

or hesitant action, but one for courageous planning with unison, with vision, and with wisdom. Every day the roadway to the dreams of our past becoming realities is widening. All that is required now is faith in our tomorrows and a determination to succeed. Let us forget the toil and sweat—only achievement counts. Each day as we proceed to our daily toil, it would do us all good to repeat these words of Arthur Clough—

And not by eastern windows only.

When daylight comes, comes in the light,

In front, the sun climbs slow, how slowly,

But westward, look, the land is bright.

'Today, we, as a Parliament, have brought to fruition a wish of one of our great forebears, the earliest of our leaders, and one of our greatest parliamentarians—Lord Forrest; and he, then Sir John Forrest, as Premier, speaking in the Legislative Assembly on the 17th October, 1894, on a motion for a commission to report on the expediency or not of erecting new Houses of Parliament, said—

For my part, I believe in making a country's Houses of Parliament as convenient, as beautiful, and even as splendid as possible, so that those who enter them may regard them as something like sacred ground, and be impressed with a certain amount of reverence for their surroundings, and so behave themselves.

The completion of these buildings, commenced by The Hon. A. R. G. Hawke's Ministry, and completed in The Hon. David Brand's term of office as Premier, stands as a monument to those who chose the site and thereon erected the first section of the House. In the original section, the first session of Parliament held there commenced on the 28th July, 1904—sixty years ago.

I do not intend to recite the history of the House. It appeared in a beautiful brochure presented to all present at the opening of the completed building on Monday, the 23rd March, 1964. It can, however, be said with pride that it is the most modern, best equipped, and best sited Parliament House in Australia. Whilst the honours go to the Governments, much of the praise must go to the architects of the Public Works Department who conceived the planning, and must continue down to every worker who contributed to its completion.

This is the first occasion on which the opening of a session has been held in the completed House, though this actual ceremony is carried out in the original Chambers, because the Chambers of the Council and Assembly are part of the original section. Thus, this day must go down in history as one of great moment.

This Parliament House will live, we trust, unharmed for centuries. Those who have the privilege of holding a seat herein will, in the days that lie ahead, pay homage to those who, by their forethought, skill, and devotion to beauty, made this House a living creation. I trust that events will be so ordered that, in the centuries to come, this House will be revered as intensely as are the ancient buildings of our Mother Country. Realising the reverence within the building sought by Lord Forrest, and remembering the reverence in which you, Mr. President, commence our daily sessions in prayer, may I, in the same spirit of reverence, quote some short phrases of Helen Taylor—

Bless this House, O Lord we pray,  
Make it safe by night and day.

Bless the people here within.

Let Thy peace lie over all.

May I, through you, Sir, thank the Premier and the members of Cabinet for conferring upon me the privilege of moving the Address-in-Reply to His Excellency on this historic occasion.

**THE HON. S. T. J. THOMPSON**  
(South) [3.58 p.m.]: I formally second the motion.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. F. J. S. Wise (Leader of the Opposition).

*House adjourned at 3.59 p.m.*

## Legislative Assembly

Thursday, the 30th July, 1964

### CONTENTS

	Page
<b>ADDRESS-IN-REPLY : FIRST DAY—</b>	
Speaker on Motion—	
Mr. O'Connor	9
<b>ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE : SPECIAL</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>BILL—</b>	
University of Western Australia Act	
Amendment Bill—	
Leave to Introduce	9
Introduction ; 1r.	9
<b>GOVERNOR'S SPEECH—</b>	
Distribution of Copies	9
<b>MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>PROCLAMATION</b>	<b>8</b>

CONTENTS—*continued*

	Page
<b>QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE—</b>	
Basic Wage—	
Amount of Increase : Government's Policy .....	8
Personnel of Inquiry Panel .....	8
Parking Bays: Establishment alongside Crosswalks .....	8
Typhoid: Cases in Western Australia .....	8
Water Rates: Introduction of New System .....	8
<b>SUMMONS FROM THE GOVERNOR .....</b>	<b>8</b>

**MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY**

The Legislative Assembly met at 3 p.m.

The **SPEAKER** (Mr. Hearman) took the Chair.

**PROCLAMATION**

The Clerk of the Assembly (Mr. F. E. Islip) read the proclamation of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor (Sir John Dwyer) summoning the third session of the Twenty-fourth Parliament.

