minister has already advised members of the result of his consultation.

The Hon. J. Dolan: I have acquainted the Chamber, but I will repeat the information for the benefit of the Leader of the Opposition.

The CHAIRMAN: I would like to point out that I did ask the Minister to leave that matter until the appropriate clause in the Bill.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I realise that, in the strict order of things, this is what you should say, Mr. Chairman, but my attitude to Mr. Logan's amendment depends upon the Government's approach to the amendment proposed by Mr. Clive Griffiths.

Thanks to the Minister I understand the Metropolitan Water Board does not object to Mr. Clive Griffiths' amendment. I assume that is the Minister's point of view and the Government's point of view.

The Hon. J. Dolan: That is right.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I put it, to Mr. Logan that Parliament will know ahead of time what area the Government intends to prescribe if, in fact, the legislation stipulates that any area to be prescribed must be brought to both Houses of Parliament in the form of a regulation and lay on the Table of the House for 14 days before it goes to Executive Council. During that time it could be disallowed by either House of Parliament.

We have had a categorical assurance from the Minister that the Government does not intend to encroach into parts of the metropolitan area where low-lying underground water occurs. We have been told the Government is interested in land in the metropolitan area similar to the Gngangara sands and, similarly, it could become interested in aquifers in other parts of the State. Surely in those circumstances this should go a great deal of the way towards satisfying the situation of which Mr. Logan speaks.

I reiterate that a man who lives in an area where the water table is high has an advantage over a man who lives 101 feet above the water level. I think it was yesterday I mentioned to Mr. Cloughton that he lives in an area where some of the ground is undulating. It seems to me quite unreasonable that a man who lives in a hollow should be able to put down a bore

or well and to pump to his heart's content, but the man who lives on a sandhill 101 feet above the water table is not given permission to do anything of the kind. I cannot go along with that suggestion, because it sounds most unfair.

My only reason for wanting to know about this is that my attitude depends greatly on the information we have been given. The position is that we will be given a prior look at the area which the Government intends to prescribe. The Government will have to justify the action of the Governor-in-Council in relation to any area it intends to take to the Governor-in-Council before it actually takes action in such area.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: The amendment seeks to exclude all wells less than 100 feet below the surface of the ground. I assume it is an attempt to give the Government some control over water supplies.

From what several speakers have said this partly stems from an article which appeared in *The Sunday Times*. Mr. Logan referred to this article. In view of all that has been said, I consider the Minister to whom these remarks are attributed needs some support from members on my side of the Chamber. Perhaps the Minister would have been regarded as lacking some veracity had he not denied the statements that had been made.

Members have all experienced their remarks being slightly changed when they appear in the Press. The Minister said that this was what had happened. He made certain remarks to the reporter and they were subsequently written up in a different light. The Minister does not deny there will be metering of bores in proclaimed areas but he does deny there is any intention on the part of the Government to make a charge. This is the whole substance of the opposition to the legislation. I do not believe there is any cause to doubt the word of the Minister, as has been suggested. The Leader of the Opposition said that the Minister has given a categorical statement which he is prepared to support. I do not think members should continue to refer to the Press report in *The Sunday Times*, because it has no relevance to the debate.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: I cannot understand Mr. Cloughton making the statement he has. My recollection of the situation is that the article in *The Sunday Times* of the 6th February, 1972, read as follows:-

The W.A. Government would have to meter private household wells . . . Mr. Jamieson said, well-owners should not regard themselves as having an inalienable right to underground water.

There was no suggestion in the article that Mr. Jamieson had said that people would be charged for water; the suggestion was that Mr. Jamieson had said people's wells would be metered. I cannot understand Mr. Cloughton suggesting that we should not place any credence in this, because this in fact is what he said. This was pointed out by Mr. Logan and, indeed, I pointed it out on the 9th May when I spoke on the second reading of the Bill. Notwithstanding the fact that the Minister denied the statement the following day, the Bill is before the House. The Minister for Police, on behalf of the Minister for Water Supplies, is in charge of a Bill to place meters on bores in prescribed areas if it is found that people are using water to excess. Consequently, Mr. Cloughton's argument is indeed difficult to follow.

I said yesterday that I was prepared to support Mr. Logan's amendment. At that stage I certainly did not have an assurance from the Minister that he was prepared to accept the amendment I have on the notice paper. Now we have the assurance that the Government is prepared to accept my amendment, I would be interested to hear Mr. Logan's comments.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: I raised this issue at both the second reading and Committee stages because of the ramifications of the Bill—the printed article. I asked the question: Is it possible to do what the Government wants to do under this Bill if it does not propose to meter wells or bores? The statement in *The Sunday Times* on the 6th February read—

The W.A. Government would have to meter private household wells . . . Mr. Jamieson said.

The wording is, "The Government would have to meter private household wells."

On the following day an article appeared in *The West Australian* stating that the Minister for Works and Water Supplies (Mr. Jamieson) had said, on the previous day, that the State Government did not plan to introduce meters for private household wells and he denied a weekend report that the Government would do this then or in the foreseeable future.

The foreseeable future has arrived, because now the Minister tells us that bores and wells could easily be metered in the proclaimed areas. I felt I was entitled to raise the issue because it was obvious that water could not be controlled without meters. I repeat that the water coming from the majority of wells and bores is not the source of water which will be tapped in the future for domestic purposes. I leave it for the Committee to decide.

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: A while ago The Hon. A. F. Griffith stated that he did not favour the amendment because a person using bore water 100 or more feet below

the surface would be disadvantaged. Let us look at the situation if we do not pass this amendment. The possibility exists that everyone could be disadvantaged. By passing the amendment fewer people will be disadvantaged, although of course, they may be the people to whom the Leader of the Opposition was referring.

We have had quite a number of statements made by Government members quoted in this Chamber. They have been very confusing statements. "We will not do this; we will do that." There seems to be a certain amount of hoodwinking taking place, although possibly it is not deliberate. I am fearful that once meters are installed there is the possibility of a charge for the water used in the future.

The Hon. D. J. Wordsworth: The board will have a medium.

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: It will have a medium to charge for the water. If the water is not metered it cannot charge. It is very obvious that the present Government will take any action to raise additional revenue. Let us protect our future water users—or at least some of them—by supporting this amendment.

The Hon. N. McNEILL: We need some clarification of the use of this expression "metering." If one reads the passage in the Bill concerning proclaimed areas, one is left with the understanding that the metering will be under the control of the Metropolitan Water Board. It is my understanding that the proclaimed areas will be rated areas—areas in which rates can be struck for the use of the water.

Mr. Chairman, I know you will not let me discuss clause 19, but I would direct the attention of members to this clause. They will see it contains a provision to regulate the quantity of water used. The Minister has acquainted the Committee this afternoon with the fact that if there is a possible wastage of water the quantity used will be regulated. I am sure every owner of a block of land understands that when a builder applies for water to be laid onto that block on his behalf, he is in fact asking to be metered. I am sure all people understand that once a property is metered the owners are automatically rated.

I would also like to refer to the matter of licenses, a register of which will be kept by the board. It is understood that when a bore is licensed it will be a free service. Once a meter is applied it is usual to charge a nominal fee for licensing. In the event of the water usage from that bore or well being in excess of the quantity which the water board regards as being reasonable, one of two things will happen: The board will say, "You are using water in excess of what we think is reasonable so we will prevent your using any more." Or, alternatively, I believe the board will say, "We feel you are using water in excess of what is reasonable but we can afford to

lose a little bit of water so to discourage you from using too much we will put a charge on it." I am sure this will happen in the future.

I am not necessarily expressing opposition to the overall general principle but as we are having a discussion concerning this whole question which will be tremendously important to a large number of people throughout the Metropolitan Water Board area—not just the metropolitan area—I feel we should be given a precise explanation of what the expression "metering" really will mean.

The Hon. J. L. HUNT: I feel that this Chamber whole-heartedly agrees with the necessity to conserve water and determine what quantities of water are available. I do not go along with Mr. White's remarks that the Government is not aware of the water available in some areas. The annual report put out by the Mines Department a few years back indicated it had a pretty fair idea of the water in the Gngangara area. However, there must be many areas around the metropolitan area where the amount of water which could be used for domestic purposes is not known. I do not see how any Government could assess the quantity of water available without a measuring device on wells in these prescribed areas. During the period of crisis over water in the Gascoyne area, there was no hue and cry when a measuring device was put on pumps from the Gascoyne River.

The Hon. G. W. Berry: Don't be too sure of that.

The Hon. J. L. HUNT: They are quite happy about it now. The authorities had no idea of the extent of the future supply. Metering devices were put in and now everyone has a fair idea of the water situation.

The Hon. G. W. Berry: What tricks they get up to!

The Hon. J. L. HUNT: They do not get up to tricks now; everyone is quite happy. Without the metering system many plantations would go out of business. The owners of the big plantations are able to afford more pumping equipment than the little man. The licensing of wells had been going on for a good many years before the term of this Government and I did not hear great opposition to it in this Chamber. We realise there is a shortage of water and it is very valuable to know what water is available.

At Woody-Woody, about 300 miles east of Port Hedland, one could put a hole down 100 or 200 feet and get no water. However, in the manganese ore body itself, the open cut was pumping up to 3,000,000 gallons a day. About two miles down the road Bell Bros. quarry was pumping about the same amount.

That was making available about five million or six million gallons of fresh water a day. It was unknown to anybody before then that water could be made available in the future if there were any need for it. Unfortunately it is on the fringe of the desert and is of no value to anybody at the moment, although it can be said that the stock in the area are well served with fresh water.

The CHAIRMAN: I hope the honourable member will relate his remarks to the matter before the Chair.

The Hon. J. L. HUNT: Very well, Mr. Chairman. I cannot see how the Government can estimate the amount of water that is available around the metropolitan area unless it uses a metering device. I have a well on my property and I could not care less if the Government put a metering device on it tomorrow. I use the water that is obtained from the well only to make my property look a little more pleasant. Most wells around the metropolitan area are put down only for the convenience of the owners of the blocks.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: I do not think Mr. Hunt appreciates the point we are trying to make. We are not arguing whether it is advisable to conserve water. Indeed, we agree that in this State water is an important element. We are not opposing any action the Government may take to conserve water.

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: You have been opposing this one fairly strongly.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: I would have thought that even Mr. Claughton would have learned something from our remarks and appreciate what we are driving at, but apparently he has failed to grasp the import of what has been said.

We are trying to say that unless the Government can give us some indication that it is necessary to license wells, meter existing water supplies, and have the right to prevent people from sinking wells in the future on its very limited knowledge of the supplies of underground water in the metropolitan area we cannot agree to this proposition.

If the Government can prove that underground water supplies around the metropolitan area are limited and that this renders it necessary to restrict the sinking of more private wells in the future, or to license all existing wells, we would be happy to go along with the Government. However, we suggest that the Government does not have this knowledge. The Gngangara area, mentioned by the Minister, consists of approximately 250 square miles, and information has been gathered only in regard to about eight square miles of that area. Therefore, I suggest the Government is hasty in seeking to impose these restrictions at this stage and in suggesting that it is highly probable that meters will be fitted to wells in the prescribed area. I

repeat that we do not oppose the conservation of water. We are merely asking for some indication that the implementation of this measure is necessary.

Sitting suspended from 3.45 to 4.02 p.m.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: Mr Logan has instanced a swamp, and the surrounding land draining into that swamp from which the water is pumped away as waste. In the vicinity a bore might have been sunk, which draws the water from the same source as does the swamp. The Minister has already given us an assurance that areas such as this will not be metered. Will this particular bore be metered?

The Hon. J. Dolan: Yes, I can give that assurance.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: The Minister previously did not give the assurance in as simple terms as he has just used. Under this legislation we will have to operate on mutual trust. Many of the things mentioned are not really necessary. The Minister has referred to the Everglades, the main interest of which is that it is a stretch of water for the conservation of crocodiles.

I do not agree with Mr. Clive Griffiths when he said that we did not know sufficient about water, and therefore we should not do anything until we have learnt more. I live in a town in the south-west which relies on bore water. Meters are installed on our properties, and we pay for the water which we use. This water is hard. However, when I am in Perth I am able to bathe in soft water, and this is water which comes from the dams in the south, where the people themselves are using hard water from the bores.

The Hon. D. J. Wordsworth: The answer is decentralisation.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: I agree. The best solution is to clamp down on the growth of the metropolitan area, and allow a second city to be developed at Bunbury. That is the common-sense approach. I thought the Minister did give an assurance previously, but now he has given it unequivocally by interjection, and the areas mentioned by Mr. Logan will not be proclaimed.

The Hon. J. Dolan: It was not so much an assurance by interjection as a direct answer to the question asked by the honourable member.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: Perth is probably the largest and most expensive, nonproductive irrigated region in the world. Most people like gardens but gardens have to be maintained by extensive irrigation. The future water resources of Perth present a problem, but this is a problem which many of the other cities of the world do not face. Now that I have been given an assurance by the Minister I will not support the amendment.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: Let me emphasise that there are no proclaimed water areas in the metropolitan region. I have indicated that I am prepared to accept the amendment of Mr. Clive Griffiths; and that means before an area can be proclaimed the matter must be brought before Parliament, so that there will be no area proclaimed in which the board can grant a license for a bore to be sunk and then afterwards install a meter. I repeat that an area will not be proclaimed until the matter has been brought before Parliament. Until then the Water Board will not be able to install a meter on a bore in that area.

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: Mr. Hunt has asked how are we to meter the water or how are we to know the effective water usage without metering. We do this in the case of the test bores that have been sunk in the Gngangara area over the last eight years. The Government has put down bores and tested the pumping rate of those bores. By making calculations it is able to determine what is the capture rate, the storage rate, etc., of the water.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: How can that be done in an area where people are already drawing water through bores?

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: The Government can put down bores where it likes and have them tested.

Amendment put and negatived.

Clause put and passed.

Clause 5 put and passed.

Clause 6: Amendment to section 24—

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF: In the second reading debate I raised one matter to which the Minister has not replied. I said that the provision in this clause restricts the method of claiming compensation by persons whose lands are affected by the Water Board constructing bores and other water works on it.

If the board constructs water works on a private property the owner is entitled to compensation. However, under clause 6(d) it is provided that the board shall not be liable to make compensation to any person for any actionable damage actually sustained by him unless within three months he notifies the board he has a claim, and within 12 months he takes proceedings against the board. This seems to be an unnecessary and improper restriction.

I can understand the board wanting to know the people who have claims against it. I do not object to the second part of clause 6 (d) which provides that proceedings must be taken within 12 months; but I think the first part providing for notice within three months is severe. The owner might be absent from the State or in hospital. He might be a pensioner or somebody who is not in a position to give notice of his claim.

If the rights of people are to be restricted then a reasonable period of notice should be provided in the legislation. I would suggest a period of 12 months, but I do not say that is necessarily the correct period. I believe the Minister should be given power to grant an extension of time for this purpose.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: I have asked members to put forward points to which they require answers from the board. I have indicated that the chairman, the manager, and the principal officers of the board have said that there has not been a case yet of anyone who has experienced the difficulties mentioned by Mr. Medcalf, and has not received the utmost consideration from the board.

I think I used the expression that the board bent over backwards to accommodate them. If the owner of land that is affected is absent or is not in a position to abide by the provisions in this clause the board will ensure that he is not disadvantaged in any way. I give a guarantee that I will give the officers of the board a direction that no person will be disadvantaged in the way mentioned by Mr. Medcalf.

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF: I did not realise when the Minister made those comments that he was answering what I said in respect of clause 6. I have no wish to see the board bending over backwards, with or without its engineer (Mr. Hunt), to accommodate these people.

We are restricting a person's rights and it is not sufficient for the Minister to say that the board will bend over backwards to assist. If the board is to be asked to bend over backwards perhaps we should insert a clause to that effect!

It would be much easier to change the period and make it more reasonable. I suggest that if we included a provision that this could take place within three months that would be more in line with what the Minister has already said. I desire to make some provision for a person who does not make a claim within a specified time. The department may be tempted to tell the Minister that the person concerned has already had sufficient time. I am not saying the board would take such action because I have a lot of time for it. My experience has been that it is most accommodating and I am not being critical. What I am saying is I believe we should be reasonably explicit.

I agree with what Mr. White has said on several occasions; that we should look at the words which appear in the Bills we are passing and see that the best words are used. I am quite certain Mr. Logan and Mr. Griffith would be aware that frequently Ministers get into trouble because they exceed their powers. That is why I am in favour of including the power in the Bill. The Minister should have power to grant further time for a person to make a claim.

