

# Legislative Assembly

Tuesday, 12 October 1982

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

## TRANSPORT: TAXIS

### *Tobacco Smoking: Petition*

DR DADOUR (Subiaco) [4.32 p.m.]: I have a petition signed by 547 petitioners which states—

PETITION to the Honourable Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia, in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned citizens of Western Australia, wish to bring to the attention of the Honourable Members our concern regarding the right to smoke in taxis. We would ask that a law be passed, banning all smoking in taxis, both by drivers and passengers. We see smoking in a confined space such as this as a health risk. Asthmatics and others with sensitive breathing channels, those with sensitive eyes, and others concerned for their general health could be placed at risk in a taxi where a person is, or has been recently smoking. Those using other forms of public transport, for instance, buses, must obey a ruling of "No Smoking".

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration, and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

I have certified that the petition conforms to the Stand Orders of the Legislative Assembly.

The SPEAKER: I direct that the petition be brought to the Table of the House.

(See petition No. 22.)

## MOTOR VEHICLE (THIRD PARTY INSURANCE) AMENDMENT BILL

### *Third Reading*

MRS CRAIG (Wellington—Minister for Local Government) [4.37 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a third time.

MR TONKIN (Morley) [4.38 p.m.]: We have made our position clear as far as the MVIT is concerned and as far as other statutory bodies are concerned. I believe this Government has tried to be a nice Government, with a perpetual smile glued on its face and with an aversion to making

hard decisions. A Government should not be run in this way because when it has the privilege of power it means also that it should take the responsibility. That means the Government should accept responsibility rather than try to suggest the blame should rest with a statutory body when things go wrong.

The Opposition believes the Government has erred because it does not have a tight enough rein on the MVIT and the only time it interfered with its operations was for its own political advantage just prior to the 1980 election.

The MVIT is not directly responsible to the public and the public cannot directly influence its decisions. It is important that the Government should take responsibility because it is directly responsible to the people of the State through parliamentary elections. If the Government is brave enough to accept responsibility when things go wrong, or even when they go right, the people know who is responsible and can take action accordingly.

We believe a performance audit should be used on some of these bodies, and the MVIT is a candidate for this kind of attention. The Opposition has made some criticism of the trust's operations, but we have done that from insufficient knowledge. The reason for our insufficient knowledge is to be found in the nature of the trust and the fact that there is no annual report, and it is not required to disclose sufficient information to Parliament. In the absence of a system of standing committees to scrutinise bodies such as the MVIT, we must carry out that scrutiny. Performance audits would achieve that end. During the Committee stage of this Bill I moved for performance audits to be introduced, so the Opposition has made it clear where it stands.

The Act was introduced in 1943, and there has been no major review of the trust since then; we believe that is a weakness. A major review needs to be carried out on the way the trust performs, and one quite glaring example is the way in which it recently used the Statute of limitations to avoid its moral responsibilities.

The interference for political reasons to which I referred earlier resulted in three increases since the last State election. The first of those increases was huge, and not in any way commensurate with the cost of living, or even with the judgments which were being handed down. The increase was 50 per cent, and the reason for it, as Mr Solloway of the RAC said, was that the Government had been too afraid to agree to the recommendation for an increase in the premiums prior to the 1980 election.

We would like a much closer look at the trust's investment policy than is presently available to us. We believe reasons exist for doubt about the wisdom of the investment policy. The Government side of the House refuses to allow a system of standing committees to scrutinise bodies such as the MVIT. For this reason, and because there is insufficient reporting of the trust's activities, and because the Government has not accepted its responsibility for supervision, the public are in the dark about the trust's investment policy. It is totally unacceptable that the MVIT, with which every motorist is required by law to insure, is not open to very detailed scrutiny.

We are very disappointed that the Premier still has not reported to the House on his undertaking to examine the trust's operations. When this was raised in the second reading debate, we saw the Minister for Local Government squirming and quibbling with words, such as whether "examine" means "to look at". For the information of members, I will repeat the question asked of the Premier by the Leader of the Opposition as follows—

I preface my question by saying that most members have become quite alarmed at the publicity about the Motor Vehicle Insurance Trust. I ask the Premier whether he is prepared personally to look at the trust to see whether its operations conform with those with which he would like his Government to conform?

The Premier replied—

I am quite happy to do that.

A massive 50 per cent increase in premiums was announced within eight weeks of the 1980 election. Two increases have occurred since then—one of 25 per cent, and the other of 10 per cent. These increases are huge, and premiums have doubled in that time. As Mr Solloway said, this is directly attributable to the fact that the Government was reluctant to allow a modest increase just prior to the 1980 election.

We have taken issue also with the \$52 million accumulated deficit, because it is predicated on the assumption that claims will have to be paid in one year. We do not believe that is a normal or realistic assumption. We reiterate that the \$52 million deficit is not realistic. The previous Premier, Sir Charles Court, stated it was the Government's role to make sure the trust fulfilled its proper role as designated by Parliament. We are very concerned that the Government has not ensured that the trust fulfils its proper role. In fact, it has been able to escape that role.

The avowed intention of the trust is to aim for a surplus of 50 per cent of its premiums; that is far

too large. The Commonwealth Insurance Act requires a 15 per cent ratio, and the Commonwealth Insurance Commissioner has suggested, for reasons best known to himself, a 30 per cent figure. We have not seen any substantiation of the claim that the figure should be 50 per cent. It is far too high, and is unrealistic.

The main plea we make in relation to the MVIT is that it should be more open to scrutiny. Members of both Houses of this Parliament have been told in the past that, if they want information about the trust, they should go to the trust and ask, and they will be at the mercy of the trust. It is an impudence that Parliament and its members should be told that a statutory body which is not responsible to the public in a direct way, will answer questions only if it sees fit, and the Minister allegedly responsible for the trust will not answer questions about the trust's operations. We demand a much greater openness about the trust's operations.

The Parliament has not received a report from the Premier. It is a matter of great importance, and the Premier should have made a statement to the House indicating whether or not he is satisfied in this matter. That is what I mean when I refer to the Government's accepting responsibility for being on the Treasury benches. A Government must accept the responsibilities that go with power, especially this Government which has been prepared to do almost anything with the electoral arithmetic in order to cook metropolitan boundaries in such a way as to seriously advantage itself. If a Government is prepared to do these things to gain power, and to hang on to power, above all, that Government should accept the responsibilities that go with power. This Government has not done so, and the people have a right to much greater accountability by a public body.

**MR BRIAN BURKE** (Balcatta—Leader of the Opposition) [4.50 p.m.]: The Opposition considers that the Motor Vehicle Insurance Trust is a massive embarrassment to the Government; and if it is true that it is an embarrassment, the Government has no-one to blame but itself. The MVIT represents the most precise reflection of the choices facing the people at the next election that it is possible to see.

The Government's action, in the face of the delinquency of the MVIT, has been absolutely appalling. Consider the situation in which the MVIT is permitted, in the ignorance of the Minister to which it is responsible, to place public funds in investments of which the Minister has little knowledge, and about which she can say, speaking of her accountability, that she does not really know whether the funds invested are returning the

maximum possible interest rate to the trust. The Minister says simply, "Well, if you take the fact that the funds have been invested over a fairly long period at fixed rates, it seems reasonable that the return is below the current market rate"; but she could not demonstrate the fact, when questioned during the second reading debate. She was unable to say what proportion of the trust's funds were invested in what form of security, and at what interest rate; and she displayed an abysmal lack of knowledge about the trust's operations.

Mr Davies: Again!

Mr BRIAN BURKE: The MVIT is a prime candidate for performance auditing. In looking at the situation of the trust, one finds, firstly, that it operates in the ignorance of the Government; and, secondly, that it has been used in the Government's attempts to manipulate the taxes and charges imposed on the people to further the Government's political advantage. The member for Morley has spoken of the occasion to which I refer. That time was prior to the 1980 election when a moderate increase in premiums was sought by the trust.

It is true that while the trust has imposed on the community a significant and increasingly significant burden, it has been operating, on the Minister's own admission, with a massive deficit. Not only that, but also it is a deficit arrived at by suspect accounting techniques. Now, if public companies in this State were permitted to account for their affairs in the same way as the MVIT accounts for its affairs, serious questions would be posed about those private operations; but because the trust is a Government or semi-Government body, it seems that we are told, in an effort by the Government to evade the political disadvantage, to ignore the shortcomings of the trust.

If there is no more compelling argument for the antiquity of the MVIT, let us consider the fact that it remains responsible to the Minister for Local Government. Now, where is the justification for that? We might as well make the MVIT responsible to the Minister for Fisheries and Wildlife, because that Minister and his responsibilities touch about as obliquely on the MVIT as do the responsibilities of the Minister for Local Government. As far as ministerial responsibility is concerned, the Opposition says that it rests rightly with the Treasurer of this State; and the Government's refusal to face up to the delinquency of the MVIT is another minor, but still significant mark that will weigh against it when the next election comes around.

For all these reasons we have urged, and we again urge, the Government to look at the performance of the MVIT. Fancy the situation in which the trust can seek refuge in the Statute of limitations to avoid the performance of that for which it was established—the compensation of innocent accident victims! Consider the embarrassment that action must have caused the Government!

How much out of control was the trust when it was able to decide unilaterally that it would adopt the Statute of limitations defence and, by attempting that defence, cause the Government to introduce legislation to prevent its repeating the dose in the future? The Opposition makes it clear that, as far as the MVIT is concerned, when a Labor Government is elected in this State the trust will be subjected to a closer and more intelligent scrutiny than has been its lot for many years.

Mr Rushton: You should have seen what they did last time.

Mrs Craig: I will tell them in a minute.

Mr BRIAN BURKE: That is the type of scrutiny that the Government is unwilling to apply to the MVIT. The Minister boasts that she will tell things to the Opposition; but she is noted for her lack of grasp of the portfolios she now controls. The most important parts of her portfolios—local government and town planning—occasioned some complaint by the Premier, when he was not the Premier, about the way in which the Minister conducted those portfolios. Rather than leave this Minister with a responsibility that does not sit easily beside the others that she has, we say that that responsibility should be laid with the Treasurer who, much more appropriately, can fill the needs imposed on the responsible Minister.

Mr Rushton: You just wouldn't know.

Mr BRIAN BURKE: We hear from the intellectual giant from Dale who stands in this place and says that Total West is not a Government instrumentality and he will not answer questions about Total West; but outside the place he threatens to sue people for criticising Total West.

Mr Rushton: You are making errors again.

Mr BRIAN BURKE: That is the sort of thing we have to put up with from the Deputy Premier. Is it any wonder—

Mr Rushton: False representation.

Mr BRIAN BURKE: —that there is a significant point of view on the Government benches that the member for Karrinyup would be a better Deputy Premier than is the present in-

cumbent? Now, we know the member for Karrinyup is not any great shakes; but it is hard to mount a defence for the present Deputy Premier.

Mr Young: You know that is a fabricated story, too—on your side.

Government members interjected.

Mr Sibson: In the bottom of the harbour again!

Mr BRIAN BURKE: The Minister interjects and says this does not have much to do with the MVIT; and that is true. At the same time, it has about as much to do with the MVIT as the Minister does; and that is one of the problems.

I repeat, particularly for the Minister's edification, that the Motor Vehicle Insurance Trust has become a major source of embarrassment to the Government in this State. It imposes a significant, and an increasingly significant, burden upon the motoring public of Western Australia, and it does so without the justification of the accounting procedures to allow this Parliament to see what burden is imposed efficiently and is justified. We believe that the Minister for Local Government is not the appropriate Minister to be responsible for the MVIT. We believe that, appropriately, the Treasurer should have that responsibility; and we believe, and we will set about the task of ensuring, that the MVIT is the first cab off the rank when it comes to performance auditing under the next Labor Government.

MRS CRAIG (Wellington—Minister for Local Government) [4.58 p.m.]: It must sadden people to have to listen to the sort of comments that have just been made—

Government members: Hear, hear!

Mrs CRAIG: —and to hear people denigrating members of a trust which is running a very tight ship.

Opposition members interjected.

Mrs CRAIG: Members opposite have taken the opportunity to stir and to cause a concern in the minds of the public that some people who may, at some time, be injured in an accident may not be able to be compensated. At times it seems as if that is what the Opposition wants to happen.

Mr Brian Burke: The Statute of limitations was used by the trust.

Mrs CRAIG: The Leader of the Opposition and the member for Morley went out of their way to argue against one another.

Mr Rushton: That is normal.

Mrs CRAIG: Opposition members show a complete lack of knowledge of the trust's present financial situation. The member for Morley, on

the one hand, keeps griping about the trust's reserves, while, he on the other hand keeps complaining about its deficit. It is a matter that is very basic to the subject that, if a body has a deficit, it cannot have a reserve.

Mr Brian Burke: Of course you can; you can have an operating deficit.

Mrs CRAIG: I took a note of the words used by the member for Morley. He said it was "the avowed intention of the trust" to move to a situation where it had a 50 per cent surplus. What he means is that he read in a report by the premiums committee some years ago a suggestion to the trust that it might look at that possibility. When the member for Morley says it is "the avowed intention of the trust", he has no basis whatsoever on which to say that.

Mr O'Connor: He doesn't know.

Mrs CRAIG: He makes up the things he thinks will create the greatest amount of fear in the public arena.

The Motor Vehicle Insurance Trust is in very good heart indeed. It has a deficit, and that has been substantiated by both an actuarial report and a premiums committee report; but as the member for Morley said, that deficit is predicated on the basis that all claims will be met in a period of one full year. As for the actuary and the level at which premiums are pitched, the only manner in which that can be done is by an actuarial estimate of the likely claims and an indication to the trust of a premium limited to that level. In this imprecise science of determining the premium level there is no other way of doing that.

The member for Morley complained also that the whole thing was a disaster and that the trust's financial position had been allowed to get out of hand. During the second reading stage he said there had been a rise in premiums of, I think, 350 per cent since 1976. I was able to indicate to him that, indeed, there had been a significant rise in premiums of, I think, 322 per cent in that period, but the damages awards made by the courts in that time had increased 470 per cent. Therefore, unless we were to say there was to be a limit applied to the amount that a court could award, we had to ensure that the level of premiums was sufficient to safeguard people who take out compulsory third party insurance and so have a right to be the recipients of moneys that the courts award to them.

Both the Leader of the Opposition and the member for Morley said there had been political interference and a manipulation of premiums to suit the Government's requirements. I remind them both now, just as I reminded the member

for Morley when I was replying to his remarks during the second reading debate, that the only time real political manipulation occurred was during the time of the Tonkin Labor Government in this State. That Government reduced the premium that had to be paid, as a result of which the trust was placed in a financial situation which was not one that showed good financial management by that Labor Government.

Mr O'Connor: That is normal ALP financing.

Mr Rushton: It took a long time to recover.

Mrs CRAIG: The trust did take a long time to recover and this is why premiums have had to be increased in recent times.

It is convenient for the Leader of the Opposition to leap from one subject to another and to try to draw red herrings across the trail. The only political manipulation of premiums occurred during the time the State had a Labor Government. That fact should be very clearly recognised. The reduction in premiums at that time was in the vicinity of 20 per cent. While members opposite are talking about responsible financial management, I suggest they take a look at the sort of decisions the Labor Government made at that time.

Moving now to something which is perhaps a little lighter, I would like to say that the Leader of the Opposition referred to the antiquity of the Minister and the antiquity of my having responsibility for this Statute. Something could be anomalous about this, but it is a matter of history that this situation pertains. This was a suitable portfolio to resume responsibility for this Statute when local government had a responsibility for traffic matters. As we all know, that responsibility has now passed to the Police Department, but this motor vehicle insurance Statute still rests with the Minister for Local Government.