**SUMMONS FROM THE GOVERNOR**

The Speaker and members, in response to summons, proceeded to the Legislative Council Chamber; and, having heard His Excellency the Governor (Sir Douglas Kendrew) deliver the opening Speech (*vide* Council report *ante*), returned to the Legislative Assembly Chamber.

**QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE****BASIC WAGE***Personnel of Inquiry Panel*

1. Mr. **HAWKE** asked the Minister for Labour:

Could he give the House the reason why Commissioner Flannagan has not been selected as a member of the panel of commissioners currently hearing the application for an increase in the basic wage?

Mr. **WILD** replied:

I have no knowledge whatever. The panel of commissioners is picked, to the best of my knowledge, by the chief commissioner.

*Amount of Increase: Government's Policy*

2. Mr. **ROWBERRY** asked the Premier: Was the financial policy of his Government correctly expressed, and the productivity of this State correctly assessed in the offer of the Minister for Labour recently of 3s. 10d. a week rise to the employees of the State?

Mr. **BRAND** replied:

The policy of the Government is to accept the decision of the commission which is set up for this purpose and to decide upon all similar matters.

**WATER RATES***Introduction of New System*

3. Mr. **TONKIN** asked the Premier:

(1) As nine weeks have elapsed since he publicly stated that he expected to announce in four to six weeks a new system of water rating for the whole State, and the Minister for Works stated the Government hoped to announce a completely new water rating system within the next six weeks, has the Government run into unexpected difficulties causing the delay?

(2) When may an announcement on this matter be confidently expected?

Mr. **BRAND** replied:

(1) and (2) I would like to thank the Deputy Leader of the Opposition for written notice of this question. The answer is that we have not made the progress we had hoped, but nevertheless we are reaching the situation where an early decision can be made.

**PARKING BAYS***Establishment alongside Crosswalks*

4. Mr. **DAVIES** asked the Minister for Police:

Does the Government propose to take action to resolve the difficulties which have arisen by the Perth City Council marking parking bays alongside crosswalks, which are apparently in breach of the Traffic Act?

Mr. **CRAIG** replied:

As the honourable member knows, I have been absent overseas, and on my return I learned of the difficulty that existed. As a result I called for a conference with the Perth City Council Vehicle Parking Committee and certain proposals were submitted to it. I am now awaiting the committee's reconsideration of the whole question.

**TYPHOID***Cases in Western Australia*

5. Mr. **HALL** asked the Minister for Health:

Could he advise the House whether there have been any known cases of typhoid in this State recently; and, if so, how many?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

I am not in a position to say whether there have been any cases of typhoid in the State recently, but will have the information obtained and inform him in due course.

## UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA ACT AMENDMENT BILL

### *Leave to Introduce*

**MR. BRAND** (Greenough-Premier) [3.38 p.m.]: In order to assert and maintain the undoubted rights and privileges of this House to initiate legislation, I move without notice—

That leave be given to introduce a Bill for an Act to amend the University of Western Australia Act, 1911-1957.

Question put and passed; leave granted.

### *Introduction and First Reading*

Bill introduced, on motion by Mr. Brand (Premier), and read a first time.

## GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

### *Distribution of Copies*

**THE SPEAKER** (Mr. Hearman) [3.40 p.m.]: Accompanied by members of this Chamber, I attended His Excellency the Governor in the Legislative Council Chamber to hear the Speech which his Excellency was pleased to deliver to members of both Houses of Parliament. For the sake of greater accuracy, I have caused printed copies of the Speech to be distributed amongst members of this Chamber.

## ADDRESS-IN-REPLY: FIRST DAY

### *Motion*

**MR. O'CONNOR** (Mt. Lawley) [3.41 p.m.]: I move—

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

May it please Your Excellency: We, the members of the Legislative Assembly of the State of Western Australia in Parliament assembled, beg to express loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech you have been pleased to address to Parliament.

I take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation to the Premier and Cabinet for allowing me the honour of moving the Address-in-Reply. While I feel that it is an honour to have this opportunity, it does, however, impose some limitations on the actual speech that a member can make during this particular phase of the parliamentary sitting.

During his Speech this afternoon His Excellency mentioned that Cabinet was concerned with the rising toll of road accidents and that it was giving close attention to this matter. He also mentioned that the Police Force was to be increased by an additional 20 members, primarily for policing traffic control. I, together with other members in this House, am very pleased to hear this because I am quite sure that every member of this House is concerned with the toll of accidents on our roads. It is tragic to pick up the newspaper day after day and read of somebody having died in this way. Almost as bad is the fact that a large number of young people are being injured, some of them having to suffer for the remainder of their lives as a result of a few seconds of carelessness.