It is really a minor matter in the sense that the Minister will not be involved any more than is already the case, but it is a major matter as far as particular persons are concerned who might have claims.

I would suggest that on page 3, line 13, we insert after the word "sustained" the words "or within such further period as the Minister may allow". That would not be a major concession.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: The board has indicated, of course, that there is a right of appeal to the Minister, and because there is a right of appeal I take it the Minister would be sympathetic. The board will be sympathetic, and if a person is not satisfied he can appeal to the Minister. In these circumstances there is no need for the amendment because the situation is covered.

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF: I do not intend to make an issue of this matter. I feel that what I have said is right, I hope the Minister is never placed in the situation with one of his constituents of having a claim ruled out of order. I hope that if the Minister extends the time on some future occasion he does not get into trouble for doing something which is not set out in the Act.

The Hon. N. McNEILL: While I agree with the explanation given by the Minister, that there is a right of appeal from the person who feels aggrieved, let us look at the situation from the point of view of such a person. If a person has not made an application within the period of three months, and because of changed circumstances he decides he should receive some redress, he must resort to a form of appeal to the Minister. We should also remember that it is a pretty serious proposition for a person in the street to make an appeal to a Minister according to a Statute. Infrequently, a person would seek some legal advice on the procedure to be adopted and a great deal of inconvenience could be caused.

Surely, to obviate any inconvenience to the man in the street no harm would be done by including the amendment as proposed by Mr. Medcalf.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: I simply want to ask a question of the Minister. Would he inform me which section of the parent Act gives the right of appeal?

The Hon. J. DOLAN: I cannot give the number of the section to the honourable member, but it is in the Act.

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: I want to deal with another aspect. I do not intend to criticise but merely to draw the attention of the Committee to the fact that when a bore or a well is sunk by the Water Board it might not be satisfactory, and therefore it would be rather pointless to acquire that particular area of land. For that reason there should be available the right of entry onto land.

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF: I did not intend to speak further on this clause but I am astounded that the Minister has not quoted the section which gives the right of appeal. I was relying on the statement by the Minister that there is a right of appeal.

The Hon. J. Dolan: I am relying on the board and its officers.

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF: If the Minister is prepared to dismiss my argument without quoting the section which gives the right of appeal I am not prepared to desist. Quite frankly, I feel the Minister is not treating the Committee with the consideration it deserves by saying that there is a right of appeal and that it can be found in the Act. This problem could be got over simply by giving the Minister power to extend the time. The Minister did say, the other day, that I was determined to take a certain line. However, the determination of the Minister exceeds all bounds. I do not propose to leave this matter until the Minister is prepared to refer me to the section of the Act to prove there is a right of appeal.

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE: I suggest we report progress to give the Minister an opportunity to look at his reference. The Minister could then come back and clarify the point raised by Mr. Medcalf.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: I assure Mr. Medcalf that I will immediately contact the officers who supplied me with my information. They know more about the operations of these things.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: When I sat on that side of the House, and the Minister sat on this side, he used to make the Government responsible. It is now the Government, and not the officers of the department, which is responsible.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: But I cannot be responsible for something if I am not aware of it. I desire an opportunity to contact my officers.

Progress

Progress reported and leave given to sit again, on motion by The Hon. J. Dolan (Minister for Police).

HOSPITALS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Assembly's Message

Message from the Assembly received and read notifying that it had agreed to the amendment made by the Council.

WOOD DISTILLATION AND CHARCOAL IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY ACT AMENDMENT BILL

In Committee

The Deputy Chairman of Committees (The Hon. F. D. Willmott) in the Chair; The Hon. W. F. Willesee (Leader of the House) in charge of the Bill.

Clause 1 put and passed.

Clause 2: Section 20A added—

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (The Hon. F. D. Willmott): Mr. Williams, you have an amendment on the notice paper. Do you intend to move it?

The Hon. R. J. L. WILLIAMS: I will make up my mind as I go along.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (The Hon. F. D. Willmott): You must speak to it now. This is the clause to which it refers.

The Hon. R. J. L. WILLIAMS: I listened with interest to the Minister's reply to the second reading debate. In this regard and in this context I wish to say one or two things about the reasons which caused me to put this amendment on the notice paper.

Far from wishing to see Wundowie go, in my speech on 11th May I said—

I wish to make it perfectly clear that this afternoon I wish to present an argument for the retention of Wundowie on a safe and permanent footing for the future.

In his reply the Minister answered some of the points I raised.

As I see it, Wundowie is no different from any other industry. It makes a profit or a loss overall. The nature of its capital investment and interest payments can be related to that of private industry, where, if loan interest were being paid, the industry would be making a loss overall.

I realise that the figures given by the Minister are good figures. I have no quarrel with them, but they prove to me that one can play around with figures to make them mean what one wants them to mean. I hasten to say that I do not wish to reflect in any way upon the Minister and the figures he gave me. I do not suggest that anybody's integrity is in doubt in relation to these figures.

I thank the Minister for giving me an opportunity to have consultations with officers of his department. They gave me a fair hearing and all the information that was necessary, even to the extent that at 11.45 last night I was reading certain private and confidential documents they had made available to me, thus giving me a better chance to put my case this afternoon. This was done on the understanding—which I will honour—that I would not divulge anything I read yesterday. It may serve to take a little heat out of what I have to say.

The state in which Wundowie finds itself is only a reflection of the state of all other industries in this field at this particular time. Wundowie has an efficient management—there is no doubt about that—and I do not think anything I said in my second reading speech was derogatory in that respect. Wundowie has been stumbling from crisis to crisis for years. Some 480 people are employed there.

Looking to the future, the Wundowie management is doing everything it possibly can to ensure the future of those employees. There is a certain amount of diversification in the products sold, but I am concerned about where it will go from there if the proposed venture—which will cost \$700,000—is not satisfactory or does not “click” in the right market place.

I appreciate the sagacity of the board and management at Wundowie—I do not doubt it—but I wonder whether they are living a little too close to the wood to see the trees. They might be the first to admit that some outside international agency could look at this industry. When \$700,000 is to be spent, another \$300,000 will not worry anybody if it carries a guarantee that as a result Wundowie will be placed on a sound and sure footing in the foreseeable future or even in our lifetime.

The Minister rightly challenged the question of pig iron production. It was stated that Wundowie sold 15,000 tons of pig iron to Europe last year and that it is still selling at that level; but I wonder what is the estimated loss for this year. I was also worried about the fact that the Minister said the Japanese had established in Malaysia, with the advice and help of the State Government, a charcoal and iron industry. Is it not a fact that we have a two-year contract for pig iron sales to Japan? Will this be renewed or will Malaysia out-price Wundowie? We must ask ourselves these questions.

No one can be as precise as he wants to be in debate but I want to make it clear that a gentlemen's agreement on pig iron exists in this state in that the Liberal Government had an agreement with B.H.P. to the effect that B.H.P. would not sell in Western Australia pig iron which could—but not necessarily would—compete with that produced at Wundowie. I have the word of the Minister for Industrial Development of the last Government that there are agreements between B.H.P. and successive Governments. I do not know whether the present Government still has this gentlemen's agreement with B.H.P. but I think it has.

I want to put it on record that this was the best information I had available to me at that time. I made certain references to the fact that Wundowie's prices were far below those quoted by other companies in the Eastern States and in Perth. I have no axe to grind in this matter because I have been shown certain facts and figures which convince me that this was a correct price to charge. In the time at my disposal I could not hope to investigate it, so let it be said I am perfectly satisfied on that score as well.

The Hon. N. E. Baxter: Do you mean the price is not unreasonably low?

The Hon. R. J. L. WILLIAMS: No, it is not, in view of the fact that Wundowie has a certain technique and technical advantage which are not available to other people in the industry.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: It is a process that throws it straight into the moulding without any handling in between.

The Hon. R. J. L. WILLIAMS: It was more than that.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: Near enough to it.

The Hon. R. J. L. WILLIAMS: Please do not press me because I refuse to disclose any more about it. I am worried about the market feasibility study but I have been assured that the study has been carried out to the best of the ability of the management at Wundowie.

I will ask a question of the Minister in a rhetorical fashion. I do not expect him to answer me but I want to sound this out to the Chamber. If this marketing is not successful—and I do not think I am disclosing any secrets—other work will have to be found for this machine, which is an automatic process type of machine. If that is the case, I think some form of gentlemen's agreement should be reached between Wundowie and other manufacturers in this State that Wundowie will not use its extra technical advantage to capture some of the Western Australian foundry market. In that way an equitable balance could be kept.

I do not propose to say any more except that I will not move my amendment. I will let it go entirely because I feel at this point of economic time Wundowie needs this chance. Let us give it this chance. I cast no reflection upon the ability of the management, but I seriously ask the Wundowie management to consider my suggestion that within the foreseeable future the services of an expert international team be procured to investigate whether something can be done for Wundowie and the people of Wundowie and try to find some form of diversification to ensure that those people will be all right. If this is not done and this venture fails, I fear Wundowie will be doomed.

I thank the Minister for his honest replies and for giving me access to all the information.

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE: The Committee is indebted to Mr. Williams for the frank way in which he has outlined his investigations into the problems involved in this Bill. I can assure him that every word he has uttered will be relayed to the management—in fact, it has been heard first-hand by the management. Nevertheless, notice will be taken of the written word as well as the spoken word.

I, too, sincerely hope we can get Wundowie airborne through this new venture, and I believe there will be no poaching on any other person's territory in Western Australia.

There is room for everyone. Basically, the loss of this industry would involve the closure of a town. Irrespective of the present employment situation in Western Australia, there is no doubt that Wundowie is a problem child; but there is reason to suggest that we may now have reached the turning point with new expertise, new improved methods, and new markets to be captured. I thank the honourable member, and I appreciate his attitude.

Clause put and passed.

Title put and passed.

Report

Bill reported, without amendment, and the report adopted.

Third Reading

Bill read a third time, on motion by The Hon. W. F. Willesee (Leader of the House), and passed.

GREYHOUND RACING CONTROL BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 31st May.

THE HON. D. K. DANS (South Metropolitan) [4.48 p.m.]: At the outset I want to say to the House that I support this Bill presented by the Chief Secretary. I think it would be true to say that the question of the introduction of greyhound racing in Western Australia has been surrounded by a great amount of emotionalism. I may also point out that I share the sentiments of the Leader of the Opposition inasmuch as I have no vested interest in horse racing, trotting, or, for that matter, dog racing. I, too, occasionally go to the races and I fix an amount of money in my mind which I halve on the way there. On the few occasions I attend the races, however, I do not proceed with the exercise. I do not mind spending money, but I am reluctant to give it away.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: At least you come back with half of your money.

The Hon. D. K. DANS: Yes, that is in my favour. I do not think we have seriously considered the Bill. We have spent more time discussing a circular sent to all members of Parliament by the West Australian Greyhound Breeders, Owners & Trainers Association. Whilst the circular makes very interesting reading I have no way of knowing whether the organisation is authentic, or whether the statements in the circular are in fact true. It could well be that were greyhound racing to be introduced into this State that association would not eventually be recognised by the board of control.

The controversy surrounding dog racing goes back to early 1971. I would suggest that every member in this Chamber has been badgered, phoned, informed—

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: Cajoled.

The Hon. D. K. DANS: —cajoled, and told which is the better organisation. Of course, we have also had it suggested that the person concerned is in receipt of inside information from the Minister.

The Hon. N. E. Baxter: That is not quite right; I was not told that.

The Hon. D. K. DANS: Well, maybe he knew of Mr. Baxter's opposition and did not try. I do not know how the confusion has arisen, but I was told today that many people in the community are worried because some thousands of dollars have already been invested in this industry. I may say that I have given a fair hearing to all persons who have approached me, and on all occasions I have warned them that they should not proceed until such time as the Parliament has considered the legislation and has made the introduction of the sport an actual fact.

If I may, I will give the House an example of the kind of confusion which has been unwittingly caused by those interested in setting up in the greyhound racing business in Western Australia. I would say I am not slating those people; they have a perfect right to proceed in the manner they have. However, to use a colloquialism, I do think they have beaten the gun and possibly fouled their own nests as a result of their eagerness to get started. In *The West Australian* of the 10th September, 1971, a leading article appeared under the heading of "Dog racing faces tight control." If I may, I will read it out—

Greyhound racing might need to be more strictly controlled than horse racing and trotting if it was introduced in W.A., the Chief Secretary, Mr Stubbs, said yesterday.

He said that though there were many decent people involved in the sport, it tended to attract some unsavoury elements because it was a cheap sport in which to take part.

Strict control would be needed to keep the sport clean and to prevent objectionable practices, such as the bleeding of dogs.

There had been reports of bleeding in the Eastern States and he did not want similar things to happen in W.A.

The sport, if introduced, would have to be controlled by a Government authority because there were so many organisations in the State wanting to run it.

Mr Stubbs also warned people who were buying greyhounds from the Eastern States.

He said that some people were foolishly going to a lot of expense buying dogs, believing that the Government's statement that it would introduce legislation to legalise greyhound racing meant that it would happen.

People should not buy dogs or establish premises till the legislation had passed Parliament, in case Parliament would not agree to the measure.

There could be no racing for stakes, betting or use of tin hares till Parliament had agreed to it.

Mr Stubbs said there was absolutely no guarantee that greyhound racing would be legalised, because a Bill would first have to pass the Legislative Council, where the Liberal-Country Party Opposition had a majority, before it reached the Legislative Assembly.

If it did become law, a considerable amount of work would have to be done before racing started.

It could easily be another 12 months after that before racing took place.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: What do you think of the words, "where the Liberal-Country Party Opposition had a majority"?

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: May I answer that? Because I did not know the mood of your party.

The Hon. D. K. DANS: Does that satisfy Mr. Griffith?

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: No, it does not. It tries to put the blame on us when it belongs over there.

The Hon. D. K. DANS: I am trying to point out that the Minister endeavoured to warn those people who are interested in greyhound racing that they should make no investments until such time as the legislation had passed through both Houses of Parliament and had become law. A whole host of Press statements have appeared on this matter, and I will not weary the House by referring to all of them. However, on the same day—the 10th September, 1971—under the heading of "Greyhound chief disagrees" the following article appeared:—

Oliver Drake-Brockman, vice-chairman of the National Coursing Association of W.A., today spoke out against a statement by Police Minister Stubbs on dog-racing.

I do not know whether or not the Chief Secretary was the Acting Minister for Police at that time. The article continues—

The Minister warned that dog-racing would be under strict control and also that people were foolish to be buying greyhounds when it was not even certain that dog-racing would be allowed here.

He said that even if legislation was passed, it might be a further 12 months before dog-racing actually began.

Mr Drake-Brockman said: "While I agree with all the other points in the minister's statement, I don't agree

that people should not buy dogs or establish premises for them until legislation is passed.

"People should be encouraged to prepare for the sport by getting their dogs now and having them trained and ready.

"If they wait until legislation is passed and racing commences they will be racing dogs bought from outside the state at high prices without knowing their potential."

The point I am endeavouring to make is that the Minister has been quite honest in his approach to the people concerned with greyhounds. Yet on the very day he issued a warning people were prepared not only to disregard that warning but also to advise members of the association concerned at least to go ahead and invest money in an industry or sport which has yet to receive the blessing of both Houses of Parliament.

I agree that people who want to race horses can race horses; I agree that those who wish to engage in the sport of trotting can engage in it; and I also agree that those who want to engage in the sport of greyhound racing should be permitted to do so, providing proper legislation is enacted to ensure efficient and effective control of the sport. I would agree that a great number of unsavoury people are drawn to any form of gambling; but at the same time a great number of decent people are drawn to all forms of racing, including dog racing.

As an example, the newly-elected Lord Mayor of Perth—a most popular choice—is a man who has spent a lifetime in the service of this State, and he has also been most active in the promotion of horse racing in Western Australia. This also applies to people in the trotting industry. It is also true to say that many prominent people in other States have engaged in greyhound racing. For example, the Premier of New South Wales races dogs. It may be of interest to Miss Elliott to hear that his dogs are trained by a person of the feminine gender. I do not think any of those people have been corrupted.