I say again that the public ought to know that while we are the Government they are in no fear of the situation arising that their claims will not be met. The fearmongering entered into by the Opposition cannot be substantiated in any way, just as its members have not been able to substantiate at any time the comments they have made.

Opposition members have questioned the veracity of the trust's investment portfolio. They should know that the Statute says that the trust can invest only in approved Treasury investments. If the trust wishes to place moneys in an investment that is not in that category, it is necessary for the trust to obtain ministerial approval and to substantiate the case it has put forward by solid documentation and advice that indicates the investment is one which is in the best interests of the public.

There is no truth in the assertion that the moneys it has invested have not been invested at best. The trust's moneys have been invested at best, taking into consideration the security necessary to cover the situation.

Some time ago I indicated that there should be no nonsense such as the Leader of the Opposition's saying that an 11.4 per cent or 12 per cent return is not sufficient when today's investment rate is higher, because he overlooks the fact that many of these investments have been over a long period. The assertion that we have done nothing is not true.

We have not agreed to the proposal for performance audits because it was not able to be considered by this House as it was extraneous to the content of the Bill; therefore, that amendment did not come before the Committee.

Mr Brian Burke: Do you support the proposition?

Mrs CRAIG: Instead of the Opposition's prattling incessantly about the value of performance audits, it would be better to indicate where the deficiencies lie at present, something it has not been able to do.

Mr Tonkin: That is why we need performance audits.

Mrs CRAIG: Members opposite have not told us how performance audits would overcome the problems they exist, but which do not exist.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time and transmitted to the Council.

## LOTTERIES (CONTROL) AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2)

### Third Reading

MR HASSELL (Cottesloe—Minister for Police and Prisons) [5.09 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a third time.

MR DAVIES (Victoria Park) [5.10 p.m.]: Since we last spoke on this measure, the Budget papers have been brought down. I notice there has been an increase to the Arts Council of 12.48 per cent, which is only about level with the inflation rate, so there is no increase in real terms.

I repeat my concern expressed during the second reading debate that money will be made available for the arts, but no-one knows how allocations will be handled. I thought that during the Treasurer's Budget speech he might have given an indication of the future role of the Arts Council, because it is very relevant to the money the Arts Council is likely to be allocated and is likely to

have to spend. It is very necessary for the Arts Council to know what its role will be during the coming 12 months.

As I mentioned on several occasions during the second reading debate, \$2.5 million is to be made available in a full year to arts and recreation, although neither area is defined, and this means that probably \$1.25 million is probably to be made available to the arts.

If the Arts Council is receiving only that nominal increase—not an increase in real terms—for the coming financial year, the best it can do is to do what it did in the past financial year. But I am sure it will be concerned about its future role and how the money it may have to allocate will compare and perhaps even clash with the money the Minister will have to allocate in his own right. It is an area for considerable concern.

I was a little hesitant to be too critical of the Government for the capricious way it was handling this important matter before the Budget figures were known to us and the Treasurer had given Parliament his Budget speech. However, having looked at those matters, I am now very concerned that the fear I expressed during the second reading debate has been shown to be well based. A great deal of confusion is likely over who gets what from whom and when. It is about as simple as that, because the Minister will have about \$1.25 million to allocate to the arts in a full year and the Arts Council will have about \$2.3 million to allocate to various bodies, and all told a great number of bodies are looking for assistance. The Minister will be sitting in his office without special staff to assist him—he will have no arts or cultural affairs officers in his department—yet he will take it upon himself, following whatever advice he elects to obtain, if any, to allocate money as he sees fit. So the Minister could be giving money to the Patch Theatre in Victoria Park—and I hope he does—and at the same time the Arts Council could be giving it money also. I am sure the Patch Theatre would welcome assistance from wherever it came, but it might not be the proper thing for an organisation to be receiving two grants or to be playing a funding body off against a funding Minister.

I again express concern about this matter because of the lack of information in the Treasurer's Budget speech. I will be watching the position very closely. At present there is no money to be distributed because the instant lottery is unlikely to begin operation before the beginning of December, so it will be after that time before any money is available to the Minister for allocation. I reinforce my previously expressed concern be-

cause, since the second reading debate, nothing has happened to ease my concern.

**MR HASSELL** (Cottesloe—Minister for Police and Prisons) [5.14 p.m.]: There is not much information I can give to assist the member for Victoria Park. He appears to have changed his tune since the second reading debate because he suggested previously that the Arts Council was to be abolished and its life was to come to an end. It has now been shown clearly following the Treasurer's Budget speech that the Arts Council is to be supported to the full extent it was supported last year.

**Mr Davies**: It is guaranteed only for this year.

**Mr HASSELL**: No Government, including any Government of which the member for Victoria Park was a part, ever gave the guarantee for all time in relation to any funding because, as the member for Victoria Park knows, the Budget depends on the finances available from year to year. While most departments live in the confident expectation that they will survive from year to year with proper levels of funding, no Government can give a guarantee of it in advance.

**Mr Davies**: What about a statutory body?

**Mr HASSELL**: As I stated in the second reading debate and in the Committee stage, the Government has no plans to alter the structure of the Arts Council or its operations. The Budget has confirmed it will be funded. As has been indicated previously, the extra money which will be produced by the sports and culture lottery will be in addition to that and will increase what is available in other areas. The member for Victoria Park may have a particular interest or concern in relation to the Arts Council. It is not really for me to answer questions on those issues and he would have to direct them either by question or by other means to the responsible Minister.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

## ACTS AMENDMENT (MINING) BILL

### *Third Reading*

**MR P. V. JONES** (Narrogin—Minister for Mines) [5.16 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a third time.

**MR McPHARLIN** (Mt. Marshall) [5.17 p.m.]: The third reading of this Bill terminates the progress of the amending legislation which began with the introduction of the Bill in 1972 by the then Labor Party Government. It was introduced by Mr Don May, the Minister of the day, and I remember the controversy that surrounded its introduction. The Bill slid off the notice paper and

was not brought back to this House until the coalition Government brought it back in 1975 with some minor amendments when again there was a lot of controversial debate on the proposals and again the Bill slid off the notice paper and was not reintroduced until 1978 when it yet again attracted controversial debate; I am sure members will recall that.

The member for South Perth at the time moved approximately 45 amendments and after lengthy debate of those amendments and considerable time they were rejected and the Bill was passed by this House. The Bill was not proclaimed until January of this year and in the meantime regulations were proposed and circularised to the mining industry and other interested parties. The Government indicated that because there were some areas in the proposed amendments that the mining industry was rather concerned about, it would amend the Act subject to examination and recommendations by the mining industry and other parties interested in examining the legislation.

The Act was proclaimed on 1 January this year and it contained amendments introduced in August of 1981. One of those amendments was in regard to mining on private land. It was brought about by a considerable amount of lobbying on proposals put forward mainly by the Primary Industry Association which approached the Minister on numerous occasions in an endeavour to have these amendments placed in the Act. This was agreed to and we know that the amendments have caused some consternation and disagreement with sections of the mining industry which are still not satisfied with that provision for mining on private land. As a result, numerous letters have been circulated by the Chamber of Mines and the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies in regard to this and it appears those organisations are not satisfied and will continue to press for some changes in that area. It gives security to owners of private land which is something many people thought was desirable and which the Government accepted at the time. It is right for the Government to not propose any changes now at least until it can be proved that those provisions are not acting in the best interests of the State.

Many amendments were proposed by the mining industry and, during the period between the proclamation of the Act and the introduction of the regulations, I did a considerable amount of research. I spoke with the Chamber of Mines, the Mines Department, AMEC, prospectors and leaseholders, and Mr Michael Hunt, a solicitor specialising in mining law who offered his invaluable services to me free of charge. During

my research Mr Hunt commented that he believed the new Act was a significant improvement to the law relating to mining in Western Australia and he supported that statement by indicating that his practice is almost exclusively confined to the area of mining law. He acts for small prospectors, mining companies, and other interested groups including farmers wishing to resist the incursion of miners and groups such as Aborigines.

His view is that the Act is an improvement on the old legislation. He based his opinion on experience in acting for various groups such as those I have mentioned. He indicated that he is involved both nationally and internationally in mining law matters.

Mr Coyne: Who are you talking about?

Mr McPHARLIN: Michael Hunt, a lawyer. As at 5 March 1982 when he wrote a letter to me Mr Hunt said he had been in Singapore at a mining law conference a few weeks previous to his letter being written and even there questions were being asked about the Mining Act in Western Australia. He said in his letter—

I have a dread of the possibility that the Regulations will be disallowed because this really will make Western Australia the laughing stock of the mining industry both nationally and internationally and in my view will make the State appear like a "banana republic".

In his second reading speech the Minister made reference to sections of the Act in regard to which representations have been made for the provision of a form of retention lease and relating to one or two other matters. He has indicated that those areas will be examined during the initial operation of the Act with a view to further discussions being held with members of the industry.

Several aspects of the Act came under intense discussion and debate and I want to refer particularly to the matter of ministerial discretion under section 151 of the Act concerning limits on rights of appeal. It has been said that because that provision is in the Act, it puts the Minister above the law. On researching this question and seeking advice from Mr Hunt, I discovered that to say a Minister is above the law is a misconception of law. A Minister is never above the law, and there are many cases where the courts have restrained the excessive use of ministerial discretion. They have jealously guarded their rights of review of ministerial decision where the Minister has exceeded his powers and has gone "above the law".

Mr Hunt goes on to say that he has compared the principles of the new Act with those of the old Act and also with those of mining legislation in

other parts of Australia. He does not deny that there is a great deal of ministerial discretion under the new Act, but, in his opinion, it is untrue to say there is more ministerial discretion under the new Act than was reserved under the old Act. This provision always has been a feature of mining legislation, and those who claim that this is a provision that should not be included should stop and think for a moment. Under the old Act it has been there and has not been abused and I therefore fail to see how it could cause such dissatisfaction under the new Act.

I have received letters from leaseholders, including one from a person who has been prospecting for 35 years. That prospector made the point that 35 years ago he received a wage of about \$24 and a goldmining lease of 24 acres at that time cost \$48 rent. It cost two weeks' wages 30 years ago to pay the annual rent on a goldmining lease and therefore people rarely pegged more claims than they were able to work. Today \$48 is only a day's wages and many prospectors have dozens of goldmining leases for speculative purposes. The prospector goes on to say—in his letter—

Please ask the Government to increase the rent charges on these old leases to encourage owners to surrender unwanted mining tenements. Gold in 1950 was worth approximately \$31 per ounce, today it is worth approximately \$310 per ounce—surely if a mining lease is worth holding, it's worth one ounce of gold a year rent.

There were many arguments and discussions on controversial issues that were raised during the passage of the Bill in 1978, and again this year there has been lengthy debate during the proposed disallowance of the regulations. I am aware of occasions when financial considerations were mentioned when certain members of this House were discussing the issues with representatives of certain mining companies.

Mr Davies: I remember that.

Mr McPHARLIN: In other words, financial considerations were mentioned to certain members in an endeavour to induce them to vote against the regulations.

Mr Pearce: Are you going to name some names? That is a very serious charge. It is a criminal offence, in fact.

Mr McPHARLIN: It is a serious charge and it is a true charge.

Mr Pearce: Name the names, in that case.

Mr McPHARLIN: I can name the names. Those members were the member for Merredin and the member for Stirling.

Mr Carr: Surprise, surprise!

Mr Brian Burke: They are not here.

Mr McPHARLIN: I refuse to be associated with that sort of arrangement; I could go further, but I do not intend to at this stage. I suspect these considerations were also mentioned—

Mr Brian Burke: In what form were the financial inducements made?

Mr McPHARLIN: —perhaps to other members who would not say anything about it.

Mr Carr: What was the form of financial inducement?

Mr McPHARLIN: I wanted to make those comments because I supported the regulations which came before the House earlier this year. It is in the interests of the mining industry, and the State, that they be supported and the Act is a far better piece of legislation than we have had previously.

MR P. V. JONES (Narrogin—Minister for Mines) [5.31 p.m.]: I thank the member for Mt. Marshall for his comments. He has put back into perspective the questions of financial obligations in relation to the keeping of a tenement, as distinct from the labour conditions which prevailed and the costs associated with it under the original legislation. When we relate that to average wages at present and the price of gold, we realise it is not onerous; indeed, it is more realistic.

It has been mentioned previously that this amending Bill is before the House in response to the inquiries of the member for Yilgarn-Dundas and discussions which were held with the Pastoralists and Graziers Association of WA (Inc.) regarding the amendment which will affect section 20. That section proposes a buffer zone around the improvements on pastoral holdings—not only houses, stockyards, wells, fences and so on—and the apparent inhibiting of free movement within that buffer zone, without the permission of the occupier.

I indicated that an amendment was likely to be moved, and amendments will be introduced in another place, relative to aspects which were put forward during discussions held by the Chamber of Mines and the Pastoralists and Graziers Association, with representatives of the Mines Department.

A final form of this amendment has been proposed by the people in the Mines Department and accepted by the mining industry, but have been



rejected by the pastoralists on the basis that they wish to retain the present situation.

Discussions on this matter will be held in another place and the conclusions will be reported to this place for the consideration of members. At present it is intended that the compromise amendment which has been proposed by the Mines Department—and which has been agreed to by the mining industry—be placed before members to remove any doubts on this matter. I thank members for their support.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time and transmitted to the Council.

### STAMP AMENDMENT BILL (No. 5)

#### *Second Reading*

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

That the Bill be now read a second time.  
This Bill introduces the stamp duty amendments referred to in the Budget speech.

When speaking to the Budget for 1982-83, I made mention of the Government's wish to encourage the progressive development of Perth as a major Australian financial centre and to ensure that there are no impediments to an adequate flow of funds for housing.

The proposed amendments should assist in the development of a secondary market for mortgages by providing a flat rate of duty and by removing the existing disincentive to trading in short-dated securities.

Presently, the instrument of transfer of a mortgage by way of sale is liable to *ad valorem* conveyance rates of duty ranging from \$1.50 per \$100 to \$4 per \$100 depending upon the amount of consideration paid.

In addition, the dealing may be liable for duty of up to 1.8 per cent under the credit provisions of the Act if it is a discount transaction.

The current rate of duty is seen as a deterrent to the transfer of mortgages and would certainly inhibit the creation of a secondary market for this type of security.

The Bill seeks to amend the legislation so that a flat duty of \$10 will be payable on any transfer by way of a sale where the consideration is at market value.

At the same time, it is intended that a sale of the mortgage debt will be exempt from any further duty under the credit provisions of the Act as a discount transaction.

It is hoped that this move will encourage the development of a secondary mortgage market and consequently that it will make more money available for housing.

The implementation date is proposed for 1 January 1983 and the estimated cost to revenue is \$200 000 in a full year.

I now turn to the second proposal regarding stamp duty on transfers of company debentures and company notes.

The present rate of duty on the transfer of this type of security is 60c per \$100 or part thereof.

In the ordinary course of events, this is a very small portion of the overall costs associated with any sale when spread over a life of three to five years for a debenture or note. However, with short-dated securities the effect of the stamp duty becomes very significant. As a result, the duty is a disincentive to trading in securities which have only a short period to run to maturity and it is this paper which is the main area of market interest.

The effect of the present level of duty therefore, is to stifle trading in company notes and debentures which not only inhibits the growth of an active market, but also is counterproductive in relation to revenue. Consequently in an attempt to encourage a more active securities market in Perth, the Bill proposes to replace the existing duty of 60c per \$100 on the transfer of company notes and debentures with a duty of 2½c per \$100 per month of the remaining currency for securities with less than two years to maturity.