A great amount of research has been done on this subject, not only by members of Parliament and the Government but also by various individuals and bodies. The main causes of these accidents are speed, carelessness, drink, and mechanical faults. There are, of course, a number of other factors that contribute to road accidents, such as tiredness and lack of skill. However, from my research into this problem—and no doubt every member of the House has conducted similar research—it appears that most of the accidents that occur in country areas are caused by speed.

Approximately half of the accidents throughout the State have occurred in country areas. Some roads can cope with vehicles operated at high speed and some cannot. Then again, some people are not capable of handling vehicles at high speeds on any road. If restrictions were placed on certain roads in country areas, and these restrictions were properly policed, it should help considerably—with the additional police that we have and with the recently introduced radar units—in reducing the road toll, particularly in the country.

Although signs help quite a lot in certain places, usually the person who needs such signs is not the person who heeds them, and it is very difficult to control this type of person unless he is penalised according to the crime he commits. In the metropolitan area carelessness and haste appear to be the main factors and the number of pedestrian deaths in the metropolitan area is very large. Last year, of 198 people killed on the roads—there were an additional nine people killed at rail crossings, raising the total to 207—47 were pedestrians. Most of those killed were in the metropolitan area, and it is significant that most of them were elderly people or people over the age of 55. There were a few killed in the younger group—that is, those under 14 years of age—but there were very few between the

ages of 14 and 55. It would appear that people over 55 years of age need to pay a little more attention on the roads.

Recent police action in endeavouring to educate people in the proper use of crosswalks in the metropolitan area was warranted, and I only hope that the work that has been done will bear the fruit that it so richly deserves.

Other factors that have had much to do with the toll of road accidents are mechanical faults and failure. These could be responsible for many more accidents than might be thought, because in many cases when a car has been damaged beyond recognition it is almost impossible to tell whether or not it had a mechanical fault before the collision; also most drivers would be loth to admit that their vehicles were faulty before the accident occurred.

It is interesting to note that in the United States, those States which have introduced vehicle checking have a death rate 28 per cent. below that of any of the other States. If vehicle checking could be introduced here, and if we could achieve a similar result, it would be worth while.

As we all know, most accidents are caused by the driver and not by the vehicle. But the appointment of extra police and the recently introduced radar units could help to keep people in line and help considerably towards lessening the road toll. The only way that we could get a satisfactory result would be by penalising people according to the crime they committed. I am in favour of checking vehicles for mechanical faults once every two years and possibly more often than that. We should look at the possibility of rechecking the driving ability of drivers involved in accidents. That should be done before drivers involved in accidents are reissued with licenses.

These suggestions are worth while, in my opinion; and if they would help to save a few lives, then I think we should do something about trying to implement them.

His Excellency also mentioned that building activity had reached a high level in Western Australia over the past few years. The number of home units that have been erected has increased. In 1961-1962 the number erected in this State was 6,347. In 1962-1963 the number had risen to 7,235; and if the figures for the last quarter of this financial year are equal to those of the first three quarters, this year's figure will be in excess of 8,000. The recently introduced Commonwealth assistance of £1 for every £3 up to a maximum of £250 will be of considerable assistance to the building industry, and there could be many benefits as a result of this scheme.

I also want to briefly discuss the Police Act. This Act was originally introduced in 1892 and it has been amended on many

occasions since. However, the legislation does not fit in with present-day thinking. Section 20 is one of the sections that in my opinion needs amending. It deals with any person interfering with or hindering a policeman or resisting arrest or inciting others to do so. The penalty is £10 or a maximum term of imprisonment of two months.

In recent years there have been many attacks on members of the Police Force. Members will no doubt recall an incident that occurred not very long ago when a policeman was knocked down in Fremantle. His injuries included a broken jaw and broken ribs. We, as members of Parliament, make the laws of the State; and we do so in an effort to protect the public. The police endeavour to ensure that the laws are adhered to, and it is our duty to see that the police are properly protected.

In my view the Police Act in its present form does not go far enough in regard to the protection of the police; and, so far as this particular section is concerned, I think the penalties provided need to be increased considerably—that is, both the monetary penalty and the term of imprisonment provided for.