I do not agree with Mr. Griffith that more money necessarily will be spent on gambling. I think some of the opposition to greyhound racing comes from the already established racing and trotting clubs, because I believe only a certain amount of money in the community is available for gambling. The racing and trotting clubs realise this, and they see that instead of that money being gambled in only two areas of racing, it will be gambled in three areas. I do not believe that we in this State will become a degenerate people as a result of dog racing being introduced, and that more and more people will starve their children and feed their dogs to the tune of 10 lb. of meat a day.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: It is 10 lb. a week. If it were 10 lb. a day the dog would be the size of an elephant.

The Hon. D. K. DANS: Well, even 10 lb. a week is a large amount. Like others, I believe that the amount of chaff a man's horse receives, or the amount of meat a man's dog receives, depends largely on how that man is going. If he is having a lean time, his animals will also have a lean time.

To return to the Bill, I think it contains all the provisions which are required for the setting up of a control board at this stage—nothing more nor less. I agree with the statements in *The West Australian* of the 10th September that it could well be 12 months or more before racing actually takes place. I have looked through the Bill. I have not asked for copies of *Hansard* because I do not wish to pick over what others have said; but I believe it has been mentioned that the industry is made for gambling. I could not imagine any race would attract a large number of people unless some form of betting were involved.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: The Speedway attracts up to 20,000 people and there is no gambling there.

The Hon. D. K. DANS: I would not be so sure that people do not make side wagers. I know they do in regard to football.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: It is not organised gambling.

The Hon. D. K. DANS: Let us be frank about this. Illegal gambling goes on every day in this community. We certainly make it easy for people to gamble. We all know that the T.A.B. establishments have been converted into most luxurious places, except for their toilet facilities; and continuous efforts are being made to improve these establishments.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: There are races on which there is no organised gambling.

The Hon. D. K. DANS: I did not hear that.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. D. K. DANS: I need only refer members to clause 30 on page 17 of the Bill which states in subclause (1)—

30. (1) The Governor may make regulations prescribing all such matters as are by the provisions of this Act, other than the provisions of Part III, necessary or convenient to be prescribed for giving effect to or achieving the objects of this Act and for facilitating the exercise by the Board of its powers, functions and duties under this Act.

Paragraph (b) of subclause (2) then says—

- (b) authorizing the distribution among registered greyhound racing clubs of moneys paid into the Fund by the Totalisator Agency Board, after the retention for the Board's own use of such proportion of those moneys as is prescribed.

So far as I am concerned that provision clearly sets out the intention of the board after it is set up to do the things necessary to make gambling or betting available to the public.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: If you are satisfied with that you must be dissatisfied with the statement made by the Chief Secretary that he will have to introduce another Bill to provide for T.A.B. betting.

The Hon. D. K. DAns: I did not hear him say that.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You only have to lean forward and he will tell you.

The Hon. D. K. DAns: I did not hear the Minister say it and anyway, that is his prerogative.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I will answer that as I go along.

The Hon. D. K. DAns: Clause 21 on page 13 of the Bill deals with restrictions on race meetings, and subclause (1) of that clause states—

- (1) No race meeting shall be held on any race course unless the race course is one licensed by the Board under this Part.

For the life of me I cannot see any reason that we should restrict the introduction of greyhound racing.

I will not go through all the parts of the Bill, because those interested in this Chamber have already read the Bill. In clause 19 on page 11, however, we find that subclause (1) states—

- (1) The Board may, with the approval of the Minister, make rules for and with respect to the control, conduct and regulation of greyhound racing.

There is one thing to which I have always been vigorously opposed, and that is the question of discrimination in any matter whatsoever.

I may hold different political views from other members in this Chamber, but I would fight to the death to preserve their right to hold the views they do. I do not think we should discriminate against greyhound racing.

I have not the intimate knowledge that Mr. Williams seems to possess; he seems to know all the unsavoury aspects of greyhound racing, and I have no doubt that many of the experiences he mentioned have in fact occurred. I would,

however, like to give the House some information on a little experience I had in Launceston last year when I was a guest of the Northern Tasmanian Dog Racing Association.

As a guest of that association I met the nicest group of people it has ever been my lot to meet. They were elderly people. The racing was conducted in a picnic atmosphere. I had been a guest of the trotting association in the afternoon.

The Hon. D. J. Wordsworth: I thought you said that trotting was trying to kill greyhound racing.

The Hon. D. K. DAns: While in the service I did hear Tasmanians referred to in derogatory terms, but I am trying to give the honourable member a wrap up. While I was a guest of this association the secretary gave us nine tips. As an example of how the dogs are raced I would point out that eight of the tips that were given were successful; the dogs in question won. It was only half way through the meeting that I was able to summon up enough courage to place a bet of 50c, but this was on the ninth race when the animal came second.

I did not see any depraved or nasty people there; they were not behaving badly at all. I did not see any clash between the association or between the dog racers and the owners of the gallopers. I have been to Launceston on many occasions. Not only did the people there cater for trotting in Launceston on Saturday afternoons but they also catered for races from Hobart and Melbourne and from other parts of Australia. We should examine the Bill carefully and disregard the circulars and the pamphlets we receive, and the comments in the Press, because we must appreciate that none of these come from genuine organisations.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: It is a pity you did not make your speech earlier. It is a very good speech and you might have convinced me.

The Hon. D. K. DAns: I know it is not difficult to convince the honourable member. But as people are entitled to exercise their freedom of choice in respect to racing and trotting they should also be entitled to exercise their freedom of choice in relation to greyhound racing.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: I should not have praised you; flattery seems to have confused you.

The Hon. D. K. DAns: I think we must have regard for the thousands upon thousands of migrant people in this country who are used to greyhound racing. It is true there are a number of people who are against this sort of thing, but there are thousands who are clamouring for it. Despite the lurid descriptions we have been given of the whole set-up and of the dog racing track in London—which, incidentally, I have not visited—the facts

are that a lot of small people do like to own and train greyhounds. Many of them do not engage in betting. They are not interested in the sport of greyhound racing alone; they also derive a great deal of personal pleasure and exercise from owning a dog. I commend the Bill to the House.

THE HON. F. D. WILLMOTT (South-West) [5.07 p.m.]: Although I appreciate that almost nothing can be said on this legislation that has not already been said, there are, however, a few comments I would like to make.

I think everybody will agree that the conduct of greyhound racing in this State—if such racing is permitted—will be as good or as bad as the legislation controlling the industry. When I say “the legislation controlling the industry” I am not referring only to legislation controlling the racing of dogs; I am speaking about the legislation controlling the industry in all its facets.

Other members have spoken of this and I agree with much of what has been said. For instance, Mr. MacKinnon mentioned that this legislation may require amendments to be made to the Local Government Act to allow for complete control as to where greyhound racing kennels shall be established, because these can be a considerable nuisance to people. This is one aspect that needs a great deal of thought.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: Local Governments have complete control now.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: You are sure of that?

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: Yes.

The Hon. F. D. WILLMOTT: I said I did not know whether this was the case but I thank the Minister for informing me that the local authorities have this control.

There has been a good deal of comment on the question of gambling. I do not believe that betting on horse racing or, for that matter, betting on dog racing can be compared with one-armed bandits and the poker machines. They are two different things all together.

Only a few minutes ago I heard that we could not have organised betting. For my part if we are to have betting at all I think it should be organised.

Anybody who has had anything to do with racing or trotting—as I had many years ago when I was president of a country trotting club in this State for many years during which time I learned quite a lot—will know the effects that flow from racing and trotting in this State as a result of the establishment of the T.A.B. which, in my opinion, provides a great facility for organised betting.

Like Mr. Logan I want to know what the betting set-up will be in regard to dog racing; whether we will rely on the T.A.B. or whether we will permit bookmakers to operate. There are great benefits to be derived for racing and trotting as a result of the establishment of the T.A.B. and the effects that flow from it are quite contrary to what some people are inclined to think—because not all the horse owners bet on their horses. I owned horses for many years and I seldom bet on them.

The Hon. J. L. Hunt: Were they good enough?

The Hon. F. D. WILLMOTT: It is not only a question of whether the horses were good enough; the stakes for which they ran also had to be considered. This is where the establishment of the T.A.B. is a good thing, because it has given racing clubs much of the assistance they needed to increase stakes. As a result of this, trotting clubs have been able to lift their stakes thus making it unnecessary for owners to bet. This was not the case prior to the establishment of the T.A.B.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I agree wholeheartedly.

The Hon. F. D. WILLMOTT: Accordingly, if we are to have dog racing we should have organised betting. Because of this I agree with those members who suggest that we should have before us the other legislation that might be necessary while we are considering this Bill.

I think it is important we should deal with all the facets of the industry. While I have no strong convictions either for or against dog racing, I am inclined to agree with Mr. Dans who feels that, if people want to race horses, we allow them to do so; and, accordingly, if they desire to race dogs I cannot see any reason why we should not allow them to do so, if the industry is properly controlled.

Because of this fact and in common with other members in this House—though perhaps not all of them, because some do disagree with me—I do not think I should agree to this legislation as it is presented. I feel it should be presented together with more comprehensive legislation to see exactly what is proposed in the way of betting control and the control of the industry as a whole. This is most important.

Before resuming my seat there is one other matter I would like to mention, which relates to the attitude of the Chief Secretary earlier today when he replied to a question he was asked. It amazes me that the Chief Secretary should have adopted the attitude that if we did not accept the greyhound racing legislation as it is presented to us we would not be given the opportunity to consider any similar legislation in the future. It was a question of “you either accept this, or nothing at all.”

That seems to me to be a most peculiar statement for the Chief Secretary to make. I feel the legislation should be presented on a more comprehensive basis as it concerns this industry, but the Chief Secretary says, "you either accept this, or you get nothing."

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: Would you hold your judgment until I try to explain the position?

The Hon. F. D. WILLMOTT: I do not think the Chief Secretary will be able to explain legislation which is not prepared.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I can explain the reason for it.

The Hon. F. D. WILLMOTT: I am prepared to listen to those reasons when the Chief Secretary replies. I am always prepared to listen to the other side of any argument. Nevertheless I still feel that the attitude of the Chief Secretary and his statement that we either accept this or we get nothing at all are both most dogmatic.

If I may say so, I think it is the wrong attitude for the Minister to adopt. If the House does not agree to the legislation as it is presented that is no reason to prevent people from engaging in greyhound racing if they wish to do so. This can be done at an appropriate time and under appropriate legislation.

When the industry is set up it will be as good or as bad as the legislation controlling it, but we are not informed about the legislation which will control the industry, and I certainly cannot vote for this Bill at the moment.

THE HON. C. R. ABBEY (West) [5.15 p.m.]: Quite rightly, this Bill has invoked a great deal of debate. Basically, I agree with its concept. I am not opposed to greyhound racing in this State, and the main reason I make that statement is because of a remark made by Mr. Dans.

I have some personal knowledge of areas such as Rockingham and Armadale in which a considerable migrant population resides. They are a long way from the trotting and galloping facilities in the city and therefore probably do not participate in those sports to any great degree. This does not, of course, apply to those who live in Byford and in areas around Armadale where both gallopers and trotters are trained. Because of the distance between Rockingham and Armadale and the city, the residents in the former areas would obtain very little advantage from the trotting and galloping facilities available in the city. Consequently they could be quite interested in the establishment of greyhound racing.

It is obvious that this sport would be conducted in the outer areas of the metropolitan region and therefore it would be of considerable advantage to those who live in the area I represent.

Many members are concerned about the betting aspect, but I agree with Mr. Dans that if people desire to bet, it would be of no advantage for the Government to withdraw the facilities which enable them to do so.

Many aspects have been considered during this debate and most of them are quite important. First of all I wish to refer to the statement made by Mr. Oliver Drake-Brockman regarding encouraging those who are interested in the industry to buy dogs and set up establishments to train and run them for profit. Those concerned may desire to do this in the wrong situation.

Had we been given a proper explanation of the Bill and appropriate guide-lines, dog owners would know where they would be expected to domicile and train their animals. Because of the expansion of the city, many owners of both trotters and gallopers have found it necessary to move further afield. A very good example of self help is the group of trotting owners who have established a trotting complex at Byford. Those involved bought the land at considerable expense and have established there facilities to enable them to domicile and train their horses. The complex is away from the built-up areas and therefore will not create problems such as those which are occurring at Belmont for instance. We should learn a lesson, and ensure that the facilities for the domicile and racing of the greyhounds are established at a suitable site. I think it would be crazy if dogs could be kept in almost any backyard.

Large dogs like the greyhound—and I have had some experience of this type of dog—have a basic hunting instinct and require a great deal of exercise. It would be wrong therefore to place such animals in an environment where they would be cooped up and taken only to the local oval or some nearby open space for exercise. A big healthy dog requires and enjoys much exercise.

For these reasons if dog racing is to be introduced into Western Australia, well defined areas for this purpose must be established. First of all, the dogs must be kept in reasonable comfort without the possibility of any disturbance to the general population which may not be interested in dog racing. Secondly, certain defined areas must be set aside for the actual dog racing to take place.

If these provisions had been included in this Bill—and they could easily have been—without a doubt I would have voted for it. In any case, I see no reason to oppose the second reading. However, I do suggest that the Minister take time, and better counsel I hope, to introduce in the next part of the session, the necessary complementary Bills. I do earnestly suggest he should take this course.

Many members do not desire to defeat the Bill. However, in the last part of the Minister's introductory speech he said that if this Bill were passed consequential Bills would follow. This should not be the situation. In the main, whenever major legislation has been introduced, and consequential Bills have been necessary, those complementary measures have been introduced almost at the same time and I know of no reason the House should depart from this practice.

I do make an earnest request to the Minister to reconsider his attitude. I was very surprised to hear his answer to Mr. Withers' question without notice, because it was not in keeping with his character.

I will leave it at that. I think the concept is all right. I see nothing actually wrong with the legislation to establish a control board, although I have no doubt that on close examination some minor amendments may be found necessary. So I give what amounts to a qualified support of the Bill.

THE HON. N. McNEILL (Lower West) [5.24 p.m.]: I express the view at the commencement that I cannot really fully appreciate the need of the Government to introduce legislation of this kind at this time. I know that the Minister, speaking on behalf of the Government, has indicated that a certain section of the community desires greyhound racing to be established in Western Australia. However, as in all matters, there evolves upon the Government the responsibility to make a decision and in view of the present situation in Western Australia I consider a great many matters of far greater importance and significance should be occupying the time of the Government even to the exclusion of consideration of matters of this nature.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: I could not agree with you more.

The Hon. N. McNEILL: I must also express my support of the views submitted by the Leader of the Opposition in relation to greyhound racing being another form of gambling and to its place in our society with the undoubted divergence of family income which will result.

I think the view expressed by Mr. Dans is open to argument. He said that a certain amount of money is available in the community and virtually this amount is distributed in the gambling field generally. I do not know that I would subscribe to that view. I believe that at this time a certain section of the community does not contribute to the gambling revenue, shall we say, of the State, but this is possibly because no form of sport in existence in Western Australia gives those in that section the necessary incentive or motive to indulge in gambling. However, if another form of activity is provided, this section of the community could quite easily find it to its liking.

Quite apart from the gambling aspect, let us consider the situation concerning other sports. Let us consider the major ones like football in its various forms; that is, Australian rules, rugby, soccer, and so on. We also have cricket.

Many lesser sports are also followed by smaller groups. These include archery, pistol shooting, rifle shooting, and so on. The people who indulge in the smaller sports have not been participating as yet in other major sporting activities. However, if another sport is introduced which happens to suit their particular characteristics and temperaments they may be prepared to take part in it. The same applies to gambling and the introduction of greyhound racing.

For the purpose of some emphasis, I say again that I just do not believe it was strictly necessary for the Government to make a decision on this matter, particularly in view of the present economic climate in Western Australia. It was not necessary for it to devote its time and attention to the introduction of a sport which Western Australia has done without for a long time. I am quite sure Western Australia would be no worse off if greyhound racing were not introduced.

Having said that, let me now indicate that I share the view expressed by Mr. Abbey. I, likewise, would not necessarily desire to deny people an opportunity to participate in a sport of their particular choice.

In the province I represent many groups are enthusiastic about greyhound racing, although whether the enthusiasm is for the dog racing as such or for the opportunity it might give for gambling, I am not prepared to say.

It is well known that in one centre—namely, Pinjarra—there is no lack of opportunities to indulge in gambling. One of the finest—if not the finest—facilities for gallopers is situated at Pinjarra, to say nothing of the facilities for trotting.