By way of example, the proposed duty will be 37½c per \$100 on the transfer of a debenture with more than 14 but less than 15 months to run and 17½c per \$100 with more than six but less than seven months to maturity.

The cost to revenue in a full year is estimated to be \$100 000.

The Campbell report recommended that selective stamp duties be replaced by a uniform Australia-wide duty for similar types of financial transactions and instruments. The Government has set up a committee to report and advise on the Campbell report and the stamp duty recommendations will be one of the areas being examined. Further stamp duty amendments may be proposed once that committee has completed its report on this matter.

However the proposed amendments are in the general direction of the Campbell report recommendations in that they reduce the rates of duty which otherwise could inhibit the develop-

ment of secondary markets. I commend the Bill to members.

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

## **PAY-ROLL TAX ASSESSMENT AMENDMENT BILL**

### *Second Reading*

**MR O'CONNOR** (Mt. Lawley—Treasurer) [5.38 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

The principal objective of the Bill is to give effect to the proposal I outlined when presenting the Budget; that is, to grant further relief from pay-roll tax, which will be of particular benefit to the many labour intensive small businesses.

Other matters covered by the Bill include provisions to—

make liable for pay-roll tax some methods of staff employment which may be used to circumvent the payment of the tax; and

effect certain other minor alterations, including the updating of penalty provisions.

At present, taxpayers are entitled to a basic pay-roll tax exemption level of \$102 000.

This means that when the total wages for the year do not exceed this amount, no pay-roll tax is payable.

If the annual pay-roll is greater than \$102 000, but does not exceed \$201 000, the basic exemption is reduced by \$2 for every \$3 by which the pay-roll exceeds \$102 000 until it tapers to the minimum deduction of \$36 000.

The Government proposes to assist small businesses by increasing the basic pay-roll tax exemption level for these taxpayers from \$102 000 to \$124 992.

This represents an increase of 22.5 per cent on the present tax exemption for these businesses—double the increase which would have been necessary to maintain the exemption at the same real level as last year.

The new basic exemption is to be reduced by \$2 for every \$3 by which the pay-roll exceeds \$124 992 which will result in a new minimum deduction of \$37 800 in respect of pay-rolls of \$255 780 and over.

The net result of these proposals is that some 600 taxpayers will be relieved of their total liability for tax.

In addition, many other employers' assessments will be reduced by amounts of up to \$1 916 per annum.

For example, a small business with an annual pay-roll of \$150 000 would currently pay tax amounting to \$4 000 whereas under the proposed scale, the tax assessment will be reduced to \$2 084—a reduction of nearly 50 per cent in the tax payable.

Despite the difficult budgetary position facing us this year, the Government did not follow New South Wales and Victoria by increasing the pay-roll tax rate on larger businesses.

Consequently, in Western Australia the maximum rate of pay-roll tax payable by larger businesses is five per cent compared with six per cent in those States.

Because of the changes made to the legislation last year, operative dates, amounts, and formulae now are all included in a schedule to the Act. Consequently, it is only that schedule which needs to be amended to give effect to the proposed increases in the level of exemption.

These proposals, along with the other amendments proposed in the Bill, are to take effect from 1 January 1983.

The cost to revenue is estimated to be \$1.3 million in the current year and \$3.2 million in a full year of operation.

There is also a need to maintain equity between taxpayers by amending the law to prevent the use of contrived arrangements aimed at avoiding payment of tax.

Avoidance practices of one type or another not only erode the revenue collections, but also operate to place an unfair burden on all other taxpayers.

In recent years, the Government has moved against these contrived arrangements as soon as we have had knowledge of their operation and I refer to the more recent amendments in the stamp duty and business franchise (tobacco) tax areas and previous amendments to the pay-roll tax legislation.

On this particular occasion, the Bill addresses several arrangements or schemes which enable the liability for pay-roll tax to be reduced or, in some cases, avoided.

To enable members to obtain an appreciation of the objectives of the Bill, I propose to give a brief explanation of the various arrangements that are known to exist and which are to be covered by the proposed amendments.

The first of these arrangements relates to certain businesses that might be described as contract employment agencies.

I would stress that I am not referring to the normal type of employment agency that simply

brings an employer and employee together, charges a fee for its services and then closes its books in respect of that particular person.

The type of arrangement to which the Bill refers is where an employment agent provides the services of a person for a client on a contractual basis by hiring the services of that person to his client.

Consequently, the scheme is such that it then differs from the normal arrangement adopted by employment agencies in that the liability for payment of wages remains with the employment agent.

At regular intervals, the employment agent renders an account to the employer client that includes the wages of the person engaged plus a fee for the agency's services. This arrangement may be made verbally or in writing, but the terms of service remain the same.

Even though the employment agency is actually paying the wages, some of these arrangements cannot be taxed under the present provisions of the legislation as most of the conditions applicable to a normal master-servant relationship are avoided, in one way or another, by the agreement made between the employment agent and the hired person.

On the other hand, the employer client who receives the direct benefit of the services of the person engaged is not liable to pay tax because he does not actually employ the person, nor does he pay that person wages in the normal manner.

The proposals in the Bill will enable the employment agency, which is the real employer in such cases, to be taxed.

#### *Leave to Continue Speech*

Mr O'CONNOR: I move—

That I be given leave to continue my speech at a later stage of the sitting.

Motion put and passed.

Debate thus adjourned.

### QUESTIONS

Questions were taken at this stage.

*Sitting suspended from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m.*

### PAY-ROLL TAX ASSESSMENT AMENDMENT BILL

#### *Second Reading*

Debate resumed from an earlier stage of the sitting.

**MR O'CONNOR** (Mt. Lawley—Treasurer) [7.30 p.m.]: It is relevant to this issue that there are some agencies operating in a somewhat similar manner which are currently meeting their tax liabilities.

It also should be said that the Government does not suggest that these types of arrangements were necessarily entered into with the intention of avoiding pay-roll tax, but that has been the effect, and principles of equity require that the matter be resolved.

Another type of arrangement under which pay-roll tax is not payable under current legislation, is where payments for services performed and rendered by natural persons are made over to a trust, partnership, or company.

This arrangement involves the trust, partnership, or company entering into an agreement with the employer to provide certain services.

The natural person agrees to work for that trust, partnership, or company in lieu of working for the employer.

In such an arrangement, no employer-employee relationship, in the sense required under the existing legislation, can be established because of the intermediary involvement of the trust, partnership, or company and, consequently, the payment of the tax is avoided.

In order to counteract these arrangements, it is proposed that the Commissioner of State Taxation be allowed to disregard the terms of any such agreement in cases where the payments are made to a related party to the person performing the work if, in his opinion, the arrangements were entered into for the purpose of reducing or avoiding the payment of tax.

The Bill will require the commissioner to give the taxpayer notice in writing of the facts and reasons for his determination to disregard the terms of the arrangement. Furthermore, the commissioner's determination will be subject to the taxpayer's normal rights of objection and appeal processes.

A further arrangement covered by the Bill relates to the avoidance of tax by dissociation of the activities of branch offices from the head office of a firm. Several situations have arisen whereby head offices have "contracted" managers to operate a branch. The terms of these contracts are usually such that the manager is deemed to operate the branch as an independent and autonomous office.

Although the manager carries out what may well be considered to be independent functions such as hiring and firing of staff, the payment of

wages, and the exercise of day-to-day authority over the affairs of the office, he is nevertheless subject by the head office to several important controls such as accounting for all proceeds and complying with certain procedures relating to the operations of the branch.

The terms of the contract are such that each of these branch offices stands alone and, individually, they may escape the payment of tax because of the present level of exemption.

It is proposed by this Bill that whenever the head office exercises managerial control by way of administrative, financial, or procedural control over a branch office, the offices will be grouped for the purpose of assessing the tax.

However, an exclusion provision also is to be included, similar to that already contained in the other grouping criteria of the legislation.

This will enable the commissioner to exclude such an arrangement where he is satisfied that the nature and degree of managerial control or any other relevant matters are such that it would not be just and reasonable to so group the businesses.

The legislative amendments to ensure that pay-roll tax is payable in situations where arrangements or schemes have enabled the liability for pay-roll tax to be reduced or avoided are to be effective from 1 January 1983.

The amendments are expected to result in the collection of at least an additional \$400 000 in pay-roll tax in 1982-83 and \$900 000 in a full year.

As briefly mentioned earlier, there are also some other minor amendments in this Bill. These items are the end result of the Government's policy to continually review the legislation in order to remove anomalies and inequities.

The most important of these proposals is the updating and simplification of the penalty provisions. Currently, there are some 10 different sections with penalties of one type or another. They range from 10 per cent up to 300 per cent in one case, with a minimum of \$2 or a flat penalty of \$1 000 in other sections.

It is proposed that the penalty of \$1 000 for a breach of the Act, set 11 years ago, be increased to \$2 000.

It is proposed also that most additional tax and penal tax provisions be standardised at an amount equal to the amount of tax at issue. In some cases, this will be a reduction in the amount of the penalty that can be currently imposed.

However, the larger penalties have not been imposed and, for the sake of simplicity and uniform-

ity, the proposed range of penalties is considered to be realistic.

The present legislation allows the commissioner to remit all or part of this penalty if the circumstances so warrant and this provision will be retained.

Another of these legislative matters concerns members of a "group" who may nominate which one of their members will be the "designated group employer" for the purpose of obtaining the allowance provided in the Act.

However, there is no statutory obligation imposed on the group and, in default, the commissioner is unable to so nominate or appoint.

The legislation is to be amended so that, in these cases, the commissioner himself will be able to nominate the "designated group employer".

Finally, and as a result of the Northern Territory's recent move from Commonwealth Government control, consequential amendments to certain references are necessary.

I commend the Bill to members.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr Tonkin.

## PETROLEUM RETAIL SELLING SITES BILL

*As to Second Reading*

MR TONKIN (Morley) [7.37 p.m.]: I move—

That Order of the Day No. 18 be now considered.

In moving this motion I make it quite clear I am happy to accept a challenge from the Minister for Consumer Affairs that we show we have a Bill relating to—

Mr Shalders: Why didn't you produce it on the weekend if you had one?

Mr TONKIN: Is the Minister saying the Bill is not printed and ready?

Mr Shalders: If you had a Bill, why didn't you produce it on a confidential basis to the media?

Mr TONKIN: When a Bill is in the hands of the Government Printer, as the Minister knows, it is presented first to this House. Is the Minister denying that I gave the draft Bill to the Clerk when it had its first reading?

### *Point of Order*

Mr O'CONNOR: Is debate allowed to continue in this way on the motion moved by the honourable member or should we simply decide whether Order of the Day No. 18 be proceeded with?

The SPEAKER: Order! Precedent exists for debate to take place on this type of procedural mo-

tion and a 20-minute time limit applies to all speakers.

*Debate (on motion) Resumed*

Mr TONKIN: Is the Minister saying that, when the Bill had its first reading, I did not present it to the Clerk for printing?

Mr Shalders: Why didn't you produce a copy of your Bill to the media?

Mr TONKIN: I did not produce a copy of my Bill to the media for the same reason that the Minister did not produce a copy of his Bill. He knows very well that, in the last few years, hundreds of Bills have been introduced into this House.

Mr Shalders: You are getting cross!

Mr TONKIN: I am not getting cross. However, not once has a Bill been presented to the media before it has come to the House.

Mr Shalders: Are you saying that a draft Bill has never been discussed with interested parties?

Mr TONKIN: Not on the Opposition's orders.

Mr Shalders: Why didn't you show a copy of your draft Bill to the Press?

Mr TONKIN: I did not do that for the same reason that the Minister did not show a copy of his draft Bill to the Press. Is the Minister saying that I did not give to the Clerk a copy of the Bill when it had its first reading two weeks ago today?

Mr Shalders: I am saying you were not prepared to produce a copy of your draft Bill to the media on a confidential basis at the weekend.

Mr TONKIN: Why should I do that?

Mr Shalders: To show you had one.

Mr TONKIN: I am saying to the Minister—

Mr Davies: Who is very dense.

Mr TONKIN: —that two weeks ago I gave the Bill to the Clerk. Is the Minister saying that is untrue?

Mr Shalders: I am not saying anything about whether you are speaking truthfully; I am saying you were not prepared to produce a copy of the draft Bill to the media at the weekend.

Mr TONKIN: Why did not the Minister do so?

Mr Shalders: I wasn't asked to.

Mr TONKIN: So any time I ask the Minister to produce a Bill to the Press he will do so before he produces it to the House! What kind of puppy dog do we have here? The Minister thinks that if he challenges me to produce a Bill, at his bidding, I will run to the Press. What kind of Opposition does the Minister think this is?

Mr Brian Burke: On a Sunday afternoon!

Mr TONKIN: When the Bill was read a first time, in accordance with normal practice, it was presented to the Clerk. The Minister might like to refer to the Clerk to ascertain the truth of my statement. A proof of the Bill was returned on the Wednesday, which will be two weeks ago tomorrow, which is a considerable time prior to the time the Minister indicated he had a Bill.

Mr Shalders: Shame!

Mr TONKIN: Why does the Minister say, "Shame"?

Mr Shalders: "Shame" because you weren't prepared to put your Bill where your mouth was.

Mr TONKIN: This Minister is amazing!

Mr Davies: He is a very junior Minister.

Mr TONKIN: The Government has produced many Bills to the Parliament and not once has it presented a Bill to the Press prior to its introduction in this House.

Mr Shalders: You know as well as I do that, on occasions, the Government has discussed a copy of a draft Bill with interested parties.

Mr TONKIN: That is right.

Mr Brian Burke: Not with the Press.

Mr TONKIN: The Minister has done that because he wanted to do so, not because the Opposition asked him to. If the Minister thinks that every time he gets a bee in his bonnet and tells untruths about a Bill being non-existent I will run to the Press to prove I am honest, he has another think coming. In order to show that we have a Bill and we are happy for it to be dealt with prior to our dealing with the Minister's Bill, I have moved my motion.

Mr Shalders: Why didn't you take the second reading of the Bill on the last private members' day when you had the opportunity?

Mr TONKIN: I did not do so because the Bill was not printed.

Mr Shalders: So you didn't have a Bill!

Mr TONKIN: The Minister should ask the Clerk.

Mr Shalders: You didn't have a Bill printed then.

Mr TONKIN: The Bill was in the hands of the Government Printer and a proof came back on the Wednesday.

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Morley has moved a procedural motion that an Order of the Day be now taken. I suggest he confine his remarks to that proposition and not discuss other matters with the Minister for Consumer Affairs.

Mr TONKIN: The reason I took the unusual step to move this motion was to show that the Opposition had a Bill; it had a Bill two weeks ago, as the Clerk can tell anyone; the Bill went to the Government Printer two weeks ago today; and it is unfair and should be below the dignity of a Minister of the Crown to suggest that a Bill does not exist when, in fact, the Bill has been read a first time. The Minister giggles and leaves his seat when in fact he has been shown to be a fool, because the Bill was here two weeks ago. The Bill was given to the Clerk two weeks ago and, although a proof came back on the Wednesday, it was not printed in sufficient numbers.

To prove the existence of that Bill I am happy that this House should now agree that the Bill to give effect to the 50 per cent rule as far as petrol retailers are concerned, which I presented to this House prior to the time the Minister introduced his Bill, be dealt with first.

If the Government believes we have a problem in relation to this Bill, let it so indicate by putting its vote where the Minister's rather tiny mouth is and agree to this procedural motion so that we may produce our Bill.