Section 81 of the Police Act refers to the removal of a boat from its moorings, or the removal of furniture from any boat. Probably the penalty provided in this section was sufficient many years ago; but today, when people have boats which are worth many thousands of pounds, I do not think the penalty is large enough, because the removal of a boat from its moorings could cause considerable inconvenience and, in some cases, a considerable loss of income to the owner. For instance, the boat concerned could be a crayboat; and if it were removed from its moorings during the crayfishing season the loss of that boat would cause the owner considerable embarrassment and, in many cases, would involve him in a loss of income. That in turn could mean he could fall behind in payments on the boat; yet the maximum penalty provided for in this section is only £3. To my mind it is completely out of step with today's thinking, and it is one section that should be amended.

Section 18 refers to the supplying of liquor to the police. From the way I read the section, if a person had a party and a policeman came along during the course of the evening, irrespective of whether he was in uniform or not, so long as he was on duty, and he were given a drink, the person giving him that drink would be guilty of an offence. In my view the penalty should be imposed on the policeman and not on the individual.

There are many other sections in the Police Act which appear to me, to say the least, to be a little unusual. How many people realise it is an offence to shake a mat in the street or to drive stock on the roads between the hours of

8 a.m. and 10 p.m.? Probably that is the only time people ever drive stock on the roads.

Section 104 makes it an offence to bathe between the hours of 6 a.m. and 8 p.m., unless a proper bathing costume is worn. One could assume from this that the topless bathing suit would be in order at any other time. I mention these matters because I consider the Police Act is completely out of step with today's standards; and while amendments could possibly achieve some results at this stage, I believe the proper thing to do is to have it completely rewritten.

Mr. Evans: Did you have a look at section 69A?

Mr. O'CONNOR: Yes; I had a look at all of them.

Mr. Graham: He has forgotten that one.

Mr. O'CONNOR: Does the honourable member know what it is all about?

Mr. Graham: Yes.

Mr. O'CONNOR: I thought you would!

Mr. Evans: It is in regard to the onus of proof.

Mr. Graham: It is a brand of whisky.

Mr. O'CONNOR: I wanted to express my opinions in regard to the Police Act.

I should now like to express my appreciation to members of the Shire of Perth and officers of the M.T.T. for the assistance they have given to the occupants of the elderly people's homes in Mt. Lawley. We had some difficulty in getting a road through because of weather conditions, but the officers I have mentioned did everything they possibly could to implement the provision of bus shelters and to get the S.E.C. to provide the best facilities possible for these elderly people.

I shall not delay the House any further as I know people want to get away. However, it has given me a great deal of pleasure to have the opportunity of moving the motion on opening day.

MR. HART (Roe) [3.54 p.m.]: I formally second the motion.

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

## ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE: SPECIAL

MR. BRAND (Greenough—Premier) [3.55 p.m.]: I move—

That the House at its rising adjourn until 4.30 p.m. on Tuesday, the 4th August.

Question put and passed.

*House adjourned at 3.56 p.m.*

# Legislative Council

Tuesday, the 4th August, 1964

## CONTENTS

	Page
<b>ADDRESS-IN-REPLY : SECOND DAY—</b>	
Speaker on Motion—	
The Hon. F. J. S. Wise	13
<b>QUESTIONS ON NOTICE—</b>	
Gascoyne River Catchment—	
Increase in Salinity	12
Rehabilitation of Eroded Areas	12
Kimberley Pastoral Areas—	
Death of Cattle	11
Soil Erosion	11
Kindergartens and Child Minding Centres : Registration	12
Ord River Settlement : Cotton and Safflower Crops	12
Revision of Regulations : Appointment of a Special Officer	12
<b>QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE—</b>	
Pneumoconiosis : Availability of Committee's Report	13

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

## QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

### KIMBERLEY PASTORAL AREAS

#### *Death of Cattle*

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

(1) Is the Minister aware that experienced people estimate that in extensive areas in the Kimberleys, cattle will die in thousands near waterholes before next wet season?

#### *Soil Erosion*

(2) What is the area of our pastoral land in the watershed of the Ord River now estimated by departmental officers to be seriously eroded due to overstocking?

(3) Is the programme of regeneration, now in operation in the Kimberleys, considered to be adequate to keep pace with the progressive and extensive soil erosion already existing over millions of acres?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

(1) It is known that, because of seasonal drought conditions, the stock position in the Kimberleys is serious.

(2) Approximately 1,400 square miles.

(3) The programme of regeneration in the Ord regeneration project is considered adequate in that section. Improved grazing management must be the basis of general regeneration of other eroded areas.