Greyhound racing is referred to as the poor man's sport. I do not necessarily subscribe to this contention, but it is the expression used and in the centre to which I have referred, apart from the gambling and spectacle aspects, those two sports—trotting and horse racing—are definitely regarded as the poor man's sport.

The group down there is enthusiastic and this could well be a centre for greyhound racing at some time in the future. This would provide for further divergence in sporting activity and another media by which people can gamble. I would not necessarily wish to deny people this opportunity.

For these reasons I am prepared to support the second reading; I do not wish to oppose the second reading of the Bill. I have an additional reason for saying that.

It has been argued and contended by some members that the legislation is not complete because details have not been spelt out, particularly in relation to betting, and for this reason the Bill should not pass. I hope that the Bill, as it is presented to the House, will receive very critical examination. It could very well happen that in future we will be dealing with consequential legislation arising out of this in the event of the Bill passing. I think the Government, the Minister, and the control board when it is set up will need—and certainly will warrant—the advice of this Parliament in the conduct of this activity. For these reasons I am prepared to support the second reading.

The Minister has already replied by way of interjection to comments made by two members who spoke before me. I was rather surprised that the Minister was so completely uncompromising in the categorical "No" he gave in answer to Mr. Withers' question. Like Mr. Abbey, I think it was out of character for Mr. Stubbs, the Chief Secretary. Surely there must be an explanation which he will give a little later. I cannot help but think it sounded like a fit of pique on his part because of constant repetition of what appears to be considerable opposition to the second reading of the Bill.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: No.

The Hon. N. McNEILL: I do not know whether that was the case.

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: It was not enthusiastic.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I can assure you that was not the case, because I have a very good reason.

The Hon. N. McNEILL: I shall make some passing reference to the various considerations in the Bill. I refer in the first instance to the opportunities which will exist for the board to grant licenses for the holding of race meetings. I must express some doubts about the interpretations which are being placed on the question of holding race meetings even if the Bill is passed. I may be incorrect in my understanding, but I believe the Minister said that, even if the Bill is passed, it does not mean racing will take place. Under the provisions in the Bill under discussion, I believe he would be drawing the long bow in saying this.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I did not catch what you said.

The Hon. N. McNEILL: I understood the Minister to say that even in the event of the Bill passing, racing would not necessarily take place. In other words, it is not automatic.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I think you have me wrong. I meant it will be some time before racing takes place. Racing must take place if we bring in this legislation.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: I think the Minister said that it might not take place for a period of 12 months.

The Hon. N. McNEILL: I am grateful for that clarification. My understanding of the Bill is that, if it is passed and becomes law, there will be opportunities for applications to be made to the control board for the holding of race meetings. This would follow as a normal consequence, subject, of course, to the proclamation of the legislation.

The question also arises as to the location of the tracks—firstly, the trial tracks and, more particularly, the race tracks themselves. Once again, it is stipulated that applications will be made by clubs for the holding of race meetings and it will be within the power of the board to determine the venue for these meetings. I have heard certain stories, too, as to where these race meetings may take place in the event of the Bill becoming law. When Mr. MacKinnon addressed the House he referred very fleetingly to the possibility that the Western Australian Cricket Association ground could be a venue. I think he said this could be a carry-over of the situation that resulted from the First Cricket Test.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: One of the stories is that one of the groups will use it.

The Hon. N. McNEILL: I can understand that from the W.A.C.A.'s point of view this might not be a bad thing money-wise, but I do not think we should ignore the fact that the association may be in financial difficulties over the facilities at the grounds because it has not yet had the chance to recoup some of the expenses. It could be somewhat ironical that the Government legislates for greyhound racing and, possibly, that sport may use the Western Australian Cricket Association ground. Of course it would improve the financial position of the association in relation to the facilities that were erected for the First Cricket Test, but let us not forget that one of the reasons for the association being in great difficulties is the attitude and action taken by the present Government of denying the entry and attendance in Western Australia of a certain cricket team from overseas. Had that team come, this would have given the association an opportunity to help recoup some of the finance on the facilities at the W.A.C.A. ground. I do not think that point should be overlooked.

There is another aspect to greyhound racing which has a certain attraction for me. Mr. Withers mentioned that it could give the opportunity, particularly in the remote areas of the Pilbara and the north, for interdistrict meetings. If we are to have greyhound racing I think it would be useful to encourage this type of activity. In other words I do not think we should

simply hold greyhound race meetings as fixtures, say, half a dozen times a year as we do with trotting and the gallops. Instead, if the opportunity exists in the country we should give every encouragement to interdistrict meetings. I am sure this would serve a useful purpose. I would have liked to see the T.A.B. operating this way in relation to trotting and the gallops. Had this been done local district facilities—particularly sporting facilities—could have benefited from the tremendous revenue that flows in as a result of race meeting. Many years ago I made certain approaches in connection with this matter; in fact, I did so initially when the T.A.B. was first established. I thought it feasible that some minute fraction of revenue from the T.A.B. could be diverted to local districts for the purpose of developing facilities for sports. I have not been successful in my approaches to successive Governments.

In the event of greyhound racing becoming an established fact—and more particularly if it could be held on an inter-district basis—I believe there would be a unique opportunity to contribute generally to the overall sporting welfare of each district. I hope the Minister and the control board, if it is established, will give close consideration to this point, because it is well and truly warranted.

I wish to say little more about the Bill at this stage, except to comment on the betting side which, of course, we must accept realistically as an indispensable part of the whole of the legislation for greyhound racing. It would have been far more satisfactory, I believe, had the Government made that legislation available to us so that members could give it the necessary examination. I find myself agreeing with Mr. Dans who referred to clause 30 of the Bill. He referred to subclause (2)(b) which states, in part—

- (b) authorizing the distribution among registered greyhound racing clubs of moneys paid into the Fund by the Totalisator Agency Board,

To me this certainly seems to mean that we are talking of a betting facility. It is my understanding the Minister indicated it would not be possible to run organised betting under the legislation. In view of this I think the House is entitled to some further explanation on this point.

In conclusion, I say I am prepared to support the second reading of the Bill. In the event of the second reading being agreed to I hope action will be taken—indeed, I may even take the action—to hold up the legislation pending consideration of other legislation that is complementary to this Bill. I submit in all seriousness that the purpose of the second reading is to facilitate proper examination of the Bill. I hope we will leave it at this

stage—in other words that we will not proceed even with the third reading and certainly not with the proclamation of the legislation for the introduction of greyhound racing.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: It could be advantageous to go through Committee as many of the points could be cleared up.

The Hon. N. McNEILL: I am grateful to the Minister for his comments, and I leave my remarks at that point.

THE HON. F. R. WHITE (West) [5.42 p.m.]: I do not intend to speak at length but merely to say the Bill before us is obviously aimed at enlarging facilities for gambling in this State of ours.

I have no objection to racing in any form, but we have many forms of amateur racing and spectator sports. For example, we have car racing and foot racing. If this "sport" were on that basis I would support it. Obviously it will be another gambling media. I believe we have adequate facilities now to satisfy the gambling instincts of people, and it is my intention to oppose the second reading.

THE HON. R. F. CLAUGHTON (North Metropolitan) [5.43 p.m.]: I have been pleased to hear that some members are adopting a reasonable attitude towards the Bill and, also, that it appears to have rather general support or, at least, members have not been able to find anything in the Greyhound Racing Control Bill to which they object.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: We have not dealt with it in Committee yet.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: I have not heard of anything in the legislation to which members take specific objection.

Mr. Willmott thought the Minister was perhaps being a little obtuse in not agreeing with his wishes, but we could regard Mr. Willmott's attitude in the same way. What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.

The Hon. V. J. Ferry: Don't bring birds in.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: Or mixed metaphors! I do not think it is unreasonable for the Government to ask this House to accept the legislation at this time, because it is only a first step. As the Minister has told us we will not have dog racing for some considerable time. A first step must be taken at some stage. Although it may seem reasonable to suggest that all the relevant legislation should be introduced at this time, this is not necessarily practicable.

The Greyhound Racing Control Bill will enable the Minister to set up a board which will then take whatever steps are necessary to register and license the dogs, to draw up regulations, and to decide what

form of betting, if any, is to be adopted. Some members of this House have raised objections to the Bill on the ground that it is not a complete piece of legislation. That is not a reasonable attitude to adopt because it is possible to take this first step to get the preliminary work under way. If this legislation is not adopted now, it will mean a further delay for the people who are so anxious to have the sport operating in this State.

Complaint has been made of the amount of money which has been invested and the fact that dogs have been brought here and are being bred. If we do not decide to permit greyhound racing at this time, these people will continue to behave in the same way and by the next part of the session a very undesirable situation will have arisen.

The Minister has told us that this is a first step. We must decide first of all whether or not greyhound racing will be allowed. Further investigation will be undertaken if the decision is taken to allow this sport.

The Hon. V. J. Ferry: It is because of the Government's mismanagement that this present situation has arisen.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: The Government cannot manage it at all if it does not have the authority.

I also remind members that the process was not all taken in one step with another gambling Bill. Some members have suggested that the grounds where this racing is to take place should be nominated. In fact, the previous gambling Bill was introduced over proclaimed areas of the State in the first place.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Even with your great stretch of imagination, can you not realise that is a different matter altogether?

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: The honourable member should have enough understanding to realise that betting within these courses is also a different thing from permitting dog racing. It is not the same thing and the two matters should not be dealt with at the same time.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith tried hard to give this Government a gambling tag. This took a good deal of imagination as it was based on one Bill which was not proceeded with and the present Bill. It is interesting to look back on his remarks in relation to gambling in 1954.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: He was a young fellow then.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: I find he has been reasonably consistent in his attitude up until quite recent times.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: It must be gratifying to you to know I am reasonably consistent.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: I have said before that I have great respect for the ability of the Leader of the Opposition.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: It is a treasured post.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: The Hon. A. F. Griffith was talking to the Betting Control Bill and he was discussing the question of S.P. betting. I quote from page 3347 of *Hansard* No. 3 of 1954 as follows:—

In my opinion, we should either say to the people of the State, "You may bet legally in s.p. betting shops"; or, "You may not bet and the police will enforce the law."

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: How do you work that into the Greyhound Racing Control Bill?

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: I was indeed wondering to which particular clause of the legislation the honourable member was addressing his remarks. Mr. President, I recall that yesterday the honourable member's attention was drawn to the Bill while he was making reference to certain answers he was given to questions on that day.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: If you read the rest of the debate you will see that I was referring to starting price betting in lanes, lavatories, and places of this nature.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: In the same speech at page 3348, the honourable member said:

If we do pass this measure, surely it should be the practice to introduce legislation to allow racing to be conducted between animals other than horses and to permit gambling on the events.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: Are you trying to help your Minister or to antagonise the Opposition?

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: To continue—

Actually I do not know much about betting on race horses or any other form of gambling from a professional point of view, but I venture to suggest that greyhound racing would not lend itself to any more machinations than now occur with horse-racing.

That statement certainly relates to greyhound racing.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You know as well as I do that you are taking the words out of context.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: I think we may be able to stop our examination of the legislation until the Committee stage.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: Do not speak to your colleague like that!

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: He is no colleague of mine—don't dish up that tripe.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: I was only repeating the words of the Leader of the Opposition.

The PRESIDENT: Will the honourable member address the Chair.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You are taking the words out of context and you know it.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: In 1960 when the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Bill was introduced, the honourable member gave many details of the machinery necessary and the revenue likely to be gained by the Government, but he said nothing about—

The Hon. V. J. Ferry: Greyhounds!

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON:—any condemnation of gambling at the time.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: A good deal of what I said at that time came under attack from your people. I have a good memory, you know.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: Mr. Tonkin held us up for hours.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: At page 2484 of *Hansard*, volume 3 of 1960, the Leader of the Opposition said—

I do not bet on race horses, but I have a complete tolerance for the man who wishes to do so. Personally, I might like to engage in other forms of gambling.

The Leader of the Opposition also said at page 2632—

However, no member of the public is obliged to put his money on a race horse.

This is relevant to the discussion when criticism has been made of the fact that gambling may accompany greyhound racing. If we transposed race horses for greyhounds, I would assume the honourable member's attitude would be the same today. From these remarks I would understand that the Leader of the Opposition will support this measure.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Are you trying to encourage me to support it?

The Hon. D. J. Wordsworth: You may as well use the same argument in regard to brothels; that is, you do not have to enter them.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: I can assure the honourable member I have no desire to do so.

The Leader of the Opposition made these remarks as the Minister expressing the Government's view at that time.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: I cannot see any conflict.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: These are the days when they wanted s.p. betting shops.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: On page 2464 of the same volume the Leader of the Opposition made the following remarks:—

In making the change, the Government is of the opinion that it will be of great assistance to the racing industry; not only in sustaining it, but in expanding it. And after all, the maintenance of the racing industry is, surely, one of the essentials in maintaining any system of betting, whether it be this or any other.

So far as the Government is concerned, the promotion of the industry is of paramount importance.

I would say that was a very enthusiastic remark.

We have heard the attitude of the members to gambling, and as I said, I feel confident of their support to the present legislation.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: You must have been asleep for the last couple of days.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Do you know what I think? You have won me right over.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: The trouble is, which side?

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: The Chief Secretary is praying with both hands that you will sit down after another hour.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: Certain steps must be followed. The Minister has introduced a Bill to control the sport. No objection has been raised to any of the provisions of that Bill. He has also introduced complementary legislation to the Dog Act and the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. He has gone a long way in attempting to do what some members of the Opposition have suggested.

It would be unreasonable of the Opposition to oppose this legislation on the ground that it is not all that could be desired. There is adequate control of gambling within the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Act. It is not so very difficult to amend this legislation at some future time. It is a much more difficult task to see that a sport is organised properly from the beginning.

We should give the Minister the right and the opportunity to proceed now—not at some future date to suit some members of the Opposition—so that people who are interested will know whether or not the sport will proceed.

The Hon. N. E. Baxter: Can you tell us the advantages of the Bill to legalise greyhound racing?

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: He is talking about the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Bill—ancient history.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: One matter that occurs to me, and I believe this was raised by Mr. Logan and Mr. Abbey,

is the keeping of dogs in suburban areas. I do not keep a dog myself and I have resisted considerable pressure from my children to do so. I feel a large dog requires reasonable room to move and a greyhound in particular loves to run. That is what he is bred for.

The Hon. V. J. Ferry: Run backwards?

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: It will be difficult for people who wish to keep dogs in suburban areas.

I think they will have to be told from the beginning that if they want to exercise their dogs this cannot be done in built-up residential areas; the dogs must be taken outside these areas if they are to be exercised.

The Minister has suggested that controls already exist under the Local Government Act, and I feel confident he will ensure that these controls will be exercised. At the same time, I do not think it hurts to bring to his notice that this could be a matter of concern to people who live in built-up areas. They would not want dogs to be let loose in these areas. I support the Bill and I trust that other members of the House will do the same.

Debate adjourned until a later stage of the sitting, on motion by The Hon. W. F. Willesee (Leader of the House).

(Continued next column.)

MAIN ROADS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Assembly's Further Message

Message from the Assembly received and read notifying that it had appointed the member for Mt. Lawley (Mr. O'Connor), the member for Fremantle (Mr. Fletcher), the member for Avon (Mr. Gayfer), the member for Merredin-Yilgarn (Mr. Brown), and the member for Belmont (The Hon. C. J. Jamieson—The Minister for Works) as managers for the Assembly; the Select Committee room as the place of meeting; and the time 7.00 p.m., Thursday, the 1st June.

Sitting suspended from 6.02 to 10.20 p.m.

MAIN ROADS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Conference Managers' Report

THE HON. J. DOLAN (South-East Metropolitan—Minister for Police) [10.20 p.m.]: I have to report that the managers appointed by the Council met the managers appointed by the Assembly, and reached the following agreement:—

The conference of managers agrees to the passing of the Bill as amended with the provision of additional words to proposed new section 33B as follows:—

Add after the word "roads" in line 26 on page 3, the following words:— where such hoardings or other advertising structures are considered to be hazardous to

traffic safety or are aesthetically objectionable and in the case of such hoardings or other advertising structures erected on private property where the property owner refuses either to remove the sign or transfer it to another site acceptable to the commissioner.

I move—

That the report be adopted.

Question put and passed and a message accordingly returned to the Assembly.