Question put and a division taken with the following result—

## Ayes 18

Mr Barnett	Mr Hodge
Mr Bridge	Mr T. H. Jones
Mr Brian Burke	Mr McIver
Mr Terry Burke	Mr Parker
Mr Carr	Mr A. D. Taylor
Mr Davies	Mr I. F. Taylor
Mr Evans	Mr Tonkin
Mr Harman	Mr Wilson
Mr Gordon Hill	Mr Bateman

(Teller)

## Noes 24

Mr Blaikie	Mr Mensaros
Mr Clarko	Mr O'Connor
Mr Court	Mr Old
Mr Coyne	Mr Rushton
Mrs Craig	Mr Shalders
Mr Grayden	Mr Sibson
Mr Grewar	Mr Sodeman
Mr Hassell	Mr Trethowan
Mr Herzfeld	Mr Tubby
Mr Laurance	Mr Watt
Mr MacKinnon	Mr Williams
Mr McPharlin	Mr Nanovich

(Teller)

## Pairs

Ayes	Noes
Mr Jamieson	Mr Spriggs
Mr Bryce	Mr P. V. Jones
Mr Pearce	Dr Dadour
Mr Grill	Mr Young
Mr Bertram	Mr Crane

Question thus negatived.

Motion defeated.

## PETROLEUM RETAILERS RIGHTS AND LIABILITIES BILL

### Second Reading

MR SHALDERS (Murray—Minister for Consumer Affairs) [7.49 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This Bill is introduced to define the rights and liabilities of persons occupying land for the purpose of selling motor fuel by retail.

In April 1975 the Trade Practices Commission considered clearance notices and authorisation applications concerning transactions between the major oil companies, including the Shell Company of Australia Limited, and their respective service station operators. The franchise arrangements, or lease agreements, then existing commonly required the reseller to deal only in the particular supplier's brand of petroleum products—they also provided, *inter alia*, for controls over other goods and services in which the reseller might trade.

The commission decided to hold a public hearing into the Shell Company's authorisation applications and on 9 December 1975 delivered its determination dismissing the applications for authorisation of the restrictive contracts concerned. The applications of the other major oil companies were later evaluated by the commission and were likewise dismissed.

The commission's position on subsequent agreements—for example, those in force after 30 June 1976—had the effect that lessee dealers should have the right to purchase up to 50 per cent of their supplies from other than their landlord suppliers.

Regrettably the definitive determination of the trade practices commission was not then enshrined in legislation by the Commonwealth and in spite of attempts by this and other State Governments, the Commonwealth has shown a complete disinclination to enact legislation in what is seen by State Governments to be a matter of vital national importance.

Mr Tonkin: You have done nothing on this for six years. Six years you have had.

Mr Carr: You didn't do a thing until we said we would introduce a similar Bill.

Mr SHALDERS: Mr Speaker, I am sure you would not want me to diminish your interest in this interesting piece of legislation by replying to the offensive and unintelligent comments of members opposite.

Mr Tonkin: For six years you have done nothing.

Mr SHALDERS: To continue: The consequence has been that very few lessee dealers of petrol stations have taken advantage of the purchase rights determined by the Trade Practices Commission, presumably because they have felt that there was insecurity and practical difficulty involved in their exercising that right. Accordingly this Government has decided to introduce legislation to put beyond doubt the rights and liabilities of lessee dealers in petroleum retailing.

#### *Point of Order*

Mr TONKIN: I draw attention to the Minister's reading his speech. Of course, that is against Standing Orders. A practice has arisen that for greater accuracy a Minister when explaining a Bill by way of a second reading speech can read that speech if the comments relate to technical matters. I submit that this Bill is not in any way technical and that the Minister should make his speech in the normal way, as required of other members.

The SPEAKER: The practice of the House clearly has been that Ministers are permitted to read speeches introducing Bills. Members will be aware also that some time ago on recommendation of the Standing Orders Committee I did indicate to the House that I would permit private members introducing Bills to read their speeches, whether they were technical or non-technical.

Mr Tonkin: It shouldn't be necessary.

#### *Debate Resumed*

Mr SHALDERS: The member has returned to his childhood.

Mr Tonkin: Why can't you make a speech on this legislation without using notes?

Mr SHALDERS: Goodness gracious, he is like a little fox terrier. He really is. He is snip, snip, snipping away.

Mr Tonkin: Why can't you make a speech without reading every word of it?

Mr SHALDERS: The legislation being introduced is innovative and thus will be subject to testing as to its effectiveness. While it is fundamentally based on the structure of similar legislation enacted in Victoria, it seeks to overcome the several constraints in that legislation which seem to have made it ineffective in practice.

The legislation seeks to protect the respective rights of the lessor and lessee and provides machinery for the resolution of disputes between the parties.

Penalties to a maximum of \$5 000 are provided for offences committed by any person who fails to comply with any provision of the legislation.

During the drafting stages of the Bill, there has been consultation with interested parties. Despite this prior consultation it is emphasised that an invitation is now extended by the Government to groups involved in the marketing of petroleum and those organisations representing motorists—for example, the Royal Automobile Club—to make further submissions on particular aspects of the proposed legislation, and time will be provided for any submissions to be considered before the legislation is proceeded with.

I want to emphasise that this Bill is not designed to be a legislative catch-all in the complex area of petroleum marketing. It seeks not to control oil company involvement in the total marketing process beyond the provisions of section 10 of the Commonwealth Retail Marketing Sites Act. That section limits the number of sites which oil companies may own and operate as retail sites. It does, however, seek to create an improvement in the bargaining power of the lessee dealer in his negotiations with his landlord supplier and to better provide for the freedom of choice which is an essential part of the private enterprise system.

The legislation is designed to promote competition and give greater freedom to the exercise of independent business judgment by resellers. A desirable effect which it is believed may be achieved by this legislation is better competition in respect of product price resulting in a lowering of the wholesale price to retailers which will in turn be passed on to motorists.

I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr Tonkin.

### **WESTERN AUSTRALIAN OVERSEAS PROJECTS AUTHORITY AMENDMENT BILL**

#### *Second Reading*

MR MacKINNON (Murdoch—Minister for Industrial, Commercial and Regional Development) [7.57 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

The object of this Bill is to amend the Western Australian Overseas Projects Authority Act 1978-1981 in light of operational experience of the authority.

The authority is continuing to develop its role in assisting Western Australian participation in overseas development projects and consultancies. It is involved in successful projects in Iraq, Libya, Thailand, and Nepal, and in the past year has

contracted a number of overseas technical consultancies. The major A\$7 million dryland farming project in Iraq has operated continuously throughout the recent hostilities in that area and practical results have been excellent.

To date the authority has remained completely self-funding and marketing under way suggests that the operations will continue to be viable for the foreseeable future. However, experience with the administration of the authority indicates that there is a need for some amendments to the Act in order to improve efficiencies. This Bill proposes three amendments to the principal Act and the details are as follows.

The first amendment is to section 13, which concerns membership of the board. A problem has arisen with the provision in the Act that the directors of agriculture and industrial, commercial and regional development, and the Under Treasurer are nominated as permanent directors of the board. While it is desirable that representation be at a very senior level, in practice, these officers may not be in a position to attend board meetings but are unable to appoint a senior member of their department to replace them. It would be preferable for provision to be made for the appointment by the director, of a senior officer to represent the department at board meetings, should it be necessary, rather than its being limited to the permanent head.

The second amendment is to section 13, also concerning membership of the board. Currently the board consists of six directors, of which three represent private industry and three represent Government departments. From this group, one member is appointed by the Governor to be chairman of the board. As it is possible that the chairman could be a representative of an organisation which could become heavily involved in the overseas projects area, it could affect that chairman's capacity to represent adequately his own organisation's point of view in particular situations. For this reason, provision has been made for the appointment, by the Governor, of a seventh director, if required, who would be seen to be not directly involved in overseas development projects.

The third amendment is to section 13 and concerns a change of name. While the Act is in the House for other amendments, it is appropriate to change the reference to the Department of Industrial Development and Commerce to that of the recently named Department of Industrial, Commercial and Regional Development.

It is considered that these three amendments will not vary the policy or principals under which

the authority will operate. The authority is successfully implementing its role. However, the amendments will significantly assist in improving its administrative efficiency.

I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr Tonkin.

## JUSTICES AMENDMENT BILL

### *Receipt and First Reading*

Bill received from the Council; and, on motion by Mr Rushton (Deputy Premier), read a first time.

### *Second Reading*

**MR RUSHTON** (Dale—Deputy Premier) [8.01 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

The purpose of this Bill is to amend the existing law relating to the destruction of certain records held by Courts of Petty Sessions. At present part X of the Justices Act provides that records of these courts may be destroyed only after 53 years or after microfilming, which may be carried out after three years.

In 1980 the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia issued a report on retention of court records, which dealt with both Courts of Petty Sessions and Local Courts. In 1981 Parliament passed an amendment to the Local Courts Act which, in essence, permitted the destruction of all records of Local Courts after 15 years. At that time it was indicated that the question of the retention of records of Courts of Petty Sessions was being further examined by the Government.

This Bill now before the House relates to the retention of records in Courts of Petty Sessions and is in line with the recommendations of the Law Reform Commission.

Records of these courts fall into two categories: Firstly, the charge sheets which constitute the principal record, and, secondly, ancillary papers, such as proofs of service, notes of evidence, enforcement action, and other documentation.

It is proposed that the charge sheets continue to be records which are retained for not less than 53 years, or, if a negative of the record is held by the court, they may be destroyed after three years.

The ancillary papers, which make up the bulk of the material being stored, also may be microfilmed, but the cost of so doing would generally not be justified because of the extensive preparatory work that would be necessary. It is proposed therefore that they may be destroyed after the expiration of 15 years.



In recommending the period of 15 years for the retention of these records, the Law Reform Commission had regard to the sufficiency of this period for the purposes of the administration of justice; in other words, 15 years appeared to be a reasonable period to retain documents in order to fulfil the purposes for which they might be required.

It is emphasised at this point that it is proposed to destroy only matters which have been completed and not those few matters that are outstanding—for example, committal proceedings, incomplete because defendant has absconded, or where warrants remain unpaid. Indexes and other important material, likewise, will not be destroyed.

An amendment has been included in the Bill to provide that a clerk of petty sessions may make an order in writing that court records be preserved for a period of one year where proceedings have not yet been completed. Such order may be renewed for a period of one year from time to time.

A person will be liable to a penalty of \$100 for contravention of a preservation order while it is in force.

As was the case with the records of Local Courts, this Bill provides that the destruction of records does not affect the archival requirements of the Library Board of Western Australia Act and, consequently, action can still be taken under that Act to ensure that records of archival value from Courts of Petty Sessions are retained.

Certain definitions have been included so that it will be clearly understood what is the principal record and what are ancillary papers so as to identify the various records which may be destroyed and the minimum period of years of retention.

There is no doubt that the passing of this legislation will bring about an improved situation, particularly in the metropolitan area, relating to the storage of material in the State repository.

I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr Tonkin.

## **BILLS (2): COUNCIL'S MESSAGES**

Messages from the Council received and read notifying that it had agreed to the amendments made by the Assembly to the following Bills—

1. Bail Bill.
2. Acts Amendment (Bail) Bill.

## **BILLS (8): ASSENT**

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

1. Western Australian Institute of Technology Amendment Bill.
2. Act Amendment (Agricultural Products) and Repeal Bill.
3. Local Government Amendment Bill (No. 3).
4. Coal Mine Workers (Pensions) Amendment Bill.
5. Millstream Station Acquisition Bill.
6. Prisons Amendment Bill.
7. Mine Workers' Relief Amendment Bill.
8. Motor Vehicle Dealers Amendment Bill.

## **WESTERN AUSTRALIAN OVERSEAS PRODUCTS AUTHORITY BILL**

### *Message: Appropriations*

Message from the Governor received and read recommending appropriations for the purposes of the Bill.

## **DAIRY INDUSTRY AMENDMENT BILL**

### *Second Reading*

Order of the day read for the resumption of debate from 21 September.

### *Point of Order*

Mr EVANS: May I impose on you, Mr Speaker, to take a point of order which has some relevance to the proceedings with regard to this Bill. I question the position of a member who is a member of the Honorary Royal Commission which is examining the same subject matter as is found in this Bill.

A Select Committee was set up on this matter, but was subsequently made into an Honorary Royal Commission, the genesis of which was the transfer of quotas and a resolution was sought which extended to the entire dairy industry. As this matter could be *sub judice*, does the Royal Commissions Act restrict a member who is a member of that commission to debate such a matter? It may be that he is liable to breach the confidentiality of the Royal Commission.

### *Speaker's Ruling*

The SPEAKER: I have had the opportunity to consider this matter because the member for Warren was good enough to raise the question with me privately some time ago. I have given some thought to the matter, in conjunction with the Clerk.

It should be clearly understood that this House does not have a Standing Order directing that matters *sub judice* may not be debated.

What we do have is a body of practice and a definition. The definition is found in Standing Order No. 2 and lists certain matters which are included under the term "*sub judice*".

No mention will be found in that definition of proceedings before a Royal Commission; nor should there be—a Royal Commission is not a court of law.

The practice of this House upholds this point of view. In 1947 a similar question was raised on two occasions and in both instances the ruling from the Chair was to the effect that there was nothing disorderly in proceeding with a particular Bill, notwithstanding the subject matter of the Bill was then being considered by a Royal Commission.

It may be of some interest to members if I quote some words of the Speaker of the House of Representatives (Sir Billy Snedden). Speaking on this matter at the 12th Conference of Presiding Officers and Clerks of the Parliaments in the Australia and Pacific Region, held at Wellington, New Zealand, in March 1981, Sir Billy said—

I believe that a general prohibition of discussion of the proceedings of a royal commission is too broad and restricts the House unduly. I think it is necessary to consider the nature of the inquiry. Where the proceedings are concerned with issues of fact, or the findings are related to the propriety of the actions of specific persons, the House should be restrained in its reference. However, where the proceedings before a royal commission are intended to produce advice as to future policy or legislation, they assume a national interest, an importance, and restraint of comment in the House cannot be justified.

There is no inhibition on this House considering a Bill which happens to be dealing with the same matter as is a Royal Commission, and article 9 of the Bill of Rights 1688 is sufficient authority for me to say that there is no parliamentary or other restriction which would prevent any member, even if that member should also be a Royal Commissioner, from contributing to the debate on such a Bill.

Mr EVANS: Thank you for clarifying the matter. I think it could be of some interest when possibly a similar situation could occur in the future.

#### *Debate Resumed*

MR EVANS (Warren) [8.13 p.m.]: The contents of the Bill are not extensive, but they bear a

degree of importance because they affect what is the most salient problem of the dairy industry at present.

In his introductory remarks, the Minister indicated the background to the introduction of this measure and explained that under the previous Dairy Industry Authority policy it was possible to transfer a quota on a walk-in-walk-out sales basis and transfer the market milk quota associated with any dairy farm being sold.

That policy subsequently was extended so that members of a family who were quota holders could share the quotas among family members. This was a policy which operated within the dairy industry and was superintended by the DIA.

The Minister indicated that there had been serious legal omissions which in effect enabled the transfer of a quota, under the guise of a legitimate land sale, without the quota being transferred. The legal mechanisms enabled the quota to remain with the purchaser and the land to be returned to the vendor. Members would have a reasonable idea of the practice that has been carried out.

The purpose of this legislation is to allow the transfer of quotas, as previously allowed under the DIA policy, but—and I quote from the Minister's words—"Without the approval of the DIA, provided that the Minister has granted his approval". This Bill will transfer the right of allowing a quota transference to the Minister from the DIA as is the case at present. This action has raised a number of issues.