GREYHOUND RACING CONTROL BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from an earlier stage of the sitting.

THE HON. G. W. BERRY (Lower-North) [10.21 p.m.]: I rise to speak in the debate because I want to say something concerning greyhound racing. I am rather amazed at the lack of speakers among Government members on a measure which the Government considers to be important.

The arguments which I have heard up to date have not endeared me to the Bill, and have not convinced me that it is in the best interests of the State for the measure to be passed. The accent seems to be placed on betting rather than on greyhound racing. Of course, without betting greyhound racing will not succeed. It has been said that there must be betting in sports which involve racing.

I do not agree. I could illustrate the motor cycle races which are conducted at the speedway where I understand some 20,000 spectators attend each meeting. I have never heard of any approach being made to introduce T.A.B. betting facilities at the speedway meetings.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I can tell you there have been three approaches.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: But the Minister would not consider agreeing to it.

The Hon. G. W. BERRY: I thank the Chief Secretary for that information.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: There have been three approaches.

The PRESIDENT: Order! Will the honourable member please address his remarks to the Chair and disregard the interjections.

The Hon. G. W. BERRY: We are told there have been three approaches to introduce T.A.B. betting at the speedway, but no move has been made to do so. I am sure that the spectators will continue to patronise the speedway and continue enjoying the sport without the betting. I go so far as to say that those involved in motor racing or who are competing in the races have to spend a great deal of their own money on the sport.

I do not agree it is a valid argument that betting must accompany greyhound racing. If people want greyhound racing for the sake of racing they should be accommodated, but I cannot agree to the betting that goes with it. It has been said there is only a certain amount of money available in the community for betting.

In New South Wales where there is greyhound racing, trotting, horse racing, as well as the poker machines, I understand that when the poker machines were introduced in that State they made no impact on the amount of money spent on other sports. The only effect was an overall increase in the amount of money spent on gambling.

It has got to the stage in New South Wales where the Government derives so much revenue from the poker machines that the Government cannot afford to lose it. I would not like Western Australia to follow along the same path by introducing a sport and encouraging people to gamble on it, so that when it becomes very lucrative to the Government, it cannot do without this revenue. Already the State is well served with betting facilities for those who want to bet.

Reference has been made in this debate to the T.A.B. The agencies especially in the Perth region seem to be established near hotels. I do not know whether that is through coincidence or by design. I say the introduction of the T.A.B. has had a big influence on those who bet.

People who have a few beers lose their inhibitions, and because the agencies are situated near hotels there is more inclination to bet. I know that many of the patrons of the T.A.B. shops cannot really afford to bet.

If we were to attract more people to bet through the T.A.B. through greyhound racing we would be developing a nation of gamblers, and that is not in the best interests of the community. There is more to be done by the State than to set up additional gambling facilities through greyhound racing.

Apart from the correspondence which members have received and which has been read out at length in this debate, I have received no other approaches to support the introduction of greyhound racing. In the course of my contact with the ordinary people in the street I made it my business to ascertain their views on greyhound racing. Of all the people I have met and with whom I have discussed this matter, only one person supported the introduction of greyhound racing. He has no interest in greyhound racing, apart from the fact that he wants to see the dogs race.

All the other people I have discussed this with were not in favour of it. Many of them asked why the State should be prepared to introduce greyhound racing. They contend there are already sufficient

betting facilities. The question they asked is this: Are there not enough dogs around the place without introducing the greyhounds? I do not think anyone views the introduction of greyhound racing with very much relish. As a result of the discussions I have had I would say that the majority of the people in this State do not want to see greyhound racing introduced.

I shall not go into a long harangue about the pros and cons of this question. From the information I have received, and from the arguments I have heard in this debate, I cannot see any reason why I should support the legislation; and I do not intend to.

THE HON. D. J. WORDSWORTH (South) [10.28 p.m.]: I think it has become apparent that the Bill has been introduced in this House in an incomplete manner. We have before us a Bill which covers the Dog Act and another which covers the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, as well as the Greyhound Racing Control Bill, but we have not got down to the most important feature; that is, how the administration of betting will be conducted.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: This is a Bill to control greyhound racing.

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: We have heard about the marvellous pets that greyhounds make and about the pleasures of watching them race; but if we analyse the question we find that the only reason people want greyhound racing introduced is that they want another avenue for gambling.

We should be told how this sport will be administered before we pass the legislation. This form of gambling will require more control than do most other forms of gambling. I say that, because it is undeniable that it is easier to tamper with a greyhound than with a trotter or a galloper.

The people advocating the introduction of greyhound racing bring forward the fact that we have other forms of racing, so why not dog racing? There is a very good reason, because it is much easier to tamper with greyhounds.

Several speakers in the debate have pointed out the importance of the T.A.B. to horse racing and trotting, and to what it has done for those sports. I think the reason those sports have built up the stakes is their desire to reduce the need to tamper with the horses.

The Hon. G. W. Berry: The people still tamper with the horses.

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: Not as much as they used to. We should be told what are the intentions of the Government regarding bookmakers and the T.A.B. in relation to greyhound racing.

I personally do not think the Western Australian way of life will be improved if we provide another form of gambling. This will be another sport on which people will be able to gamble. Perhaps I am

critical because I am not a gambler myself, although I am a farmer and I gamble against the weather and against the price of commodities. I suppose those who do not have so much excitement in their lives would perhaps desire to go to the races.

There has been reference to greyhound racing being a poor man's sport but I do not think that is a very good argument. An advantage of racing and trotting is, at least, that those who engage in it can afford to do so. However, we will see a completely different story with regard to greyhound racing.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: Does the honourable member think that statement is 100 per cent. correct?

The Hon. J. Dolan: The honourable member does not think that everyone who goes to the races can afford it, does he?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: At the moment I am talking about the keeping of dogs.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: How many horses does the honourable member own?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: I do not own any horses.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: But you said it was a rich man's sport.

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: Then perhaps I am not a rich man. Dog racing is completely different from horse racing. A greyhound pup can be purchased at very little cost. One gets the illusion that if the greyhound is fed on beef while everyone else in the house lives on cornflakes for a while, the family will soon become very rich.

Mr. Dans has mentioned Tasmania and I went to school near the course to which he referred.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: Which one?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: Invermay. I might add that it is an area of poverty in Tasmania but that is where the greyhounds are.

The Hon. W. R. Withers: Perhaps that proves it is a poor man's sport.

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: I suppose it could be taken that way. However, the greyhound racing did add to the poverty of the community in that area.

I think the general public will be inconvenienced as a result of the introduction of greyhound racing. I well remember walking to school and having to cross to the other side of the road because someone was coming towards me leading three greyhound dogs on leashes.

The Hon. W. R. Withers: Are greyhound dogs worse than Great Danes?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: People do not walk three Great Danes at the one time. I know that there will be a limit on the number of dogs which can be walked.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: Does the honourable member believe that the people of Tasmania have been corrupted by greyhound racing?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: I do not know, but personally I do not think the situation has been improved.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: What is your yardstick for saying that?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: I can give plenty of reasons.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: Well, give me one.

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: For a start, undesirable characters tend to collect around the race tracks.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: Around greyhound racing tracks?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: Perhaps so. They would probably collect around greyhound racing tracks because it would be easier to interfere with the racing ability of the dogs. At the same time, there are the racecourse touts.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: They are part of our colourful history.

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: I wish to introduce a new angle to this argument, and that is the matter of health. When I was brought up in Tasmania that State was faced with the problem of hydatids. The dogs become infected from eating infected liver and they then defecate in the streets and spread the disease. It is frightful to realise that a dog has only to eat one infected liver and for the rest of its life it drops at least 50 hydatids eggs each time it defecates. The eggs can be inhaled by people walking in the street and once the disease is contracted it is nigh on impossible to get over it. It has become a major hazard.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: How many people in Tasmania have died from the disease?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: One person dies every month in Tasmania from the disease.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I will keep away from there; it is unhealthy.

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: That is right, but it is no laughing matter. In fact, the disease got so serious in Tasmania in our particular area—quite a number of children had been infected—that we rounded up all the dogs in the five-mile district and dosed them.

The Hon. F. D. Willmott: Did you catch all the foxes too?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: They do not have foxes in Tasmania. The disease created so much trouble in Tasmania that the Department of Agriculture had to take over the job. We were playing with a very serious hazard when we dosed the dogs because as a result of the treatment they were dropping thousands of eggs in a confined place.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: Seriously, does that occur in Western Australia?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: Now that we are to encourage the introduction of dogs—and more walking dogs—the risk will be doubled.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: I heard a veterinarian talking about this disease long before we ever contemplated greyhound racing.

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: That is right. I am trying to point out that the risk of the disease will increase once greyhound racing is introduced. People will be encouraged to keep dogs and to walk them in the streets.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: And in highly-populated areas.

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: That is so, and I think this important point should be considered. I hope Western Australia will consider a campaign to eradicate the disease, anyway, even if we do not have the greyhound dogs wandering around the streets. I think this is an appropriate time to consider the problem. The disease seldom occurs in other countries because it originally comes from sheep, then passes to dogs, and then to human beings. It occurs mainly in New Zealand, Australia and Iceland. Tasmania and New Zealand have been able to clean up the disease, and we now have only the mainland to worry about. We have not had very much trouble lately except in the south-west and in the goldfields.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: If I remember rightly the last case traced came from Queensland.

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: The goldfields had a problem when dogs were kept in the camps. I might add that hydatids is considered to be even a worse disease than cancer because it is impossible to treat.

It seems one reason for the introduction of greyhound racing is the migrant population. I thought we were to assimilate the migrants into Australia but it seems we are going the other way.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: It seems we will have bingo and dog racing.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: We have not got them yet.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: I realise the session is drawing to a close—or I certainly hope it is—and in concluding my remarks I would like to say I am opposed to the passage of this Bill until I know what other measures are to be introduced for the control, and administration, and betting. I will certainly hope the matter of disease will be considered at the same time.

THE HON. R. THOMPSON (South Metropolitan) [10.40 p.m.]: I support this Bill entirely. I feel that much of the debate which has taken place concerning the measure has been based on extraneous matters, and not on the Bill itself.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: That is no reflection on the President.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: The President has always allowed a great deal of latitude and I admire him for it.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: That is a pretty smart way to get over the problem.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: I would not cast any reflection on the President and I think the President would know that only too well.

The Chief Secretary explained the reason for the introduction of the Bill during his second reading speech. If members have not read that speech then they should do so before they cast a vote.

The Bill was introduced for the purpose of setting up and regulating greyhound racing in Western Australia. Nothing can be done until the board is set up; until such time as the members of the board are appointed; until such time as the rules for racing have been made; and until such time as incidental legislation such as that governing betting has been introduced.

The Hon. D. J. Wordsworth: Does the honourable member think all that is necessary?

The PRESIDENT: Would the honourable member please address the chair and not invite interjections?

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: I did not cause the interjection, but I will abide by the ruling of the President. The preparation of this legislation has been painstaking inasmuch as the Chief Secretary arranged for one of his top ranking civil servants to tour Australia so that when the sport was introduced into Western Australia we would have the advantage of the experience gained as a result of what has already taken place in the other States. The Chief Secretary desires and hopes the sport will be looked on with some degree of honour in Western Australia.

I think the Chief Secretary should be applauded rather than criticised for the manner in which he has tackled this matter. He wants to get the best. No favouritism has been shown to anybody or to any of the organisations which have set themselves up.

Some of the organisations have amalgamated, mainly for the purpose of getting the best possible control of greyhound racing. This should be taken into consideration by members. The desires expressed by some members would involve a measure which would not be suitable. It is necessary that we should have the best.

I have been to only one greyhound race meeting, and that was with most of the members of the Western Australian Parliament. We attended a meeting in Adelaide and only one member in the party was absent.

Members went there not for the purpose of gambling but in order to try to learn something about the sport. As Mr. Williams said last night, we had all the best information, but the only winner I backed was one I picked myself and I did not lose much money. I do not think I will be a patron of greyhound racing when it is introduced into Western Australia, but to say it is not a popular sport is ridiculous.

I doubt whether it is 12 months since greyhound racing was introduced into South Australia. The course we visited was still in a rather rough state and lacked all the amenities that are perhaps desirable. It was nowhere near comparable with the trotting ground and race tracks in Western Australia, but in 12 months the popularity of the sport has grown and quite a high standard of racing has been reached. The dogs travelled so fast that I could scarcely see them. The course is situated some miles from the centre of Adelaide and it is very well patronised.

Although I will not be patronising greyhound racing, the people I represent want it. Members of this Chamber should take that aspect into consideration.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Do you not think it would be more correct to say that some of the people you represent want it?

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: I would say most of the people want it. I have not received any complaints, letters, phone calls, or personal calls from people expressing opposition to greyhound racing but I have received numerous letters and calls from people who are in favour of it.

I would say for the average people who cannot afford a trotter or a racehorse—horse-racing being the sport of kings at the present time—the introduction of greyhound racing will give them an opportunity to indulge in the training or racing of dogs. Admittedly there will be complaints for a time. We have received complaints about the methods by which people have obtained dogs and the conditions under which they keep them, but these things will be sorted out and this is the place where they will be sorted out. As far as my area is concerned, I will ensure that dogs are kept in a manner which will not upset neighbours and other residents who have no interest in this sport.

This Bill is the best legislation on the subject that has been introduced in any State of Australia. To reject it would be disastrous. In his second reading speech the Chief Secretary told us it would be nine to 12 months before dog racing actually took place here. I think that will be so because first of all we will have to see

the rules of the club which will govern all organisations interested in this form of sport. It will be necessary to table regulations and amend the T.A.B. legislation. Those who say they do not know whether the T.A.B. or bookmakers will operate should refer to clause 30(2) of the Bill, where it will be found that proceeds from the T.A.B. will be distributed to the greyhound racing organisations—presumably in both the city and the country. Therefore, I take it that sufficient provision is being made.

The Hon. F. D. Willmott: Does it say bookmakers will not operate?

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: It does not say whether bookmakers will or will not operate.

The Hon. F. D. Willmott: Exactly.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: I cannot answer that question but, speaking personally, I favour the T.A.B. only.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: So do I. That is what I said last night.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: This is something which the board appointed under the legislation would determine.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: Would recommend.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: The board would control it by regulations and we could disagree with the regulations when they were tabled. I know which side of the fence I would be on.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: You should not prejudice the matter.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: I think the T.A.B. system is the fairest means of gambling. It is better than taking odds from the bookmakers, because at least it will give everyone in the State an opportunity to bet. I do not think we should try to prejudice the effects this will have on the community, which is what we have been doing, according to the speeches that have been made.

Dog racing has been operating in Australia for many years. As other speakers have said, in 1927 it was banned in this State by an Act of Parliament. If this legislation does not meet the wishes of members of Parliament or members of the community, next year, the year after, or the year after that a Bill can be introduced to abolish it. It was done previously and it can be done again.

I have said this Bill is the best legislation on this subject in Australia. It will give a representative board an opportunity to control the sport. It is a sport which I think needs controlling. It is a new sport to us since 1927, when it last operated here, and we should give it a go. If we do not like it we can reject it in the future, but at the present time I support the measure.

The PRESIDENT: I wish to take this opportunity to reply to The Hon. Ron Thompson as regards my leniency. I notice from his speech that he has confirmed my leniency.

THE HON. S. T. J. THOMPSON (Lower Central) [10.54 p.m.]: In the last few days I have listened very carefully to what has been said about this Bill. After studying the measure, I find it is quite an adequate piece of legislation. I think it contains all the necessary provisions. I cannot understand why the Minister stated yesterday that he would have nothing to do with it and that he would hand it over to the commission.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I said I would fade out.

The Hon. S. T. J. THOMPSON: On looking through the Bill I find in a host of places that the Minister will make all the decisions, so for a Minister who will fade out—

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: After the control board is set up.

The Hon. S. T. J. THOMPSON: I think this piece of legislation is quite adequate but I cannot go along with it. I intend to oppose the Bill for a reason opposite to that which Mr. Ron Thompson gave for supporting it. I am quite convinced the people I represent do not want greyhound racing. No approaches have been made to me other than the two letters which most members received. No approaches from within my province have been made to me to support the Bill but I have had a host of approaches asking me to oppose it, and for that reason I will oppose the Bill.

THE HON. R. H. C. STUBBS (South East—Chief Secretary) [10.55 p.m.]: It can certainly be said to have been a Melbourne Cup field on this Bill. I thank Mr. Griffith, Mr. MacKinnon, Mr. Withers, Mr. Logan, Mr. Baxter, Mr. Clive Griffiths, Mr. Dans, Mr. Willmott, Mr. Abbey, Mr. McNeill, Mr. Berry, Mr. Wordsworth, Mr. Ron Thompson, and Mr. Syd Thompson.

The Hon. F. R. White: What about Mr. White?

The Hon. L. A. Logan: You forgot about Mr. White.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: Yes, I am sorry. Last but not least was Mr. Cloughton. I have made notes of the remarks made and I will read them so I will not miss out any of the points made. The main cause for concern which I would like to clear up at the outset is the criticism of the Bill because of its lack of provision for betting. Much ill-informed comment has been made outside the House about this alleged shortcoming in the measure. I say "outside the House" because the great majority of people who made those comments certainly should know better. We were told last night that a certain

gentleman said that I went off half cocked in regard to this legislation. However, the *Sunday Independent* certainly realises that what I said about betting is correct. That newspaper stated that if anyone studies the Government's legislation he will find a section authorising the distribution of T.A.B. moneys to registered greyhound clubs.

It is obvious that some members are better informed than others in regard to the fact that the control of greyhound racing as proposed in this legislation is modelled on the legislation of New South Wales and Victoria. Never at any time was it visualised that the sport would be introduced without facilities for betting. The critics must have known this and if they did not their lack of knowledge indicates that they should not be associated with the sport, anyway.

As I have already said on a previous occasion, a number of Acts will require amendment to provide betting facilities for greyhound racing. This Bill is modelled on the Victorian and New South Wales legislation and, incidentally, it is described by knowledgeable people connected with the sport in both those States as the best legislation they have seen in connection with greyhound racing. I would add that we even sent to Ireland and Great Britain for copies of the legislation in those countries; the idea being that when we introduce greyhound racing, we want Western Australia to have the best.

This Bill vests the control of the sport in a control board. I would draw attention to the fact that the title of the Bill is the "Greyhound Racing Control Bill"—and control is its sole purpose. It would seem ludicrous not to accept the advice of the controlling body on such a vital question as the type of betting which should operate. The Totalisator Agency Board is a business operation, and it will be necessary for the control board to conduct negotiations with the T.A.B. concerning the use of T.A.B. facilities. The questions of percentages, the number of licenses to be issued, and the number of racing days recommended by the board to myself will be of vital importance in these negotiations.

The question whether or not bookmakers should be introduced into the sport is one on which I have an open mind, but I would expect to be advised by the board on this matter. Some people say bookmakers add colour to race courses; others say they do not contribute much to the sport. In any case, would not members agree that it would be preferable for me to act on the advice of a properly appointed and constituted controlling board, which will provide for the appointment of members representing the interests of both the organisations, the Government, and independent bodies,

rather than for me to make prior decisions which may not be in accordance with the wishes of the board?

The whole question of betting in connection with this legislation is one which in my opinion should rest in the hands of people properly appointed to give the best advice concerning the necessary amending legislation.

At this stage I should say that the action taken to exclude complementary legislation regarding betting was not taken without advice based on a sound principle. In actual fact, the Government was advised that it would be most difficult, if not virtually impossible, to include such legislation at this stage. I do not intend to detail all the reasons concerning this decision, but I would like to mention a few.

If it were decided that bookmakers were to be permitted to operate in greyhound racing discussions would need to be held with representatives of greyhound racing clubs, the control board, and the Betting Control Board as to which persons should have the authority to issue and cancel bookmakers' licenses.

At present the Betting Control Board has on it no representatives of greyhound racing. Therefore, it would appear necessary for some alterations to be made, or at least it would be necessary to consider whether the Betting Control Board should exercise powers over greyhound bookmakers similar to those presently exercised over racing and trotting bookmakers. In so far as T.A.B. operations on greyhound racing are concerned, again there are a number of matters which would be better resolved after discussions with representatives of licensed greyhound racing clubs, the greyhound control board, and the Totalisator Agency Board.

First it must be decided what percentage of turnover of greyhound racing investments is to be deducted for payment to the benefit of greyhound racing clubs. The Totalisator Agency Board is, of course, presently a large business organisation, the assets of which have been built up over some 12 years by racing and trotting interests; and it may well be that arrangements made for greyhound racing interests would have to defer to any important aspects presently operating in connection with the racing and trotting interests, which have built up the T.A.B.

Moreover, until the board and the Government have considered the number of racing licenses to be issued to greyhound racing clubs in the first instance—

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Did you say the Government?

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: —there would be no reliable estimate of the volume of T.A.B. investments on greyhound racing, or of the places at which greyhound racing will be conducted outside the metropolitan area.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: The Government is going to consider this?

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: Accordingly, at this stage it is impossible to predict the profitability of T.A.B. operations on greyhound racing and, correspondingly, the amounts which the T.A.B. could reasonably be expected to disburse among greyhound racing clubs. It is obvious from the foregoing that the deferment of these decisions concerning the ways in which betting is to be conducted on greyhound racing is necessary if the decisions are to be made after rational consideration and in consultation with the parties vitally affected.

The questions of lobbying by outside organisations for the control of the sport and the decision on possible venues have received much unfavourable comment in the House in the past 24 hours. As I have already said, the complete control of the sport will be by this Bill vested in the greyhound racing control board.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: Subject to the Minister?

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: Yes, that is stated in the Bill.

The sport is a nonproprietary one which, as members will be aware, means that in effect, the profits from the conduct of the sport are returned to the industry.

On a question of venues I would draw the attention of members to clause 21 (1) under part IV of the Bill, which provides—

21. (1) No race meeting shall be held on any race course unless the race course is one licensed by the Board under this Part.

I emphasise the words "licensed by the Board." I also draw the attention of members to the fact that licenses for venues are issued with the approval of the Minister controlling the Act. For reasons similar to those I have already expressed concerning betting in this Bill I suggest that the discussion of venues in any way other than that detailed by the Bill would be ill-advised.

Comment has been made by several speakers on the amount of alleged encouragement that has been given to the public to get themselves associated with a sport for which there is no legislative approval. Furthermore, it has been alleged that I myself did not take sufficient steps to inform interested organisations of the dangers of committing themselves before such legislation had been approved.

I can assure members that I have received deputations from many of those organisations who seek to be associated with the sport. I can truthfully say that I have consistently warned them that the intended legislation clearly makes provision for the control of the sport to be vested in a control board and all of these

functions which have come under criticism will be a function of that board and provision is made for that control in this Bill.

As to the question of warning people about buying or leasing greyhounds I quote what one newspaper reported—the *Independent Sports Action* of Friday, the 18th June, 1971. It reads: "The Chief Secretary, Mr. Claude Stubbs, yesterday handed out a strong warning to people buying or leasing greyhounds. 'They could be wasting their money'."

Again I quote, this time from the *Daily News*—

Mr. Stubbs said he had been told local people had paid a lot of money for the dogs. He warned W.A. people against buying greyhounds until legislation to legalise the sport had passed through Parliament. At this stage there was no guarantee the legislation would get Parliament's approval.

I also read in the Press about a dog sale that was to be conducted in this State so I issued another Press warning to people not to buy dogs before the legislation was passed through Parliament and I also went along to observe the sale and noted that not one dog was sold. In any event, I issued a series of these Press statements advising people not to become involved with dogs until the legislation was passed.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: In spite of that they have spent a tremendous amount of money.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: Yes, they have, and I feel sorry for them because they had ample warning.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: Why do you feel sorry for them?

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: One must feel sorry for people who spend a lot of money unnecessarily.

The PRESIDENT: Order! The Minister shall address himself to the Chair.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: I do that with great pleasure, Mr. President. I was about to say that many of the dogs the people bought were old crocks brought over from the Eastern States. A certain gentleman came over from the Eastern States where he bought several dogs that could not pass a time trial. He sold them to people in this State who thought that greyhound racing was to be conducted tomorrow.

Many of these dogs are fairly old, and by the time this legislation is brought into operation—and I am not very confident it will be brought into operation—some of them will be suffering from old age.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Even before this legislation gets under way there are dubious things happening in relation to this sport based on your own statements.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: Yes, there are all sorts of things happening. However, I can assure you, Mr. President, that if this Bill becomes law the sport in this State will be well controlled. Comment has been made concerning illegal practices which one would gather are exclusively reserved for greyhound racing.

I have been present at a greyhound race meeting during the veterinary examination which takes place with the kennelling of dogs, which is completed one hour before the first race. That is to say, all dogs must be kennelled and under the exclusive control of the stewards before the first race. If a dog is in the tenth and last race of the night which may start at 10.30 or 11.00 p.m., the dog will have been under the exclusive control of the stewards for some 4½ hours. Admission by any member of the public—and that in this instance included myself—is given only by the chief steward and in this particular instance I was accompanied by that gentleman and the chairman of the control board.

Those members who make reference to illegal practices must have very little faith in the ability of veterinary surgeons who issue a certificate for each dog. No racing or trotting club exercises the same strict control that is exercised over these dogs. I made an inspection of the kennels, and I noticed that when the dogs were brought in they were weighed, and then weighed again before being led out. A complete history of the dog is kept including earmarkings and every other mark that is on the body. After being thoroughly checked the dog is then passed onto the kennels which are completely separate from the public and protected by a cyclone wire fence about eight or 10 ft. high. Further, the roofs of the kennels are so sloped that people cannot throw baits or anything else over to the dogs. Safety lights are erected all around the kennels and stewards are continually patrolling around them ensuring that people do not interfere with the dogs.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: It must be quite a worry to introduce a sport which requires such stringent control.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: This strict control ensures the success of greyhound racing.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: It is a worry that it needs such stringent control.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: They should not be worried; I should be the one who is worried tonight.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: As I have said, every dog is issued with a certificate.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: I thought you were going to say that every dog has its day.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: Everything about the dog is checked. Its weight cannot be varied. I might say, as was pointed out by Mr. Withers, that the dogs have to behave whilst they are on the track. If a dog misbehaves it is immediately disqualified for quite a period, and if it offends again it is disqualified forever. The control exercised over this sport is very strict, and that is why it is so popular. I am quite certain that the comment made during this debate upon the advancement of the sport as an industry in the Eastern States of Australia is due in no small way to the strict control that is exercised. I must emphasise again the word "control".

The sport is one which enjoys the confidence of the public because of the manner in which it is administered and the strict control that is exercised. I have here a circular which has been distributed among members. It is from an organisation the members of which describe themselves as belonging to The West Australian Greyhound Breeders, Owners & Trainers' Association. As Mr. Williams has said, much of the subject matter of this circular is pure poppycock.

Whilst it is true to say that a person of moderate means can become the owner of a dog and train it himself, and possibly make a financial success of the venture, the same can be said about the owner of a racehorse or a trotter. Members may recall the great racehorse Flight, which was purchased for £60. The success of getting a good animal depends, I suppose, on the luck of the draw.

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

Ayes—18

Hon. C. R. Abbey	Hon. G. C. MacKinnon
Hon. R. F. Cloughton	Hon. N. McNeill
Hon. D. K. Dans	Hon. I. G. Medcalf
Hon. S. J. Dellar	Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs
Hon. J. Dolan	Hon. W. F. Willesee
Hon. Lyla Elliott	Hon. R. J. L. Williams
Hon. V. J. Ferry	Hon. F. D. Willmott
Hon. J. L. Hunt	Hon. W. R. Withers
Hon. R. T. Leeson	Hon. A. F. Griffith

(Teller)

Noes—6

Hon. N. E. Baxter	Hon. F. R. White
Hon. L. A. Logan	Hon. D. J. Wordsworth
Hon. S. T. J. Thompson	Hon. G. W. Berry

(Teller)

Pair

Age	No
Hon. R. Thompson	Hon. J. Heitman

Question thus passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee

The Deputy Chairman of Committees (The Hon. F. D. Willmott) in the Chair; The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs (Chief Secretary) in charge of the Bill.

Clause 1: Short title—

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I take this opportunity to address myself to the Bill in speaking to clause 1, because I think it is

fair that I should make my own situation well understood. It will be recalled from the second reading speech I made that I did not give the Government the slightest indication that I was enamoured with the prospect of the introduction of greyhound racing in Western Australia. In fact, although I voted for the second reading of the Bill I have not changed my mind in that respect.

I suggest to the Chief Secretary that he take the spirit of the vote on the second reading into consideration, in that the views expressed by some members were contrary to the manner in which they voted.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: They certainly were.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The honourable member should speak for himself.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: I will.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The Committee stage will enable Mr. Logan to say anything he wants to say. Members who spoke in the same strain as myself were concerned, and I am sure will continue to be concerned, about the betting aspect of this legislation. The Chief Secretary has given a reasonable explanation of what he expects the betting requirements to be. I take it his legal advisers have informed him that before full betting facilities can be introduced, some amendments will have to be made to other legislation, presumably the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Act.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I think four Acts are involved.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I suppose they include the Betting Control Act. I am sure that other members will express their views on the way that I feel about this legislation. I have not changed my mind that Parliament should be consulted and be fully informed of the introduction of similar legislation in this Chamber.

The Chief Secretary has referred to the venues, and pointed out that they would be decided by the board. He then said from the notes he has just read out that the Government will have to consider the number of bookmakers to be licensed.

The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs: I think the Betting Control Board will do that.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I think the Minister said that the Government will have to consider the number of bookmakers to be licensed. He was reading from the sixth or seventh page of his explanatory notes in reply to the debate. The Government should be prepared to complete the Committee stage of the Bill, and so far as I am concerned I am prepared to agree except that I will be commenting on one or two of the clauses. Then we should be able to obtain from the Chief Secretary an undertaking that the third reading stage of the Bill will not be completed until the Government ascertains what are

the betting requirements, and more particularly until Parliament is able to see what will be the venues.

I am not bought over by the suggestion that so many people want greyhound racing. Not one citizen in any sphere in which I have moved has indicated to me that he desires greyhound racing in Western Australia. The only representations made to me have been by those with vested interests. I do not believe that the public by and large is looking for greyhound racing. To test the situation I have a suggestion to make. So far as I am concerned the Bill can be dealt with in Committee and proceed to the third reading stage. A demonstration of good faith on the part of the Chief Secretary would be to give an undertaking that the Bill will be held over after the Committee stage so that in the intervening weeks between now and the continuation of the session in the first week of August we could have a look at the betting facilities which will be provided in the necessary legislation, and we could be told at least where the important venues are likely to be.

I wish to mention the contribution my colleague in the North Metropolitan Province made when he was endeavouring to support the cause of the Government in this Bill. I do not know his purpose in going back to a 1954 *Hansard* to ascertain what I said on that occasion, but I can only deduce his purpose might have been to give the impression that at one stage I was a person who was not always as opposed to greyhound racing as I appeared to be when I made my second reading speech a couple of days ago. The honourable member quoted from the last column on page 3348 of *Hansard* No. 3 of 1954. I think he intended to convey to the Chamber that I had not always held the views I hold now, and I can only conclude that my colleague attempted to use some specious and dubious methods to convince people I had changed my mind. He must have known, of course, that in the very next column on the same page of that *Hansard* I am reported as having said—

Would there be any intention on the part of the Government to repeal the Racing Restriction Act? Do not let members be misled into believing that I am in favour of repealing it. Would the Government say that because off-course s.p. betting had been legalised, greyhound racing and whippet racing would also be authorised and two-up schools would be authorised, and that certain premises in the city would be authorised for gambling at baccarat? Will that be the position?

The Chief Secretary of the day then said—

So far as the present Government is concerned, no. I do not know what future Governments will do.

Of course that is history. Mr. Gilbert Fraser sitting where Mr. Willesee now sits did not know what future Governments would do, and I do not know whether he would have agreed to this legislation. I believe at that time he would not have.

I think what Mr. Claughton ought to do—and he is not encouraging me to vote for him in the next election—is to stand up in his seat and say, “Mr. Deputy Chairman (Mr. Willmott), I feel very ashamed of myself for using such specious and dubious methods to try to convince the Legislative Council that my colleague in the Council, Mr. Arthur Griffith, had a different opinion in 1954 from that which he holds today,” because without any doubt that was his intention. If that was not the intention, all I can say is that by a remote chance the honourable member happened to pick out words in that *Hansard* which it suited him to quote, and left the others out.