Firstly, I ask the Minister why the powers should not be vested in the DIA, rather than their being transferred to the Minister, in sole right. This could even set an undesirable precedent, which could extend into other areas. Effectively, the Minister is taking control of quota transference. Even with the sunset clause to phase out the legislation on 31 December 1983, the principle is undesirable.

The Minister's second reading speech contains the following statement—

... the prohibition on the transfer of quotas has affected the genuine transfers as well as those which might have been proposed purely on the basis of a device to achieve negotiability of quotas.

The Minister will find himself in a position of having to determine which transfers should be permitted, and which should not, for the reason he has outlined. I anticipate considerable problems will be encountered in determining which is a bona fide transaction, and which is not. I still wonder why the DIA should not be charged with

the responsibility of making such an assessment, and of continuing to approve or disallow quota transfers.

The number of transfers, and an indication of those which it is considered should be dealt with expediently should be provided to members. This would assist us in justifying the legislation and in overcoming some of the areas of concern I have expressed. The Minister also could detail some of the transactions which have led to the introduction of this legislation.

Because the Opposition has reservations about its support of the legislation, perhaps the Minister could allay some of those fears in his reply.

**MR OLD** (Katanning—Minister for Agriculture) [8.18 p.m.]: I thank the member for Warren for his somewhat guarded support of the Bill. I can understand his apprehension. I am also appreciative of the fact that the Speaker, in his ruling, was able to sustain the desire of the Government to go ahead and make this small but very important amendment to the Dairy Industry Act. I do not believe the situation outlined by the member for Warren is fully appreciated. He suggested I should provide details of the type of device being used, and I am quite happy to do so. The member for Warren is familiar with the necessity to forward annually to the Dairy Industry Authority the basis and principles upon which determination of quota transfers shall be made during the forthcoming year. It always has been accepted that a quota could be transferred under the basis and principles only where the entire interest of the dairyman was transferred with the quota. For a short period, and at the behest of the dairy industry, negotiability of quotas was thrown open.

This always has been a contentious subject. Eventually, the Government through the DIA took control of the transfer of quotas and, once again, the basis and principles were instituted.

As with any other law, there is always somebody who is happy to examine the legislation to ascertain whether its intent can be circumvented. In this instance, a device was perfected whereby a dairy farmer could sell his property and retain a lease on that part of the property within which the actual dairy was situated. He could then sell his interest in the lease—which was the entire interest of the dairy farmer—together with his quota. This was particularly hard to overcome and, in fact, several such transfer applications were refused by the DIA and were about to be the subject of a legal challenge when it was decided to invoke a moratorium on the transfer of quotas.

At the same time, a Select Committee—subsequently an Honorary Royal Com-

mission—comprising members from both Houses was requested in its investigation of the dairy industry to take into account the whole question of the transfer of quotas. It is unfortunate that the placing of a moratorium on the transfer of quotas, affected not only those people endeavouring to transfer quotas without transferring the entire interests in the property, but also those people who were under some stress, for family reasons such as illness, or a genuine desire to retire and/or a genuine desire to distribute part of their quota throughout the family—something for which the Government had made provision by way of previous amendments. So, the moratorium stopped virtually everything.

We lifted the moratorium briefly, and I asked the DIA to deal with those quotas which were already in the pipeline; then, we immediately reapplied the moratorium for a further six months. That period will elapse in the not-too-distant future, and we are back in the same situation. We had hoped that, prior to the second moratorium period elapsing, the Royal Commission would have presented its findings to the Parliament and that, from those findings, a solution could have been found to the problem and the Act amended accordingly. Unfortunately, due to its very full investigation of the industry, the Royal Commission has taken more time than was anticipated and we do not believe we will receive its report much prior to the end of this session of Parliament. Next year being an election year, it would probably be September or October after the Address-in-Reply had been dealt with before legislation could be enacted to allow the normal functions of the DIA to continue.

With this in mind, it was decided the only way to obviate this was to give the Minister jurisdiction in the transfer of quotas which were clearly outside the basis and principles. In effect, what will happen is that the DIA will continue to deal with the transfer of quotas which clearly is within the basis and principles; the Minister will have nothing to do with those. Only those quotas which the DIA feels may be outside the basis and principles will be referred to the Minister for decision, and it will be incumbent upon the Minister to make a decision. Let me assure the House I have no ambition to take over the workings of the DIA; that is the furthest thing from my mind; it would be my most unfavourite occupation.

**Mr Evans:** I appreciate that, but would it not be preferable to retain a little distance between the Minister and the problem, by having the DIA deal with the matter in some way? Could not it be done in that way?

Mr OLD: To do that, we would have to amend the basis and principles, which actually would open up the situation we are trying to hold down until the review of the dairy industry has been completed. Certainly, it is not my desire to preempt recommendations of the Royal Commission. I assure members the commission has given no indication as to its final recommendations. So, we are dealing as a Parliament with something about which we know very little; namely, the findings of that Royal Commission. Whereas some members in this august establishment do have that knowledge and are able to debate this issue in a far more informed way than am I, I am talking from a position of weakness.

I stress there is no way that I, as Minister for Agriculture, will seek to take over the authority vested in the DIA. I will reluctantly look at any problems of the DIA relating to the transfer of quotas which the authority feels may be outside the guidelines, and the basis and principles as set down by the Minister and the legislation. However, I can assure members that that ministerial authority will be treated with great respect. The fact the Government has inserted a sunset clause providing that the legislation will expire on 31 December 1983 is indicative of its desire, at the earliest possible opportunity after the findings of the Royal Commission have been considered, to introduce legislation to rectify the problems which exist today. The Bill has been brought before the House with some reluctance; however, had we not introduced it, and extended the moratorium, many innocent and needy people in the dairy industry would have been denied normal justice; namely, the ability to adjust their family affairs. That is what the Bill is all about.

I reiterate that I have no desire to take over the mechanics of the authority. It is like greatness: It is something which has been thrust upon me.

Mr Tonkin: You would have experienced that previously, I suppose?

Mr OLD: I knew that would provoke a reaction from the Opposition. I will treat this authority with the utmost respect.

I commend the Bill to the House.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

#### *In Committee, etc.*

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

#### *Third Reading*

Leave granted to proceed forthwith to the third reading.

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

#### STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

##### *Report: Adoption*

Debate resumed from 30 September.

MR TONKIN (Morley) [8.32 p.m.]: The Opposition's two representatives on the Standing Orders Committee are the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and the member for Welshpool, who are not here tonight. By the way, I might inform the House that the member for Welshpool is not well at the moment; and I am sure all members of the House join with me in wishing him a speedy recovery and return to the House.

Members: Hear, hear!

Mr O'Connor: When will he be back?

Mr Davies: Next week, hopefully, unless he consults a doctor. That might set him back a bit.

Mr TONKIN: The Opposition has considered the report of the Standing Orders Committee. It is not of very great moment. In fact, as I said to one member of the committee, it is a shame that so much labour brought forth such a tiny mouse. The most important matter it seemed to me—and members will realise that I have a personal interest in this—is the change in respect of suspensions.

Mr Blaikie: Not that we are dealing with misconduct!

Mr TONKIN: The change is a sensible one. It was the member for Fremantle who demonstrated the absurdity of the present Standing Order. He did not mean to do so; but he demonstrated it by the timing of his suspension. It is desirable that a suspension should be for the remainder of that day's sitting and an extra day.

Finally, I hope that the Standing Orders Committee—I can say this as I am not a member of it—gives consideration to matters of far greater moment. A number of Standing Orders of this House need revision. The committee should bring down a report which would have greater consequences for the better government of the House. Certainly the Opposition has no objection to this report.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr Nanovich.

*House adjourned at 8.35 p.m.*

## QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

## ADVISORY COMMITTEES

*Membership*

1532. Mr BRYCE, to the Minister representing the Attorney General and Minister for Federal Affairs:

(1) In respect of the following bodies—

- (a) Legal Aid Commission;
- (b) Barristers' Board;
- (c) Law Reform Commission;
- (d) Legislative Review and Advisory Committee;
- (e) Parole Board;
- (f) Companies Auditors and Liquidators Disciplinary Board—

(i) Who are the people who comprise the membership of such bodies;

- (ii) what is the occupational background of each member;
- (iii) what is the term of appointment to each body and when was each member appointed;
- (iv) on how many occasions did the bodies meet during the last financial year; and
- (v) what is the amount and basis of payment of financial allowances to members of each body?

(2) What other departments, statutory corporations, regulatory bodies, quasi-judicial bodies, trustees and advisory committees are responsible to him as Attorney General and Minister for Federal Affairs?

Mr RUSHTON replied:

(1) (a) Legal Aid Commission	Occupation	First Appd	Apptmt Expires	Meetings	Fees & Allowances**
Mr R. I. Ainslie QC	Legal Practitioner	28/9/78	31/12/82	12	\$5000 p.a. plus allowance \$600
*Mr L. W. Roberts-Smith	Legal Practitioner	1-1-78	31-12-82		Salaried officer of
Mr J. R. Ewing	Retired Public Servant	17-6-77	17-6-83		\$2 500 p.a.
Mr T. A. Walsh, QC	Legal Practitioner	19/3/80	17/6/83		\$2 500 p.a.
Mr J. A. Samuel	Legal Practitioner	17-6-80	17-6-83		\$2 500 p.a.
Mrs V. C. Payne	Legal Practitioner	17/6/80	17/6/83		\$2 500 p.a.
*Mr N. R. Fletcher	Commissioner Consumer Affairs	17-6-77	17-6-83		\$1 250 p.a.
Mr P. D. Massie	Commonwealth Public Servant	17-6-80	17-6-83		—
*Ex officio member 0 Representing Commonwealth Attorney General					**Fees are determined by Public Service Board
(b) Barristers' Board	Occupation	First Appd	Apptmt Expires	Meetings	Fees & Allowances
Hon. I. G. Medcalf, QC	Attorney General	Ex officio		12	Fees are not payable to members of the Barrister's Board
Mr K. H. Parker, QC	Solicitor General	Ex officio			
All Queens Counsel resident and practising in the State		Ex officio			
Mr R. E. Blanckensee	Legal Practitioner		*4-4-83	*appointed annually in April	
Mr T. A. S. Davy	Legal Practitioner		4-4-83		
Mr R. S. French	Legal Practitioner		*4-4-83		

Mr R. D. Keall	Legal Practitioner		*4-4-83		
Mr R. J. Kronberger	Legal Practitioner		*4-4-83		
Mr R. J. Viol	Legal Practitioner		*4-4-83		
Mr N. J. Owen	Legal Practitioner		*4-4-83		
Mr R. J. M. Anderson	Legal Practitioner		*4-4-83		
Mr M. A. Lewis	Legal Practitioner	23-9-82	*4-4-83		
(c) Law Reform Commission	Occupation	First Apptd	Apptmt Expires	Meetings	Fees & Allowances**
Dr J. A. Thomson	Legal Officer Crown Law Dept	4-8-82	18-1-85	55 Formal meetings	Salaried officer—Crown Law Dept
Mr D. R. Williams QC	Legal Practitioner	16-2-82	18-1-85		\$11 835 p.a.
Mr L. L. Proksch	Senior Lecturer University of WA	23-1-80	18-1-83		\$6 763 p.a.
Mr H. H. Jackson	Legal Practitioner	3-1-80	2-1-83		{ Full time salaried officers—\$46 756
Mr C. W. Ogilvie	Legal Practitioner	1-10-79	30-9-85		
(d) Legislative Review & Advisory Committee	Occupation	First Apptd	Apptmt Expires	Meetings	Fees & Allowances**
Mr R. J. M. Anderson	Legal Practitioner	15-4-81	18-5-83	34	\$3 000 p.a. plus allowance \$300
Mr P. M. Moyes	Retired Headmaster	8-6-82	7-6-87		
Dr E. J. Edwards	University Professor	1-12-81	30-11-86		\$1 500 p.a.
(e) Parole Board	Occupation	First Apptd	Appmt Expires	Meetings	Fees & Allowances**
Mr Justice C. H. Smith	Supreme Court Judge	1-7-81	open	23	
Mr W. J. Kidston	Director Prisons Dept	<i>Ex Officio</i>			
Mrs S. M. Kenworthy	Retired Legal Practitioner	31-7-64	22-7-83	}	\$72 full day
Mr J. R. Mackay	Asst State Director, Austcare	9-6-76	22-7-84		\$48 half day
Mr L. S. Turnbull	Businessman	22-7-70	22-7-84		
Mrs D. V. Hodgson	Home Duties	2-2-82	22-7-84		
Mr T. Goodman	Senior Insp. of Police				50% of fees payable to other members
(f) Companies Auditors and Liquidators Disciplinary Board	Occupation	First Apptd	Apptmt Expires	Meetings	Fees & Allowances**
Mr R. M. B. Reynolds (Chairman)	Legal Practitioner	4-6-75	*5-10-82	11	Chairman \$96 full day, \$64 half day
Mr C. B. Hugall	Accountant	5-10-77	*5-10-82	}	Memaers \$72 full day, \$48 half day
Mr R. H. Henderson	Accountant	5-10-77	*5-10-82		

(\*further apptmts pending)

- (2) Appeal Costs Board  
Committee of Inquiry into Future Organisations of Legal Profession  
Law Reporting Advisory Board  
Legal Aid Consultative Committee  
Legal Contribution Trust  
Stipendiary Magistrates' Examination Board  
Crown Law Department.

# ADVISORY COMMITTEES

## Membership

1533. Mr BRYCE, to the Minister representing the Chief Secretary, Minister for Cultural Affairs, and Recreation.

### (1) In respect of the following bodies—

- (a) Aboriginal Cultural Material Committee;
- (b) WA Museum Board;
- (c) Youth, Community Recreation and National Fitness Council;
- (d) Library Board of WA;
- (e) Totalizer Agency Board;
- (f) Lotteries Commission—

- (i) who are the people who comprise the membership of such bodies;
- (ii) what is the occupational background of each member;
- (iii) what is the term of appointment to each body and when was each member appointed;
- (iv) on how many occasions did the bodies meet during the last financial year; and
- (v) what is the amount and basis of payment of financial allowances to members of each body?

- (2) What other departments, statutory corporations, regulatory bodies, quasi-judicial bodies, trustees and advisory committees are responsible to him as Chief Secretary and Minister for Cultural Affairs, and Recreation?

Mr HASSELL replied:

- (1) (a) (i) Dr E. P. Hodgkin, BSc, DSC (chairman)  
Prof. R. M. Berndt, MA, PhD, Dip Anthropol. (appointed member)  
Mr K. Colbung, MBE (appointed member)  
Mr R. Isaacs (appointed member)  
Mrs M. Macha (appointed member)

Mr J. L. Bannister, MA  
Mr J. F. Morgan, LS, FIS (Aust), MAIC.

- (ii) Retired, formerly Associate Professor of Zoology, University of WA

Professor, of Anthropology, University of W.A.

Aboriginal community leader  
Chairman, Aboriginal Housing Board

businesswoman

Director, WA Museum

Surveyor General.

- (iii) Term of appointment for "appointed members"—three years. Date of initial appointment as follows—

1 June 1982

2 October 1972

13 October 1972

1 January 1982

18 October 1977

- (iv) Ordinary meetings are held every second month.

- (v) No meeting fees are paid. Appointed members living outside the metropolitan area receive remuneration in accordance with section 36 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act.

- (b) It is presumed the member refers to the Western Australian Museum Trustees.