The honourable member would also know that what we were debating on that occasion was the introduction into this State Parliament by a Labor Government of the Betting Control Bill to authorise the legislation for the licensing of starting-price bookmakers in Western Australia. If he had turned over to page 3415 of the same *Hansard*, where the vote was recorded, he would have found my name with the noes because I held the view then that starting-price betting in Perth on race-horses or on any other form of gambling would, to say the least, have a very dubious future.

As most members are aware, after the coming into office of the Brand Government, it repealed that legislation and started the Totalisator Agency Board. That board came under a tremendous amount of criticism from some Labor people who were sitting in places where they are not sitting at the moment. Some are not even in the Chamber now.

It ill becomes Mr. Claughton to try to draw this type of red herring across the trail with a view to attaching some blame to me and to try to hoodwink the Chamber into thinking in the manner he tried to convince it I was thinking at that time. I do not think it becomes him at all and I believe he will get up and say he is very sorry because he did not intend to do that even if he did it.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: First of all I would like to repeat what I said in my reply to the second reading debate, which is as follows:—

If it were decided that bookmakers were to be permitted to operate on greyhound racing, discussions would have to be held with representatives of greyhound racing clubs, the control board, and the Betting Control Board, as to which persons would have the authority to issue and cancel bookmakers' licenses.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You did not use the word "Government" at all.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: I cannot see it here. I am prepared to give the undertaking suggested by Mr. Griffith to take the Bill to the third reading stage and then let it wait until August, because now the Bill has passed the second reading stage, it does give me a certain amount of confidence to start negotiations with the Totalisator Agency Board and also to commence the necessary complementary legislation. The important aspect is the negotiations but until I have some backing I can do nothing about it.

I am prepared to give the undertaking and let the Bill go to the third reading. It could be left to lie at that stage.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I thank the Chief Secretary for his remarks. In the same vein I am sure he must appreciate that there can be no guarantee that the total concept of the legislation will, in fact, be agreed to. I am really saying that to the people who might gather the impression that they are home and hosed.

Despite the warnings issued by the Chief Secretary many people have taken no notice at all. I simply say it would be well for them to realise that Parliament still has to consider the total concept. I say again to the Chief Secretary that I regard the position of the venues to be very important. I think half a dozen different places around the metropolitan area have been canvassed, and I think some organisations might have been vying for positions. I do not know whether that is the actual case and I do not make any accusation. Certainly there are a number of strategic positions around the metropolitan area, and there has been mention of the W.A.C.A. ground.

It is important that so far as the metropolitan area is concerned Parliament should be acquainted with the likely venues, and where meetings are likely to be authorised by the board.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: I think the warning issued by the Leader of the Opposition is very timely, and I hope the people concerned will take notice of it, because much work has still to be done before this measure passes through Parliament. Perhaps I can now commence the formation of a control board with a certain amount of confidence.

Naturally, such a board will not have any authority until this Bill passes, but at least I will be able to manoeuvre. I will try to get the necessary information before this matter comes before Parliament again.

I must stress again what I have already stressed to many people: I have heard all sorts of venues mentioned, and I have also heard about the W.A.C.A. ground. However, no-one has approached me with regard to the W.A.C.A. ground. It will be

left to the control board to negotiate and call for applications. The conclusions will be reported back to Parliament.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: That is fine and I thank the Chief Secretary very much. I am beginning to appreciate the keen enthusiasm of the Chief Secretary for the sport. I can see the Treasury washing its hands, like the man with the invisible soap, in anticipation of the pay-off from the T.A.B.

If this proposal reaches its ultimate conclusion we will see tremendous good accruing to the community. Mark my words, if Mr. Claughton is still here in 10 years' time he can look back on the *Herald* for 1972. However, I would ask him to quote it accurately.

If greyhound racing comes to pass it will develop into a mighty big industry and the Treasury will find that it will not be able to do without the revenue from the T.A.B.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: When I spoke during the second reading debate I said that I wished to see the sport develop in Western Australia, and I have not changed my mind. I also said I did not like the manner in which the legislation was presented and I would prefer to see complementary legislation in regard to T.A.B. betting. Because of my views I said I would not vote for the legislation until such time as the Minister offered the complementary legislation for our consideration.

Since the debate took place last night I have further considered my feelings, and I have given further thought to comments made in this Chamber and also in the corridors. As a result I put a question, without notice, to the Chief Secretary as to whether he would present a Bill with the complementary legislation to this Chamber in the next session of Parliament should this Bill be defeated. His answer was, "No."

I then had to face the problem of going back on my word, which I endeavour not to do at any stage. I am now explaining to the Committee why I voted for the Bill at the second reading stage even though I said I would not. I believed I should not vote against the Bill because the Chief Secretary had said he would not present the Bill again at a later stage.

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE: I do not think the honourable member went back on his word; he went back with qualifications.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: Yes, but I still went back on my word and for that reason I am now offering my explanation. I feel morally right in what I have done but I did want to make the situation clear.

Clause put and passed.

Clause 2 put and passed.

Clause 3: Repeal—

The Hon. N. E. BAXTER: This is the key clause to the legislation to admit greyhound racing into this State. The clause

will repeal the Racing Restriction Act of 1927. In 1927, when the legislation was introduced, a very wise gentleman who was at one time the President of this Chamber spoke to the measure. He was a man of wide experience, and he represented an area which covered the gold-fields where gambling was rife in the early days. I will quote from page 1554 of the 1927 *Hansard*, and the words are those of The Hon. Harold Seddon. They are as follows:—

There was a time when the legislature of a country stood for high ideals, and endeavoured to formulate their efforts in the direction of uplifting the people for whom they were legislating. We now find that the attitude adopted by some legislators is that of apologizing for evils that are known to exist, decrying any attempts to deal with them in any way, and of adopting the attitude that such evils should be allowed to run their course and to that extent should be encouraged. I regard that as a most lamentable attitude for any legislator to take up. When we abandon those high ideals that have meant so much to the community in the past, we take a step in the wrong direction, and we encourage the demoralisation of the young people rather than uplifting them to any extent whatever.

He went on to say—

For the reasons I have indicated, I welcome the introduction of the Bill.

What will we be doing under the legislation we are considering at the moment? We will be introducing another form of gambling by repealing the Racing Restriction Act of 1927. It will be leaving the gate wide open to introduce more gambling. I believe this is the key to the whole thing. I do not believe this sport would get off the ground in any way unless some form of gambling were attached to it. From what I can gather, that form of gambling will be the introduction of T.A.B. betting on dog racing. It will put money into the coffers of the Government. It will put money into the pockets of some people. The same thing will happen as would have happened had the Racing Restriction Act not been introduced in 1927. Certain people will come here from other States, make money out of this, return to the other States when they have made their slice, and leave many lamenting. If members take cognisance of the words used by Harold Seddon in 1927 they will think deeply on this legislation and vote against the clause.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: I hope the Committee does not vote against it, because the clause is the vital part of the Bill.

The Hon. N. E. Baxter: Of course it is.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: The Racing Restriction Act, 1927, has to be repealed to allow dog racing to commence. Therefore, if the Committee votes against the clause, the Bill will be lost. I ask the Committee not to vote against this clause.

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE: I would like to add to the words of the Minister who has just spoken. At the moment we are at the stage of compromise on this legislation. We are endeavouring to produce legislation which will be in line with the general terms dictated by the Committee.

It would be fatal to delete one particular clause or provision of the Bill at this stage. Basically we are trying to deal with the Bill in Committee and reach the point of a third reading when Mr. Stubbs can come forward on a future date with something that will be suitable to members of the Chamber. Possibly this will be the first week in August. To delete anything at this stage would be detrimental to finding any possible solution to this issue.

The Hon. N. E. BAXTER: When I rose to speak on the clause I made the statement that this is the key clause of the legislation. I am not in any doubt about this.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: Would you repeat that?

The Hon. N. E. BAXTER: Yes, I made the statement it is the key clause of the legislation. I did not leave the Committee in any shade of doubt as to my meaning.

What are we doing today that follows up the words of the late Harold Seddon? As it is, we have many evils in our midst. We are trying to keep drug-taking under control. There are many other things such as the unauthorised use of motor vehicles, vandalism, bashing, rape, and many other crimes. Yet, we are introducing something which will be detrimental to the young people in our community. Very largely, it will be the young people who will engage in this sport. Will we be uplifting our people or not? I say we will not be, and we should be endeavouring in these days to do everything possible to put temptation out of the way of young people.

If we spent more time legislating on some of the crimes that exist in the State today we would be doing a better job than we are in repealing the Racing Restriction Act of 1927.

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE: The honourable member is quoting from a speech which is 45 years old. He is entitled to take that as his yardstick. Obviously he does not believe in greyhound racing, but does he not himself own a racehorse?

The Hon. N. E. Baxter: Correct.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: I had not wanted to enter the discussion at this point, but it is obvious from what has been said by all speakers that no member

has ever been asked by one person in the community to favour greyhound racing. Am I right?

The Hon. R. Thompson: No.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: I am right. I ask Mr. Ron Thompson to look at the debates. No-one has made this request except the organisations associated with greyhound racing.

The Hon. R. Thompson: You are completely wrong.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: How many of his constituents asked Mr. Ron Thompson?

The Hon. R. Thompson: I have received numerous requests.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Can the honourable member name them.

The Hon. R. Thompson: Yes, my word I can.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Please do, when I sit down. Other members have said they have received no requests from the general community asking for greyhound racing.

The Hon. W. R. Withers: I named one, a councillor, in the newspaper.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: What is the population of Port Hedland? Let us be fair.

The Hon. W. R. Withers: He is the only one I quoted by name.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: One out of a population of 7,000 in Port Hedland. All other speakers, apart from Mr. Ron Thompson, have received no requests except for two letters. Where is the demand for this legislation from the community? I think we should put the record straight.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: I had no intention of rising, but I must admit I take exception to this, "Holier than thou" attitude. I agree in this case with Mr. Willesee. I do not think there is any member in this Chamber, if he examines himself—and I include myself in this—who has a right to point the finger at others and claim, by implication or anything else, to be more concerned about the welfare of the community than other members. I think it smacks a little of a sanctimonious attitude. This ill becomes any legislator.

I do not like this attitude of giving any sort of appearance of reading a lecture or preaching a sermon. When I am preached at I tend to get niggardly. The mere fact of any sport or activity being instituted does not necessarily encourage or discourage evil practices. These are inherent in the community anyway. I thought last night when I talked about frog racing that I had given an indication it does not need anything very much to foster gambling, or anything else.

On many Bills which come before this House we are not approached by many people, but we believe changing conditions have necessitated such a modification of the law. I believe that, having gone as far as we have gone, we ought to discuss this on its merits, not on some hypothetical attitude of mind based on a statement—and here I rely on Mr. Willesee's figures—of 45 years ago.

The Hon. N. McNEILL: I rise simply to reject the inference to be drawn from Mr. Logan's comments. When I spoke to the debate, I said that I was in favour of the Bill to the extent that I would vote for the second reading.

At no time during the debate did I indicate that I had received representations from any person; but, for the information of Mr. Logan, it was not intended to convey the impression that I had not received any such representations. I received representations from some enthusiasts for this sport in my own province. I do not consider it is necessary or obligatory for me to indicate the names of the persons who made recommendations to me.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: Quite right.

The Hon. N. McNEILL: I have no intention now of stating the names of the people who approached me. For Mr. Logan's benefit, suffice it to say I have received representations from those people. In saying that I do not indicate, and I do not wish to convey, that the views held by the people concerned were such as to persuade me I should vote for the second reading. I still reserve the right to exercise my vote and discretion according to the examination I have made of the legislation which the Government has put before us. As Mr. MacKinnon said, when legislation is placed before us we are called upon to make some judgment on it, and on the basis on which this legislation has been presented I have cast my vote—not necessarily as a result of any individual or other representations I have or have not received from within or outside my province.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: On Thursday, the 4th May of this year, the contents of this Bill were reported or misreported in *The West Australian* which indicated that no betting would be allowed. In fact, the Bill says no betting will be allowed at any places where dogs are trained. On that day I received the first call at my home at a quarter to seven in the morning and my phone did not stop ringing until I left home at 11 o'clock. The first person who rang me said he was immediately going to ring Mr. Clive Griffiths. Unfortunately, Mr. Clive Griffiths is ill and is not here tonight, but if he were here he would verify what I am saying.

It must be appreciated that I represent an area which extends from Canning Bridge to Medina. The only opportunity my constituents have to attend anything approximating a race meeting is when meetings are held at Richmond Park 10 or 12 times a year. Those people are most desirous to have the sport of greyhound racing operating in close proximity to Fremantle or Medina, and I can assure members the sport would boom. Many of those people and many of my former associates on the waterfront have dogs which they are training.

The Hon. F. R. White: What sort of dogs?

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: Many of the people originally came from the Eastern States as a result of the transfers that can take place throughout the Waterside Workers' Federation. They had dogs in the Eastern States and they want to race dogs here. Also, many local people who have had no previous association with greyhound racing have written to me, telephoned me, and stopped me in the street. If anyone should doubt my word and would like to inquire in the area, I will supply the names of the people—I do not think I should mention them here—and I doubt whether such inquiries could be completed in a couple of days.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, do you not think we have done enough yapping about this jolly thing and that we should get on with it?

The Hon. N. E. BAXTER: I take it that Mr. MacKinnon insinuated that I had been preaching. I was not preaching; I was quoting the words spoken in 1927 by a very astute and wise man. I ask the Committee to consider those words when voting on this Bill.

I also made some remarks about the incidence of crime in this State. I pose the question: Would we not be better legislating for the control of crime in this State than legislating for greyhound racing? The simple answer is "Yes" or "No."

The Leader of the House asked whether it was a fact that I own a race horse. Yes, I do own a race horse and I breed race horses. That does not affect my attitude to this legislation. My objection to this legislation is the betting connected with it and the evils associated with expanding betting facilities in Western Australia.

The Hon. R. Thompson: Do you think we should prohibit betting on race horses?

The Hon. N. E. BAXTER: It is up to Parliament to do so at any time. Parliament can try to do that if it wishes.

If I felt this was an industry that would benefit Western Australia, would produce some export income, and would not do any damage to our young people, I would support the legislation; but it is my honest

opinion that this industry will not be of any value to Western Australia and that it will do more harm than good.

Clause put and passed.

Clause 4 put and passed.

Clause 5: Interpretation—

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: When Mr. Ron Thompson was last on his feet he made some reference to people having purchased dogs. I interjected and asked, "What sort of dogs?" I did not get an answer.

The Hon. R. Thompson: I did not hear your interjection. Greyhounds.

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: I wish to draw attention to the fact that the Bill contains definitions of "greyhound racing," "greyhound trial track," etc. The interpretation of "greyhound racing" is—

"greyhound racing" means racing between dogs in competitive pursuit, of an artificial lure;

As we go through the Bill we find references to "greyhound," but the definition of "greyhound racing" does not say it applies solely to greyhound dogs. I am wondering whether it may be desirable to include in this clause an interpretation of the sort of dog that is meant to be involved. If we do not do that, we could possibly have whippet racing and other racing taking place in the future. It may be a technical point but if there is doubt about a technical point in legislation it should be tidied up. I draw this to the attention of the Committee.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: I did not hear Mr. White's interjection; otherwise I would have told him that the people concerned had purchased greyhounds.

The title of this Bill is sufficient to satisfy his last query as to which type of dog would be racing. It would be greyhounds because no other dogs would be fast enough. The dogs must qualify on time before they can start in a race.

The Hon. F. R. White: Where do you get that information? The Bill does not say so.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: The rules and regulations which will be brought down by the board when it is set up will probably be in line with those of all the other States, which stipulate that dogs must qualify.

If members look at the betting section to which I referred earlier, it points out that betting is not permitted at trials. Dogs must be brought up to racing condition and complete a time trial before they race. It would be a reflection on the sport to allow out-of-condition dogs to race. This should answer the question raised by Mr. White.

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: I raised a possibly technical point which may create problems in the future. I did direct my

question through you, Mr. Deputy Chairman (The Hon. F. D. Willmott), to the Minister handling the Bill, and I should like to have his comments.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: The Bill is perfectly clear—the word “greyhound” appears all through it. If necessary I will have this aspect looked at to see whether an amendment is desirable.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: I accept the assurance given to me by the Minister that if there is a technical weakness he will have the matter looked into.