- (i) Dr E. P. Hodgkin, BSc, DSc (chairman)

Hon. Mr Justice Kennedy, BA, LLB, BCL

Mr G. L. Bunning, BA

Mr H. C. Lange

Mr T. Long, MBE, BA

Dr B. Y. Main, BSc(Hons) PhD

Dr R. L. Vickery, BSc, Dip.Ed, MS, Ed.D

- (ii) Retired; formerly Associate Professor of Zoology, University of WA

judge

business executive

merchant banker

retired; formerly Commissioner, Aboriginal Affairs Planning Authority

scientist

director General of Education.

- (iii) Date of initial appointment

9 December 1955

19 December 1969

19 December 1969

- 25 January 1978  
 5 January 1982  
 6 April 1982  
 6 June 1980  
 Date of expiry of present term  
 17 December 1983  
 17 December 1983  
 17 December 1983  
 19 December 1985  
 19 December 1985  
 19 December 1985  
 19 December 1985.
- (iv) Ordinary meetings are held each month except January.
- (v) No meeting fees are paid; trustees receive remuneration in accordance with section 24 of the Museum Act for expenses incurred on Museum business.
- (c) The Youth, Community Recreation and National Fitness Council was abolished by the Youth, Sport and Recreation Act, 1978.
- (d) (i) Prof. F. Alexander (chairman)  
 Dr D. A. Jecks  
 Mrs F. W. Birman  
 Mr J. G. Bissett  
 Mr R. A. Cotton  
 Mr R. W. Farr  
 Mr N. E. King  
 Mr R. W. Manning  
 Mr J. Quinn  
 Mrs M. F. Shearer  
 Mr H. Stickland
- (ii) retired, former university professor  
 academic administrator  
 historical researcher  
 public servant  
 college principal  
 retired, former bookseller and news-agent  
 farmer and investor  
 optometrist  
 education administrator  
 farming partner  
 retired, former accountant.
- (iii) Date of Present Appointment  
 1 December 1979  
 1 December 1979  
 February 1982  
 February 1982  
 February 1982  
 February 1982  
 1 December 1979  
*Ex Officio*  
 1 December 1979
- February 1982  
 Date of Expiry of Present Term  
 1 December 1983  
 1 December 1983  
 30 November 1985  
 30 November 1985  
 30 November 1985  
 30 November 1985  
 30 November 1985  
 1 December 1983  
 1 December 1983  
 30 November 1985.
- (iv) The board met on ten occasions in 1981-82.
- (v) No allowances or fees paid to board members, other than travelling expenses under the provisions set by the Public Service Board.
- (e) (i) Mr J. R. Ewing (chairman)  
 Mr H. H. Jarman (deputy chairman and general manager)  
 Mr R. J. Peters  
 Mr J. C. Sheedy  
 Mr P. J. M. Enright  
 Mr J. Snooks  
 Dr E. C. Manca  
 Mr J. S. Coleman.
- (ii) retired public servant  
 General Manager, TAB  
 company director  
 hotelier  
 retired  
 business proprietor  
 medical practitioner  
 farmer
- (iii) Three years, except for the General Manager who is an *ex officio* member;  
 last appointment date:  
 20 December 1981  
 7 December 1980  
 20 December 1972  
 7 December 1981  
 7 December 1979  
 21 July 1982  
 9 December 1980  
 23 December 1979.
- (iv) Eight.
- (v) Chairman \$5 600 per annum  
 deputy chairman—nil  
 members \$2 500 per annum.  
 Paid half yearly as determined by the Governor in accordance with the Act.
- (f) (i) Sir Desmond O'Neil  
 Mr A. J. Parker  
 Mr L. L. Ikin  
 Mrs G. Rolfe.



- (ii) Retired, former politician and school teacher  
retired, former Deputy Commissioner of Police  
retired—former State Manager of G. J. Coles & Co.  
housewife.
- (iii) Three years—last appointment date—  
26 March 1980  
1 July 1981  
12 October 1980  
1 July 1982.
- (iv) 141 times.
- (v) Chairman \$6 000 per annum plus \$500 allowance.  
members \$3 000 per annum each.

- (2) Youth, Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee Sub-committees for: Youth; Recreation; Sport (WA Institute of Sport Advisory Board)  
Vacation Care Advisory Committee  
Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund Committee  
Betting Control Board  
Racecourse Development Trust  
WA Greyhound Racing Association  
Perth Observatory Scientific Advisory Committee  
Charitable Collections Advisory Committee  
State Advisory Committee on Publications  
Finance Brokers Supervisory Board  
Insurance Brokers Supervisory Board  
Land Valuers Licensing Board  
Real Estate and Business Agents Supervisory Board  
Settlement Agents Supervisory Board  
Western Australian Art Gallery  
Western Australian Arts Council  
Western Australian Heritage Committee  
Perth Theatre Trust  
Perth Cultural Centre Planning Committee  
Regional Cultural Facilities Fund Committee  
National Trust  
Chief Secretary's Department  
Electoral Department  
Department for Youth, Sport and Recreation  
State Government Insurance Office.

## ADVISORY COMMITTEES

### *Membership*

1534. Mr BRYCE, to the Minister for Local Government, Urban Development and Town Planning:

- (1) In respect of the following bodies—
- (a) Town Planning Appeal Tribunal;
  - (b) Building Appeals Committee;
  - (c) Board of Valuers;
  - (d) Metropolitan Region Planning Authority;
  - (e) Joondalup Development Corporation—

- (i) Who are the people who comprise the membership of such bodies;
- (ii) what is the occupational background of each member;
- (iii) what is the term of appointment to each body and when was each member appointed;
- (iv) on how many occasions did the bodies meet during the last financial year; and
- (v) what is the amount and basis of payment of financial allowances to members of each body?

- (2) What other departments, statutory corporations, regulatory bodies, quasi-judicial bodies, trustees and advisory committees are responsible to her as Minister for Local Government, Urban Development and Town Planning?

Mrs CRAIG replied:

- (1) (a) Town Planning Appeal Tribunal—
- (i) and (ii) Mr D. K. Malcolm (chairman)—Queen's Counsel  
Mr P. B. Arney (member)—architect/town planner  
Mr L. A. Dickson (member)—businessman.
  - (iii) Re-appointed for a 3-year term expiring 24 June 1985.
  - (iv) The tribunal sat on 31 occasions during the last financial year.
  - (v) The chairman is paid a fee of \$67.50 per hour and members are paid a fee of \$40.50 per hour, plus normal Public Service travelling allowances.

## (b) Building Appeals Panel—

## (i) and (ii)

B. A. Tomlinson—architect  
 P. B. Arney—architect  
 R. McK Campbell—architect  
 L. A. Henderson—master building (retired)  
 V. T. Edwards—master builder (retired)  
 K. I. Brine—master builder.

(iii) Members are appointed for an indefinite term. The dates of their appointment were as follows—

B. A. Tomlinson—13-3-70  
 P. B. Arney—13-3-70  
 R. McK Campbell—13-3-70  
 L. A. Henderson—13-3-70  
 V. T. Edwards—3-11-72  
 K. I. Brine—3-11-72

(iv) Eight.

(v) The chairman is paid \$96 for each full day and \$64 for each half day. The members rates are \$72 and \$48 respectively.

## (c) BOARD OF VALUERS—

Name	Occupation of Member	Term & Date of Appointment	Number of Occasions Met.	Fees & Allowances Paid for Financial Year Ended 30/6/82
Dennis Francis Jones	Asst Valuer General	2 years Originally appointed 22-6-79	10	Not applicable
Francis Philip Woodmore	Managing Director, F. P. Woodmore Pty Ltd.	2 years Originally appointed 26-10-79	10	\$64 per full day meeting \$48 per half day meeting Metropolitan Region (Valuation Board) Regulations 1967. ditto
Bryan Douglas Mickle	Director, P. C. Kerr & Associates	2 years Originally appointed 23-3-67	10	ditto
Geoffrey Bearne Russell	Director, Peet & Co. Ltd.	2 years Originally appointed 23-3-77	10	ditto

## (d) THE METROPOLITAN REGION PLANNING AUTHORITY—

Name	Occupation of Member	Term of Appointment and When Appointed.	Number of Meetings	Remuneration and Allowances	Basis of Remuneration and Allowances
Ian Ambrose Wilkins	Full-time Chairman	2 year term Originally appointed 1-9-79 Re-appointed 1-9-82	12 ordinary 20 special 99 standing committees	(a) a salary equivalent to the salary payable to officers of the PSB holding offices in the special division level 2 and as determined from time to time by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal pursuant to the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal Act, 1975 together with (b) an allowance of \$300 which shall be varied in accordance with variations in allowances by the said tribunal	Section 13 Metropolitan Region Town Planning Scheme Act 1959-1981 approved by the Governor
Charles Campbell Cheyne	Director, Swan Portland Cement Ltd.	2 year term appointed 8-4-1974 re-appointed 1-9-82	ditto	\$2 500 p/a	ditto
Ivo David Carr	Town Planning Commissioner	2 year term appointed 19-1-73 re-appointed 1-9-82	ditto	not applicable	not applicable
Name	Occupation of Member	Term of Appointment and When Appointed	Number of Meetings	Remuneration and Allowances	Basis of Remuneration and Allowances
Donald Hector Aitken	Commissioner of Main Roads	2 year term appointed 8-4-65 re-appointed 1-9-82	12 Ordinary 20 Special 99 Standing Committees	not applicable	not applicable
Kenneth John Keshall	Director of Engineering MWA	2 year term appointed 7-8-81 re-appointed 1-9-82	ditto	ditto	ditto

Colin Francis Porter	Director, Department of Conservation and Environment	2 year term appointed 6-1-78 re-appointed 1-9-82	ditto	ditto	ditto
Michael Agapitos	Lord Mayor, electrical contractor	2 year term appointed 18-6-82 re-appointed 1-9-82	ditto	\$2 500 p/a	Section 13 of MRTPS Act 1959-1981 approved by the Governor
Michael Kennon	Deputy Mayor	2 year term appointed 8-4-80 re-appointed 1-9-82	ditto	\$2 500 p/a	ditto
Richard Lewis	City of Melville, licensed surveyor				
Name	Occupation of Member	Term of Appointment and When Appointed	Number of Meetings	Remuneration and Allowances	Basis of Remuneration and Allowances
John Archibald Stuart Price	Councillor, Shire of Peppermint Grove, retired valuer	2 year term appointed 1-9-82	12 ordinary 20 special 99 standing committees	\$2 500 p/a	section 13 of MRTPS Act 1959-1981 approved by the Governor
Frederic Senior	Councillor, Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale, farmer	2 year term appointed 26-9-80 re-appointed 1-9-82	ditto	\$2 500 p/a	ditto
Thomas Miro Braz	President, Shire of Mundaring, cartage contractor	2 year term appointed 11-8-78 re-appointed 1-9-82	ditto	\$2 500 p/a	ditto

Dr J. H. E. Taplin the Co-ordinator General of Transport designate is yet to assume office and his appointment remains to be confirmed. there is a further vacancy on the MRPA caused by the retirement of Mr E. R. Gorham, Co-ordinator, Resources Development Department.

#### (e) JOONDALUP DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION—

Name	Occupation of Member	Term & Date of Appointment	Number of Occasions Met	Fees & Allowances Paid for Financial Year Ended 30-6-82
Michael Robert Hamilton	Businessman	4 years originally appointed 6-2-77 re-appointed 29-6-81	9	\$5 000 p/a (plus \$600 expense allowance)
Holmes A Court		4 years originally appointed 6-2-77 re-appointed 29-6-81		
Dennis John Whitely	Commissioner, R & I Bank	4 years originally appointed 6-2-77 re-appointed 29-6-81	9	\$1 250 p/a
Alexander McBride Kerr	Professor of Economics	4 years appointed 29-6-81	9	\$2 500 p/a
Barry Ernest Waldeckd	Businessman	4 years appointed 29-6-81	9	\$2 500 p/a
James Irving Turley	Departmental manager, Elders GM	man-4 years, or on his ceasing to be a councillor with the shire of Wanneroo appointed 29-6-81 Fees are set by the Public Service Board and approved by the Governor in accordance with Section 23 of the Joondalup Centre Act, 1976.	9	\$2 500 p/a

- (2) The following other permanent bodies, committees, etc. come under the jurisdiction of the Minister for Local Government—  
 Bicycle Policy Advisory Committee  
 Control of Vehicles (Off-road areas) Act Advisory Committee  
 Local Government Boundaries Commission  
 Local Government Grants Commission  
 Municipal Town Planners' Examination Committee  
 Municipal Engineers' Examination Committee  
 Municipal Building Surveyors Examination Committee

Municipal Clerks' and Treasurers' Examination Committee  
 Town Planning Appeal Committee  
 Building Advisory Committee  
 Keep Australia Beautiful Council  
 Motor Vehicle (Third Party Insurance) Act Premiums Committee  
 Motor Vehicle Insurance Trust  
 Local Government Superannuation Board  
 Karrakatta Cemetery Board.

1535 and 1536. *These questions were further postponed.*

## BUILDING INDUSTRY

*Uniform Building By-laws*

1543. Mr I. F. TAYLOR, to the Minister for Local Government:

Further to question 1400 of 1982, what were the factors outside of climatic conditions that were taken into account by the building advisory committee in refusing to relax the requirement for habitable rooms to have cavity walls where masonry construction is used?

Mrs CRAIG replied:

The building advisory committee's stand is based on cavity walling being a time tested and proven method of permanently waterproofing external masonry walls.

If there were no requirement for cavities in external masonry wall construction, the external application of a suitable waterproofing substance would be necessary. Repetitive maintenance would also be essential in order to ensure permanency.

The committee has noted that there is no practical way of enforcing this regular maintenance.

In the committee's opinion, the appeal system offers the most appropriate means for any non-conforming building proposal to be considered on its merits.

## TRAFFIC: MOTOR VEHICLES

*Licences and Third Party Insurance: Pensioners*

1544. Mr I. F. TAYLOR, to the Premier:

- (1) Has the Government considered the introduction of a 50 per cent reduction in motor car registration and third party insurance premiums for a car owned by a service pensioner and used solely for domestic, social and pleasure purposes?
- (2) What would be the estimated full year cost in terms of revenue foregone of such a concession?

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

- (1) Service pensioners who are classified as permanently unemployable and are on a full pension and totally and permanently incapacitated pensioners receive a concession on their motor car registration fee. The Government continually reviews the eligibility conditions for all pensioner concessions.

- (2) Approximately \$1 million if the 50 per cent concession were extended to all service pensioners.

## COURT: BUNBURY

*Land*

1545. Mr BRIAN BURKE, to the Minister representing the Attorney General:

- (1) Since 1950, what land has been acquired to increase the land area available for the Bunbury courthouse?
- (2) When was each lot acquired, from whom, and what was the cost?
- (3) When was the new courthouse in Bunbury first recommended?
- (4) When were plans for the new courthouse completed?
- (5) Have any funds been allocated since 1970 for the purpose of a new courthouse at Bunbury?
- (6) If "Yes" to (5), were such funds expended and, if not, why not?

Mr RUSHTON replied:

- (1) and (2) In 1975 an amount of \$120 000 was paid to the trustees of the Methodist Church for a site on the corner of Wittenoom and Stirling Streets, at the rear of the existing courthouse. In 1980 an amount of \$250 000 was paid to West Australian Newspapers Ltd. for a site in Stephen Street, formerly occupied by the *South Western Times*. This site is on the eastern side of the existing courthouse.
- (3) Consideration was given to providing new court facilities in Bunbury in 1970. Working drawings were prepared in that year for the erection of a courthouse on a site adjoining the existing police station. Due to objections to this proposal from various sections of the Bunbury community, construction on this site was abandoned. A magistrate's court and court offices were provided in 1972 by taking over for court purposes a Government building located near the courthouse.
- (4) Plans for the new courthouse /Government office complex have not yet been finalised.
- (5) Yes, in 1975 funds were provided for the purchase of the church site in Wittenoom Street. In 1979 an amount of \$75 000 was provided for improvements to the existing courthouse.