The Hon. G. W. BERRY: Further on in this clause it states—

“greyhound trial track” means land, not licensed as a race course, that is held out by any person having the management or control thereof as owner, lessee, occupier or otherwise, as being available for the purpose of enabling greyhounds, other than those owned or trained by or leased to that person, to compete in trials or be trained in racing;

Clause put and passed.

Clause 6: Establishment of Board—

The Hon. R. J. L. WILLIAMS: Good morning. I always like to be polite first thing in the morning. I always say, “Good morning” when I wake up.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: What will you have for breakfast?

The Hon. R. J. L. WILLIAMS: I would like bacon and eggs but I will probably get a tin of Pal!

I am concerned about the composition of the greyhound racing control board. I realise that the board in the first place is largely for guidance but I notice the absence of one representative whom I feel is necessary in the initial stages of establishment—a qualified veterinary surgeon. Tonight we have heard a great deal about diseases of dogs, etc., and I feel a veterinary surgeon would be an acquisition to the board.

Perhaps the Minister would be agreeable to adding another member to the board or depriving one of the other bodies of a representative. The board is to include a barrister and an officer of the department, which is a sensible arrangement.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: In reply to the query raised by Mr. Williams, I do not think this will be necessary because the racing clubs employ two veterinary surgeons all the time to examine the dogs. I do not feel there would be any advantage in the appointment of a veterinary surgeon to the board.

Clause put and passed.

Clause 7: Terms of Office, deputies, etc.—

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I would ask the Chief Secretary to look at clause 7 (7) which states—

The Governor may, in respect of each member, appoint a person to be the deputy of the member.

I doubt the wisdom of appointing seven deputies. The board is intended to keep a tight control over a difficult industry and if each member has a deputy there will obviously be a great lack of continuity of decisions. I would test the feeling of the Committee by moving an amendment.

I move an amendment—

Page 5—Delete subclause (7).

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: It is my interpretation of this subclause that a deputy will only be appointed if one of the members intends to be away on leave or is sick. Not every member of the board will automatically have a deputy. The Governor will have the power to appoint a deputy if a member is absent or ill. I would prefer that the Committee oppose the amendment.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Could I say with due modesty I have had a fair amount of experience of the Governor appointing members. I therefore ask the Chief Secretary, if we accept his explanation that the Governor would appoint a deputy if one of the members of the board became sick, what will happen when there is no meeting of Executive Council on that day? A deputy could not possibly be appointed. The interpretation of this subclause is that a deputy will be appointed to take the place of each member of the board. This is an undesirable state of affairs. I do not accept the explanation of the Chief Secretary. The deputy would have to be appointed before the member became ill.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: That was the idea—a deputy to take a member's place when he is ill. I admit that the Executive Council may not be sitting at that particular time. However, the Bill provides for a quorum and surely the board can carry on until such time as a deputy can be appointed. I would much prefer that the subclause remain in the Bill.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: A quorum under the legislation is more than half, and more than half of seven is four. Four members would be necessary to conduct a meeting of the board. The board would not be affected if there were no more than three absentees. I am not happy that the Governor is to appoint deputies in a matter of this nature.

Amendment put and passed.

Clause, as amended, put and passed.

Clause 8 put and passed.

Clause 9: Proceedings of Board—

The Hon. N. McNEILL: I refer the Committee to subclause (2) wherein the expression "The Chairman or his deputy" appears. Does that expression refer to a person who is deputed to act in place of the chairman, or does it refer to the deputy of the member who happens to be appointed as the chairman? I think there is an element of doubt. The subclause refers to members electing a chairman in the absence of the permanent chairman. Bearing in mind the action we have taken on clause 7 in regard to the appointment of deputies, I foresee a situation of a board meeting consisting of deputies. It may well be appropriate to provide that in the absence of the chairman one of the other members shall act as chairman, and not a deputy.

The Hon. J. Dolan: They would select the best person if the chairman was absent.

The Hon. N. McNEILL: That is not the point I am querying.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The weakness is that there is no provision for the appointment of a deputy chairman.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: I think from memory it was intended that someone should be appointed a deputy or vice-chairman so that when the chairman is absent he could chair the meeting. That is my interpretation.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: Then why does it not refer to the chairman or the deputy chairman?

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: Does the Leader of the Opposition think a permanent deputy chairman should be appointed?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Yes. In my mind the reference to deputy means the deputy chairman, but there is no provision for the appointment of a deputy chairman. Surely the words "The Chairman or his deputy" do not refer to a deputy under clause 7 (7) which has been deleted. Surely it would be incongruous to appoint a chairman and then appoint a deputy to take over his function once a year when the chairman happens to be away.

The Hon. R. H. C. StUBBS: That is not my interpretation.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I think the Chief Secretary should give an undertaking similar to the one he gave previously: that he will ask the Parliamentary Counsel to consider this matter and recommit the Bill, if necessary, in August. The important point is that the chairman must be a selected man and if he is absent his position should not be left to chance. Most responsible boards have a chairman and a deputy chairman to act in the absence of the chairman. I refer members to a similar situation in the

Aboriginal Affairs Planning Authority Bill. I think Mr. McNeill would be satisfied if the Chief Secretary gave an undertaking to have the matter checked.

The Hon. N. McNeill: Yes.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I also draw attention to subclause (4) which gives the chairman a deliberative and a casting vote. I am opposed in principle to a man having two votes. If there are only four or six members present at the meeting and the voting is equal, then the matter should be discussed at a full meeting when a majority decision may be taken. If we delete this subclause the chairman will be left with the same voting rights as other members. Therefore, I move an amendment—

Page 6—Delete subclause (4).

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: I think the amendment is reasonable and I am prepared to accept it.

Amendment put and passed.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: As we have deleted clause 7 (7) which refers to deputies, it will be necessary to delete subclause (5) of this clause which also refers to deputies. I move an amendment—

Page 6—Delete subclause (5).

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: I agree to the amendment. I am not sure whether I gave an assurance to have the point raised by Mr. McNeill checked by the Parliamentary Counsel. I give that assurance.

Amendment put and passed.

Clause, as amended, put and passed.

Clause 10 put and passed.

Clause 11: Remuneration and expenses of members—

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I move an amendment—

Page 7, lines 6 and 7—Delete the words "and their deputies".

There will be no deputies so no remuneration will be required. Therefore, in this clause the words, "and their deputies" should be deleted.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: There would be an ultimate permanent deputy.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: No, he will be the deputy chairman; he will not be a deputy.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: I concede.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: I accept the amendment.

Amendment put and passed.

Clause, as amended, put and passed.

Clauses 12 to 15 put and passed.

Clause 16: Finance—

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I hope the Chief Secretary realises that I am trying to be of assistance to him. I move an amendment—

Page 9, lines 5 and 6—Delete the passage, "deputies of members,".

Amendment put and passed.

Clause, as amended, put and passed.

Clause 17 put and passed.

Clause 18: Functions of Board—

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: In this clause why is the Minister so adamant that there shall be no appeal from actions of the stewards? It seems to me that such a decision would be very costly to a person, should he be suspended or disqualified.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: We accepted the recommendations given by our advisers in the Eastern States who are connected with this sport. They said that this provision was very important for the proper conduct of the sport. From all the information we could glean regarding legislation in the Eastern States, Ireland, and England, those qualified to know seemed to consider that this provision was most important for the proper conduct of dog racing.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: The decisions of the W.A.T.C. and the W.A.T.A. are not subject to appeal.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: The fact that such a provision is in other legislation is not a reason for its being inserted in this Bill. Why is it in the New Zealand Act?

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: The information we were given is that it is essential for the strict control of the sport. That is the complete reason.

Clause put and passed.

Clauses 19 and 20 put and passed.

Clause 21: Race courses to be licensed—

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: On a previous occasion I asked what type of dog would be governed by the Bill that is now before us. It appears the Committee is of the opinion that the dogs to be governed by this measure will be greyhounds only. This clause deals with restrictions to be placed on race meetings. I consider that this would be an appropriate time to draw attention once again to a statement made by Sir William Latham on the 25th October, 1927, which appears in volume 77 of the *Parliamentary Debates* for that year.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Could I suggest that the gentleman's name is Lathlain—not Latham.

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: I thank the Leader of the Opposition for that correction. Sir William Lathlain made the

statement that clause 2 contained the following provision:—

From and after the passing of this Act it shall be unlawful for any person to bet in any place on the result of any race in which a mechanical device, contrivance or object is used for the purpose of racing of any kind.

The clause to which Sir William was referring was clause 2 of the Racing Restriction Bill which he was introducing. If the Bill before us is passed it will repeal the Racing Restriction Act thereby making it possible for any dog to race against a mechanical contrivance.

The clause we are now discussing will control only the racing of the greyhound dog. Through you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, I ask the Minister this question: Will it not be a fact that if this legislation is passed, any breed of dog, including whippets, may be raced? The Bill will only control greyhounds and in my opinion it could be possible for whippets to be raced.

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: The Bill is designed solely for the purpose of the control of greyhound racing. I notice there are several omissions in the interpretations. Therefore, to place the clause beyond doubt I am prepared to move for the insertion of the word "greyhound" in certain parts of the clause. Will that meet the requirement of the honourable member?

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: This clause governs the restriction of race meetings in regard to greyhounds only. If the Bill is passed and becomes law this clause will not control the racing of other breeds of dogs, which, in my opinion, will be possible due to the fact that clause 3 of the Bill provides for the repeal of the Racing Restriction Act which at present prevents any breed of dog from racing against a mechanical contrivance.

Is it not a fact that the provision in clause 21 will control only one type of dog races, and if the Bill is passed in its entirety any other type of dog could be raced in an uncontrolled manner?

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS: If there is any doubt on the clause it can be cleared up, so that no other type of dog may be raced. Would the honourable member be content if I undertake to bring the point he has raised before the notice of the Parliamentary Draftsman, and deal with it in the third reading stage?

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: I should be very happy if the Chief Secretary would undertake that task.

The Hon. N. E. BAXTER: The Bill is supposed to close all loopholes so that dog racing will be conducted on the level, yet we find in clause 21 the loophole referred to by Mr. White.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: The provision in clause 21 (1) is fairly concise. It provides that no race meeting shall be held on any racecourse unless it is one licensed by the board. The objections which are being raised now are being raised at a rather late stage. If members have been aware of any omission it is strange that they did not raise the matter in the second reading debate, in order that the Chief Secretary might have given adequate time to consider them.

The Hon. F. R. WHITE: Clause 21 (1) does provide that no race meeting shall be held on any racecourse other than one licensed by the board; but if we turn to the interpretations in clause 5 we will see that a race meeting is defined as a meeting for greyhound racing. Therefore it will be confined to the control of greyhound racing only, and not the racing of any other type of dog.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The only time when members can raise points in the clauses of a Bill is when those clauses are dealt with in Committee. It is nonsense for Mr. Claughton to say that members can raise these points in the second reading debate.

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: I remember distinctly the honourable member doing that in respect of another Bill.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Of course, a member may go through a Bill and deal with the points in the clauses, but in this instance Mr. White wanted an assurance in relation to the interpretation of certain words in the clause.

Clause put and passed.

Clause 22 put and passed.

Clause 23: Board to give effect to directions of Minister in issuing race permits—

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Whilst it is obviously the fervent desire of the Chief Secretary to bow out once the board has been established, at no time will he really be able to do so. Under this clause he will be constantly involved with matters concerning the board, because it states that he may from time to time give directions to the board on the various matters enumerated. The Chief Secretary has said that the Government will have to make some determinations, but in fact he will be the one who will make them.

Clause put and passed.

Clause 24 put and passed.

Clause 25: Accounts and Audit—

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I merely comment that the great principle that belongs to the Labor Party has crept into this legislation, because this clause provides that the Auditor-General shall at least annually audit the accounts of the board. If this is agreed to I suppose we will find in a few years' time the Labor Party saying

"The provision for the Auditor-General to audit the books is included in the Greyhound Racing Control Act, and you voted for it at the time, so you should extend it to the Totalisator Agency Board."

I suppose at that time Mr. Claughton will rise to defend me by saying that people should not quote a member out of context! A couple of members have accused others of not paying much attention to this legislation. For those who have not done so they seemed to have been of great help to the Chief Secretary.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: To be honest this is the first time I have seen a reference to the Auditor-General in the Bill.

Clause put and passed.

Clauses 26 to 30 put and passed.

Title—

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: It would probably be a good idea for the Chief Secretary to get the Parliamentary Draftsman to have a thorough look at the Bill. Some of us have endeavoured to help him by bringing forward various matters, and some amendments have been made. It might well be that a close examination of what we have done will prove useful.

The Bill will now be reported to the House and I, for one, will expect the betting control legislation in relation to greyhound racing to be submitted to us at a later stage. I want to make it perfectly clear again, if it is necessary, that because I have supported the second reading and helped in the conduct of the legislation it does not mean I am any more enamoured of greyhound racing than I was when I made my second reading speech on the matter, or than I was in 1954.

Title put and passed.

Report

Bill reported, with amendments, and the report adopted.

MAIN ROADS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Assembly's Further Message

Message from the Assembly received and read notifying that it had agreed to the conference managers' report.

QUESTIONS (5): ON NOTICE

1 and 2. *These questions were postponed.*

3. HEALTH EDUCATION

Modern Social Issues Programme

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH, to the Leader of the House:

(1) Is it the Government's intention to increase the scope of lectures in country centres by the Health Education Council on "Modern Social Issues"?

- (2) If so, have staff and fund allocations been increased to cater for this growing demand?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:

- (1) "Modern Social Issues" programmes in the country are contingent on staff and funds being available. The programme will be expanded whenever possible.
- (2) Additional funds are being sought from State and Commonwealth sources for this purpose.

4. PASTORAL LEASES

Rent Relief

The Hon. G. W. BERRY, to the Leader of the House:

- (1) How many applications for relief from pastoral rents have been received from lessees in the Shires of Laverton, Leonora, Menzies, Sandstone and Wiluna?
- (2) How many have been approved in each area?

The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE replied:

- (1) and (2) Details concerning applications for relief from pastoral rents under the provisions of section 101A of the Land Act are as follows:—

Shire of	Applications Received	Applications approved (to date)
Laverton	3	NH
Leonora	15	9
Menzies	12	4
Sandstone	17	6
Wiluna	6	1

5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Esperance Shire

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH, to the Minister for Local Government:

- (1) What was the reason for the Executive Council's decision to change the number of councillors to represent the various wards of the Shire of Esperance?
- (2) Did either the Shire Council, individual councillors, or ratepayers, petition for a new allocation of representation?
- (3) Does not the Minister consider that in all decency he should have notified the Shire of the Executive Council's decision before publishing the notice in the *Government Gazette*?
- (4) In view of the fact that in the future, seven councillors will represent one ward, while only one will represent each of the extensive new-land wards, would not the Minister consider it more wise to redistribute the wards?

- (5) What is the respective areas, population, and property value of each of the five wards, and how does the Minister explain the soundness of the change?

- (6) If revaluation of country wards shows a rise in values, will the Minister be changing the representation back again?

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS replied:

- (1) Numerous requests for increased membership in the Esperance Ward including representations from the Esperance Ratepayers' and Electors' Association and town business people.
- (2) No.
- (3) Orders in Council are not effective until published in the *Government Gazette*. Exception is taken to the word 'decency'. The Council was notified within three working days of the publication of the Order in the *Gazette*.
- (4) No. The decision was made on the basis of the number of ratepayers and rates struck in the Esperance and other Wards.

Ward	Population (approx.)	Area Sq. Miles	Unimproved Valuations \$
Esperance	4,000	20	8,387,229
Central	950	1,050	2,147,734
North	750	6,500	920,193
East	550	2,460	1,617,700
West	450	960	1,358,477

- (6) Not necessarily.

House adjourned at 12.51 a.m. (Friday)

Legislative Assembly

Thursday, the 1st June, 1972

The SPEAKER (Mr. Norton) took the Chair at 11 a.m., and read prayers.

URGENCY MOTION

Statement by The Speaker

THE SPEAKER (Mr. Norton) [11.01 a.m.]: I have this morning received a letter from the Deputy Leader of the Opposition seeking permission under Standing Order 48 to move an urgency motion, but due to lack of time I have not been able to study the subject matter of the request and make a decision as to whether it is in order under Standing Order 49.

MAIN ROADS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Council's Message

Message from the Council notifying that it had disagreed to the further amendments made by the Assembly to the Council's amendments, and insisted on its original amendments, now considered.