As a result of preliminary investigations, it was decided that the Stephen Street site would be required and additional funds were provided to enable it to be purchased in 1980 and to undertake surveys, site investigations and more detailed planning.

An amount of \$350 000 has been allocated in this year's loan programme to enable commencement of the project for a new courthouse.

- (6) Funds have been expended with the exception of those allocated recently in the 1982-83 loan programme.

## FUEL AND ENERGY: DIESEL

### Tax

1546. Mr BRIAN BURKE, to the Premier:

- (1) Is he aware of the effects of imposing duty on distillate on the cost of baking bread and subsequently on the price of bread?
- (2) Will he contact his Federal colleagues to ask them whether bakers can be made exempt from paying duty on distillate?

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

- (1) The recent removal by the Federal Government of the excise duty exemption for diesel fuel used for off-road purposes will result in a duty of 6.155c per litre being imposed on diesel fuel used in baking bread.
- (2) I have written to the Prime Minister protesting about the removal of the previous excise exemption for off-road diesel fuel and I have also spoken to him personally on this matter. Furthermore I have approached the Premiers of the other States with a view to making a co-ordinated joint submission to the Commonwealth protesting about the removal of the exemption which had applied to off-road diesel fuel. Diesel fuel used by bakers would be included in this category.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

### Secretary

1549. Mr TONKIN, to the Minister for Local Government:

- (1) Did the retired Secretary for Local Government, Mr Reg Paust, act as Secretary for Local Government on a relieving basis earlier this year?

- (2) If "Yes"—

- (a) for what period; and
- (b) on what terms and conditions?

- (3) Why was it necessary for the Government to obtain Mr Paust's services instead of following the normal practice of promoting someone within the department to act in the higher position?

Mrs CRAIG replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) (a) 20 April 1982 to 24 June 1982.  
(b) Mr Paust was employed by the Public Service Board under the same conditions of service as applied to a permanent public servant and at the salary rate applicable to the position.
- (3) In ordinary circumstances the deputy secretary would act during any absences of the Secretary for Local Government. However, at the relevant time the position of deputy secretary was vacant.

## CONSUMER AFFAIRS

### Petrol Retail Industry

1550. Mr TONKIN, to the Minister for Consumer Affairs:

- (1) Have the Australian Ministers for Consumer Affairs reviewed recently the efficacy of "partial divorcement" in the petrol retail industry?
- (2) If so, what has been the decision and what was the date of the meeting?
- (3) If "No" to (1), when will such a meeting take place?

Mr SHALDERS replied:

- (1) to (3) During September 1982 the Federal Attorney General announced that the period for oil companies to achieve the required level of partial divorcement had been extended from September 1982 to May 1983. Obviously it will not be possible to review the efficacy of the legislation until the process is complete.

1551. *This question was postponed.*

## FUEL AND ENERGY: ELECTRICITY

### Transformers

1552. Mr BRIAN BURKE, to the Minister for Fuel and Energy:

Further to question 1490 of 1982 concerning the supply of power

transformers, why has he refused to list the tender prices for each of the tenderers?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

It is the normal commercial practice and policy of the State Energy Commission that information on tender prices is confidential to the commission and to the tenderers, and cannot be made available publicly.

However, I am advised that the tender submitted by Hazemeyer-Holec was the lowest conforming tender after all prescribed allowances were made for customs duty, local preference, freight, and other such related matters.

### ADVISORY COMMITTEES

#### *Membership*

1553. Mr BRYCE, to the Premier, Treasurer, and Minister Co-ordinating Economic and Regional Development:

(1) In respect of the following bodies—

- (a) Public Service Board;
- (b) Salaries and Allowances Tribunal;
- (c) WA Superannuation Board;
- (i) who are the people who comprise the membership of such bodies;
- (ii) what is the occupational background of each member;
- (iii) what is the term of appointment to each body and when was each member appointed;
- (iv) on how many occasions did the bodies meet during the last financial year; and
- (v) what is the amount and basis of payment of financial allowances to members of each body?

(2) What other departments, statutory corporations, regulatory bodies, quasi-judicial bodies, trustees and advisory committees are responsible to him as Premier, Treasurer and Minister Co-ordinating Economic and Regional Development?

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

(1) (a) Public Service Board

- (i) Chairman: K. M. McKenna, M.A., B.Sc., Dip. Accountancy.

Deputy Chairman: E. P. Shaddick, LL.B.

Commissioner: K. E. Mann, A.A.S.A.

(ii) Chairman: Economics and financial management.

Deputy Chairman: Legal practice and management.

Commissioner: Accounting and management.

(iii) Chairman: 7 years — 2/7/79  
Deputy Chairman: 5 years — 5/7/79

Commissioner: 5 years—17/10/79.

(iv) The board operates on a daily basis.

(v) The members are appointed under the Public Service Act 1978 as full-time appointees and receive annual salaries determined by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal under the Salaries and Allowances Act 1975.

(b) Salaries and Allowances Tribunal

(i) Chairman: Sir Kenneth J. Townsing, C.M.G., I.S.O.

Member: F. S. Cross, O.B.E.

Member: H. S. Lodge, O.B.E.

(ii) Chairman: Retired Under Treasurer and company director.

Mr Cross: Retired Director, Confederation of WA Industry.

Mr Lodge: Practising solicitor.

(iii) Chairman: 3 years—7/7/81  
Mr Cross: 3 years—7/7/80 (retires Nov '82)

Mr Lodge: 3 years—1/10/80.

(iv) Six formal meetings were held.

(v) Chairman: Annual fee of \$8 000 plus annual expense allowance of \$600.

Members: Annual fee of \$4 000.

(c) W.A. Superannuation Board

(i) Chairman: Mr Dennis Edward Barton.

Member: Mr Richard Walter Yorg.

Member: Mr Barry John Markey.

(ii) Chairman: Consulting actuary.  
Mr Yorg: Director, Superannuation Board.

Mr Markey: Acting Superintendent of Education (Technical).

- (iii) Chairman: Member, 19/3/77 to 12/3/82. Chairman and part-time member from 13/3/82 to 13/3/83.

Mr Yorg: 3 years—29/3/82

Mr Markey: 3 years — 29/10/82

- (iv) Twenty-one formal meetings were held.

- (v) Chairman: Annual fee of \$3 000 plus annual expense allowance of \$300.

Mr Yorg: Nil.

Mr Markey: Annual fee of \$750.

(2) Audit Department

Committee to review Stamp Act submissions

Darling Range research co-ordinating committee

Darling Range Study Group

Defence Advisory Group

Executive Council

Government Printer

Government Stores

Land Valuation Tribunal of WA

London Agency

Parliamentary Commissioner for Administrative Investigations

Premier's Department

Royal and other Commissions of inquiry

Rural and Allied Industries Council

Rural and Industries Bank

State Government Information and Inquiry Centre

State Taxation Department

Tokyo Agency

Treasury Department.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

*Membership*

1554. Mr BRYCE, to the Minister for Works and Water Resources:

- (1) In respect of the following bodies—

- (a) The Architects Board;  
(b) Metropolitan Water Authority;  
(c) State Implement and Engineering Works;  
(d) WA Tender Board;

- (i) who are the people who comprise the membership of such bodies;

- (ii) what is the occupational background of each member;

- (iii) what is the term of appointment to each body and when was each member appointed;

- (iv) on how many occasions did the bodies meet during the last financial year; and

- (v) what is the amount and basis of payment of financial allowances to members of each body?

- (2) What other departments, statutory corporations, regulatory bodies, quasi-judicial bodies, trustees and advisory committees are responsible to him as Minister for Works and Water Resources?

Mr MENSAROS replied:

(1)	Member-ship	Occupational Back-ground	Term	Date Ap-pointed
	(i)	(ii)		(iii)

(a) Architects Board

M. Broderick (Chairman)	Architect	3 years	1/2/82
F. McCordell	Architect	3 years	1/2/82
R. Mollett	Architect	1 year	1/1/82
S. Coll	Architect	3 years	1/1/82
D. Sands	Architect	3 years	1/1/81
A. Ednie-Brown	Architect	3 years	1/2/81
G. Musto	Architect	3 years	1/2/81
M. Croudace	Architect	3 years	1/2/80
R. Godfrey	Architect	3 years	1/2/80
P. Oldershaw	Quantity surveying and property management	3 years	1/2/80

- (iv) Twelve, plus annual general meeting. Meetings are held on a monthly basis with special meetings being convened as required.

- (v) Members are not paid for board activities.

(i)	(ii)	(iii)
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(b) Board of the Metropolitan Water Authority

Non-executive members:

Dr D. W. Zink (Chairman)	Company director	3 years	1/7/82
J. W. Dallimore	Dental surgeon	3 years	1/7/82
J. B. Horgan	Company managing director	2 years	1/7/82
A. R. Wood	Consulting engineer and company director	1 year	1/7/82

Executive Members Appointed *Ex officio*:

H. J. Glover: Employed under the terms of the Public Service Act 1904.

K. J. Kelsall: Employed under the terms of the Public Service Act 1904.

F. Pinczuk: Employed under the terms of the Public Service Act 1904.

(iv) Nil—as the present authority was only constituted at the beginning of this financial year.

(v) Remuneration is as determined from time to time by the Treasurer. The existing rates are:

Chairman— \$5 000 p.a. plus \$2 200 allowance for expenses.

Other non-executive members—\$2 500 p.a.

*Ex officio* members—Nil.

(c) State Implement and Engineering Works

The State Implement and Engineering Works is a State trading concern which is controlled by the Minister for Works and Water Resources as a body corporate constituted under section 6 of the State Trading Concerns Act.

The Minister receives advice from appropriate officers of the Public Works Department and from the manager of the works for the purpose of the administration of its activities.

(d) WA Tender Board

The WA Tender Board is not one of my responsibilities.

(2) Public Works Department

Benger Drainage Board

Board of Examiners (Plumbing Licence)

Bunbury Water Board

Busselton Water Board

Canning River irrigation advisory committee

Clearing controls appeals committee

Clearing guidelines committee

Gascoyne River irrigation advisory committee

Gingin Brook advisory committee

Harvey Water Board

Irrigation Commission

Land drainage rating appeal committee

Laporte chemical industry disposal committee

Metropolitan Water Authority

Ord irrigation advisory committee

Preston Valley irrigation advisory committee

Serpentine—Dandalup—Murray Rivers irrigation advisory committee

South-west coastal groundwater advisory committee

South-west irrigation districts advisory committee

Stony Brook irrigation advisory committee

Swan groundwater advisory committee

Wanneroo groundwater advisory committee

Warren—Lefroy Rivers advisory committee

Western Australian Water Resources Council

Wungong—southern rivers irrigation advisory committee.

## ADVISORY COMMITTEES

### *Membership*

1555. Mr BRYCE, to the Minister for Lands, Forests, Conservation and the Environment:

(1) In respect of the following bodies—

(a) Conservation and Environment Council;

(b) Waterways Commission;

(c) National Parks Authority;

(d) WA Wildlife Authority;

(e) Tourist Advisory Council;

(f) Land Acquisition (Closer Settlement) Board;

(g) Land resumptions for industries committee;

(i) who are the people who comprise the membership of such bodies;

(ii) what is the occupational background of each member;

(iii) what is the term of appointment to each body and when was each member appointed;

(iv) on how many occasions did the bodies meet during the last financial year; and

(v) what is the amount and basis of payment of financial allowances to members of each body?



- (2) What other departments, statutory corporations, regulatory bodies, quasi-judicial bodies, trustees and advisory committees are responsible to him as Minister for Lands, Forests, and Conservation and the Environment?

Mr LAURANCE replied:

- (1) (a) (i) and (ii)

Dr. J. R. de Laeter—Chairman  
Dean of Applied Science WAIT  
Appointed 1981

Mr J. F. Morgan, Deputy Chairman,  
Surveyor General Appointed  
1971

Mr B. J. Beggs, member, Conservator  
of Forests Appointed 1974

Dr D. R. Kelly, member, Under  
Secretary for Mines Appointed  
1981

Mr R. M. Hillman, member, Director  
of Engineering Appointed 1971

Dr J. C. McNulty, member, Commission  
for Public Health Appointed 1976

Mr B. K. Bowen, member, Director  
of Fisheries and Wildlife Appointed  
1971

Dr I. D. Carr, member, Town  
Planning Commissioner Appointed  
1974

Mr E. N. Fitzpatrick, member, Director  
of Agriculture Appointed  
1976

Mr R. Ward, member, President,  
Country Shire Councils' Association  
of WA Appointed 1981

Mr E. F. Broad, member, Pastoralist  
Appointed 1974

Mr E. P. O'Callaghan, member,  
company manager appointed 1971

Mr G. H. White, member, manager,  
mines and environmental Appointed  
1979

Mrs L de la Hunty, member,  
Housewife and lecturer in education  
Appointed 1976

Mr J. Bannister, member, Director,  
WA Museum Appointed 1976

Dr M. Liveris, member, Dean of  
Health Sciences, WAIT Appointed  
1977

- (iii) Term of appointment is  
four years on December  
15;

- (iv) Six;

- (v) \$48. Basis of payment is  
by section 22 of the Environmental  
Protection Act 1971-80;

- (b) (i) (ii)

Mr D. N. Robbins—Commission,  
land developer Appointed 17/10/79

Mr J. A. Mattinson—member,  
businessman/retired Appointed  
30/6/82

Mr O. H. Tuckey—member,  
farmer/businessman Appointed  
13/4/80

Sir Donald P. Eckersley—member,  
farmer/company director Appointed  
13/4/80

- (iii) Three years

- (iv) Monthly—with three special  
meetings

- (v) Schedule of fees and allowances—Public Service Board,  
2/6/80;

- (c) (i) to (iii)

Professor A. R. Main—President  
Professor of Zoology—the University  
of Western Australia. Appointed  
31/7/80—Term of appointment  
four years to 31/7/84.

Mr J. F. Morgan,—Deputy President,  
Surveyor General Appointed  
1/8/76

Mr B. J. Beggs, Conservator of  
Forests. Appointed 1/8/76

Mr B. K. Bowen  
Director—Department of Fisheries  
and Wildlife Appointed 1/8/76

Mr N. J. Semmens, Director,  
Department of Tourism Appointed  
1/8/76

Mr H. W. Sorensen, General Manager,  
Perth Building Society Appointed  
1/8/1976—reappointed  
four years to 31/7/1984

Mr D. W. G. Treloar, lecturer in  
economics, University of W.A. Appointed  
1/8/1976—reappointed  
four years to 31/7/1986

Mr W. G. Young, Retired farmer.  
Appointed 1/8/1976—reappointed  
four years to 31/7/1983

Miss B. M. Hussey, teacher,  
Mercedes College Appointed  
1/8/1976—reappointed four years  
to 31/7/1985;

- (iv) Eleven;

- (v) Professor A. R. Main \$3 000 plus \$300 expenses

Mr J. F. Morgan	Nil
Mr B. J. Beggs	Nil
Mr B. K. Bowen	Nil
Mr N. J. Scimmens	Nil
Mr H. W. Sorensen	\$48 per half-day meetings
	\$72 per full-day inspections
Mr D. W. G. Treloar	\$48 per half-day meetings
	\$72 per full-day inspections
Mr W. G. Young	\$48 per half-day meetings
	\$72 per full-day inspections
Miss B. M. Hussey	\$48 per half-day meetings
	\$72 per full-day inspections:

(d), (e), and (g) Do not come within the ambit of my portfolios;

(f) the member is referred to his question 314 of 31 March 1982.

- (2) The member is referred to his question 75 of 1982 and the *Government Gazette* of 2 April 1982.

## EDUCATION

### WA College of Advanced Education

1556. Mr PEARCE, to the Minister for Education:

- (1) How many academic staff members of the WA College of Advanced Education are surplus to requirements following the review of staffing of the college?
- (2) How many of these can be absorbed within the existing college structure?
- (3) What arrangements will be made to find comparable employment for those who are retrenched?
- (4) For how many retrenched academic staff is it anticipated that alternative employment can be found?
- (5) Can he guarantee that no permanent members of the academic staff will be retrenched?

Mr CLARKO replied:

- (1) and (2) There is a surplus of approximately 70 teacher education academic staff. Approximately 32 of these staff will be absorbed within other areas of the college and a further 15 or so will teach courses presently taught by temporary part-time staff. Some 20 to 25 temporary staff on short-term contracts will not have their contracts renewed.
- (3) The college is not able to find comparable employment for these temporary staff.
- (4) Not known.

- (5) Yes. No permanent academic staff will be retrenched, but in particular limited subject areas where there are surplus permanent staff, such staff may be seconded for varying periods to the Education Department, while remaining on the permanent staff of the college with all rights retained. Such staff will return to the college in due course.

## EDUCATION: TEACHERS

### Number

1557. Mr PEARCE, to the Minister for Education:

How many full-time teachers were there in each of the primary, secondary, and technical divisions in each of the years—

- (a) 1978;
- (b) 1979;
- (c) 1980;
- (d) 1981; and
- (e) 1982?

Mr CLARKO replied:

	Primary*	Secondary	Technical	Total
1978	6 271	4 680	1 115	12 066
1979	6 529	4 756	1 185	12 470
1980	6 657	4 765	1 189	12 611
1981	6 572	4 885	1 244	12 701
1982	6 607	4 959	1 255	12 821

\*Includes pre-primary and special teachers

Does not include teachers on long service leave, extended sick leave or leave without pay. Does not include teachers employed in head and regional offices and special branches.

## ROADS

### Bicentennial Programme

1558. Mr GRAYDEN, to the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Has he received a letter from the Federal Minister for Transport and Construction, Mr R. J. Hunt, outlining in general terms the Commonwealth's proposal for the Australian bicentennial road development programme and also a copy of the publication *Better Roads For Australia, A Bicentennial Activity*?
- (2) (a) Is the construction of the Burswood island bridge considered a fitting project for funding in the Australian bicentennial road development programme; and

- (b) if so, will he make such a recommendation to the Commonwealth Ministry for Transport and Construction?

Mr RUSHTON replied:

- (1) Yes.  
 (2) (a) and (b) A number of important projects in the metropolitan region will need to be considered in drawing up the ABRD programme to be submitted to the Commonwealth. The Burswood Island bridge and approaches will be one of the projects considered.

### HEALTH: MENTAL

#### *Hospital: Heathcote*

1559. Mr HODGE, to the Minister for Health:

- (1) Apart from Heathcote Hospital, what other teaching and non-teaching hospital facilities are available south of the river for—  
 (a) disturbed acutely ill mental patients;  
 (b) other categories of mentally ill patients?
- (2) Approximately what area and what population are served by Heathcote Hospital?
- (3) What is the total number of beds at Heathcote Hospital and how many are there in the following categories—  
 (a) long stay psychiatric patients;  
 (b) psychogeriatric patients;  
 (c) neurotic or emotionally disturbed patients;  
 (d) disturbed acutely ill patients?
- (4) What is the average bed occupancy rate for the categories of beds mentioned above in (3)?
- (5) (a) Is the admission ward a locked ward;  
 (b) what is the average occupancy rate of the admission ward?
- (6) Is it a fact that because of overcrowding and insufficient staff at Heathcote Hospital—  
 (a) voluntary patients are often accommodated in a locked ward;  
 (b) patients are discharged prematurely;  
 (c) patients are transferred from high observation areas prematurely;

- (d) patients are transferred to Graylands Hospital?

- (7) What are the average attendance rates at the Heathcote Hospital day centre for non-residential patients?
- (8) (a) Are the professional staff at Heathcote Hospital grouped into clinical teams; and if so, please provide the following details—  
 (i) number of clinical teams;  
 (ii) composition and strength of each team;  
 (b) if staff are not grouped into teams, how are they organised?
- (9) Is immediate action necessary by the Government to relieve the overcrowded conditions at Heathcote Hospital?
- (10) Will the Government consider immediately opening up additional presently unused space at Heathcote Hospital for use as an admission ward, and providing adequate numbers of nursing staff for the area?

Mr YOUNG replied:

- (1) (a) Eighteen beds dedicated to the treatment of psychiatric patients are provided by Fremantle Hospital;  
 (b) Fremantle Hospital provides in-patient and out-patient services. Mental Health Services has out-patient clinics in Fremantle, Bentley and Armadale, and Whitby Falls Hostel, at Mundijong.
- (2) Heathcote serves the population of the south of the Swan River metropolitan area.
- (3) (a) to (d) Heathcote provides 113 beds. Sixteen beds are allocated to psychogeriatric patients. There is no specific bed allocation in respect of the categories named in parts (a) (c) and (d) of this question. The composition of the patient population varies from day to day.
- (4) Average bed occupancy overall is in the order of 75 per cent. In the psychogeriatric area, which has 16 beds, average occupancy is 15.
- (5) (a) Yes;  
 (b) about 95 per cent.
- (6) (a) to (d) Heathcote Hospital is not overcrowded or under staffed.
- (7) On average 20-25 persons attend daily.

- (8) (a) Yes;
- (i) two;
  - (ii) one consultant psychiatrist, one senior medical officer, two psychiatric registrars, one social worker, one clinical psychologist, one occupational therapist;
- (b) not applicable.
- (9) No. See answer to (6).
- (10) Arrangements are already being made for an area not presently used as patient accommodation to be so used, to confer greater flexibility in the operation of the hospital.

### HOSPITALS

#### *Teaching: Budget Allocations*

1560. Mr HODGE, to the Premier:

- (1) Is it a fact that the Budget allocations made by the Government to the teaching hospitals will result in substantial staff reductions in most of them during the 1982-83 financial year?
- (2) Is it a fact that budgetary restrictions imposed by the Government on Royal Perth Hospital have forced the closure of the Mt. Lawley Annex from 1 November?
- (3) Is it a fact that the budget provided by the Government for the teaching hospitals appears to be based on the assumption that they will achieve constantly high bed occupancy rates and high revenue levels whilst at the same time substantially reducing staff levels?
- (4) Why did he make no mention in his Budget speech of the fact that budgetary allocations to most of the teaching hospitals were such that substantial reductions in staff levels would be required in the 1982-83 financial year?

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

- (1) Some redeployment of staff will occur and some previously approved establishment posts will not be filled. The member should also be aware that the Minister for Health has indicated that no sackings will occur and there were 607 more staff employed by the teaching hospitals on 1 July 1982 than on 1 July 1981.

It should also be noted that the Budget provides for increased expenditure on hospitals and related health services of 14 per cent which is a significant increase in real terms and compares with an expected increase in revenue available to the Government of 13.3 per cent. It is also relevant that Commonwealth funding for hospitals will be \$17.8 million less this financial year than in 1981-82.

- (2) Teaching hospitals were advised several months ago that their hospital expenditure would need to be contained on the basis of no real growth as a result of the report of the Grants Commission. Any increase in funds required to support new initiatives would need to be found from a review of existing activities without reducing existing services.

(3) No.

- (4) The need for examination of health services expenditure was clearly stated in the Budget speech. In my speech, I stated that the Budget had to be framed against the background of the recommendations of the Grants Commission being effectively phased in over three years. The new facilities opened at the Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre and Fremantle Hospital in 1981-82 were estimated to require 700 new staff positions. Reductions to this figure have had to be made. A number of economies will require to be considered and the need for close examination of expenditures on all health services was clearly stated in my speech. I quote: "Every effort must be made to improve efficiency, to eliminate any unnecessary duplication of services and excessive expenditure in the public sector which do not add to the overall quality of health care available to the public".

### TRAFFIC: DRIVERS

#### *Drink Driving: Campaign*

1561. Mr HODGE, to the Premier:

- (1) In *The West Australian* newspaper of 29 September 1982 he was quoted as saying that the WA Government would not

commit itself to spending \$44 000 on a nationally organised anti-drink driving campaign until the Federal Government provided more information. Has the Federal Government yet supplied the additional information required by him to make a decision on this important matter?

- (2) If he has received the information required, has he made a decision yet if Western Australia is to participate in the campaign?
- (3) If the additional information required by him has not been supplied by the Federal Government, can an immediate approach be made by the State Government to obtain it?

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

- (1) to (3) The matter has been under consideration by the Australian Transport Advisory Council for some time.

At its last meeting, there was a clear decision that following the Federal Budget the Commonwealth would confer with the States, at administrative level, on the distribution of Commonwealth money for advertising activities as a counter to the drink-driving problem.

The ATAC decision was firmly against the proposal, which was announced by the Prime Minister without consultation with this State.

Although the State wholeheartedly and unreservedly supports the principle of publicity campaigns such as may lead to the reduction of traffic accidents, we currently have our own vigorous and successful programmes, the success of which has been facilitated by the co-operation of the media together with enforcement programmes.

The autonomy which has characterised the whole thrust of our efforts in this area could be placed in severe jeopardy if a national campaign is dictated to us by a Canberra bureaucracy, insensitive to local issues such as media co-operation and complementary enforcement programmes.

No final decision has been made as to Western Australia's participation in this campaign. Further detail is to be studied.

Western Australia has stressed its entitlement to share in any distribution of funds by the Commonwealth.

## HOSPITALS

### Teaching: Budget Allocations

1562. Mr HODGE, to the Minister for Health:

- (1) Will he provide me with a copy of the 1982-83 budget for each of the teaching hospitals?
- (2) Will he provide me with details of the actual amount spent by each of the teaching hospitals for the 1981-82 financial year?

Mr YOUNG replied:

- (1) The expenditure budget in 1982-83 for each of the teaching hospitals is as follows—

	\$
Fremantle Hospital	33 445 000
King Edward Memorial Hospital	20 154 000
Princess Margaret Hospital	26 273 000
Royal Perth Hospital	92 404 000
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	67 796 000

- (2) Actual amount spent by each of the teaching hospitals for the 1981-82 financial year was—

	\$
Fremantle Hospital	31 587 035
King Edward Memorial Hospital	19 522 873
Princess Margaret Hospital	26 165 075
Royal Perth Hospital	89 098 020
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	55 451 044

## HOSPITALS

### Bad Debts

1563. Mr HODGE, to the Minister for Health:

- (1) How much was written off in bad debts during the past financial year by each of the teaching hospitals?
- (2) What is the total amount written off in bad debts during the past financial year by non-teaching Government hospitals and nursing posts?

Mr YOUNG replied:

(1)	\$
Fremantle Hospital	107 821
King Edward Memorial Hospital	14 431
Princess Margaret Hospital	7 705
Royal Perth Hospital	26 319
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	27 012

(2)	\$
Non-teaching hospitals	228 807

## HOSPITALS

### Motor Vehicle Insurance Trust and Workers' Compensation: Charges

1564. Mr HODGE, to the Minister for Health:

- (1) Why are workers' compensation patients in Government hospitals charged more for a bed than other patients?

- (2) Are Motor Vehicle Insurance Trust patients also charged more for a bed in a Government hospital than other patients?
- (3) Are either workers' compensation or Motor Vehicle Insurance Trust patients in a Government hospital charged in excess of the standard charges for any other services such as X-ray or pathology?

Mr YOUNG replied:

- (1) The daily bed ward charge for a patient who has received or established a right to receive compensation under a Statute in respect of an injury, is based on the actual cost of providing the service. Although other patients are charged a fee lower than the actual cost of the service, it would be inappropriate to charge this lower fee to compensable patients because their public hospital treatment would then be subsidised from Government funds.
- (2) Answered by (1).
- (3) No. Where compensable inpatients are provided with medical services, including radiology and pathology services, by public hospitals, the standard daily inpatient medical service charge applies. Usually medical services for compensable inpatients are provided by private practitioners.

## HOSPITALS

### *Radiologists*

1565. Mr HODGE, to the Minister for Health:

How much was paid by the Government during the 1981-82 financial year to private radiologists for services rendered to each of the following Government hospitals—

- (a) Armadale-Kelmscott;
- (b) Bentley;
- (c) Kalamunda;
- (d) Osborne Park;
- (e) Swan Districts;
- (f) Rockingham;
- (g) Wanneroo;
- (h) Bunbury;
- (i) Geraldton;
- (j) Kalgoorlie;
- (k) Derby;
- (l) Broome;
- (m) Port Hedland?

Mr YOUNG replied:

	\$
(a) Armadale-Kelmscott	125 238
(b) Bentley	239 639
(c) Kalamunda	14 282
(d) Osborne Park	74 926
(e) Swan Districts	33 570
(f) Rockingham	108 801
(g) Wanneroo	37 840
(h) Bunbury	105 088
(i) Geraldton	136 500
(j) Kalgoorlie	155 229
(k) Derby	42 614
(l) Broome	23 669
(m) Port Hedland	76 915

## TOWN PLANNING: MRPA

### *Expenditure*

1566. Mr DAVIES, to the Minister for Urban Development and Town Planning:

- (1) Why was expenditure by the Metropolitan Region Planning Authority, in 1981-82, \$1 million in excess of the vote?
- (2) How was the \$3.905 million million spent?
- (3) How will the \$3.196 million estimate for the current year be spent?

Mrs CRAIG replied:

- (1) The \$1 million in excess of the vote was the subject of a special grant from the Treasurer, approved by Cabinet and set aside to be applied especially to property acquisition in Servetus Street.
- (2) The \$3.905 million, together with money borrowed by the authority and the proceeds of the metropolitan region improvement tax, is paid into the metropolitan region improvement fund established at the Treasury. The authority is authorised under the provisions of section 38(3) of the Metropolitan Region Town Planning Scheme Act 1959-1981, to apply money represented in the fund to payment of all expenditure incurred by it for the purpose of formulating, promulgating, carrying out and giving effect to the metropolitan region scheme including without limiting the generality of that authorisation—

- (a) payment of capital expenditure, costs and other expenses incurred in connection with the acquisition, whether by agreement or compulsorily, of any property under any provisions of the Act;
  - (b) all expenses incurred in or in connection with the metropolitan region scheme or the establishment and maintenance of any works in connection with the metropolitan region scheme;
  - (c) payment of the remuneration and expenses of the members.
- (3) As per (2) above.

## HEALTH

### *Speech Pathologists: Budget Allocation*

1567. Mr DAVIES, to the Minister for Health:

- (1) What provision is made in the current State Budget for employment of additional speech pathologists?
- (2) From where will any new appointees operate?

Mr YOUNG replied:

- (1) Thirteen additional speech therapist positions will be available in 1982-83. Four new positions are to be created by Mental Health Services to service school age services through the Division for the Intellectually Handicapped. Four new positions have been created in the Public Health Department. Five new positions will be created by the Department of Hospital and Allied Services.
- (2) Location of appointments has not yet been determined, but the three departments will co-operate to ensure the maximum cover in both country and metropolitan areas.

## EDUCATION

### *SEREX Programme*

1568. Mr DAVIES, to the Minister for Education:

- (1) Is it expected that additional classes under the SEREX programme will be commenced in 1983?
- (2) If so—
  - (a) at what school(s) will the classes be held;
  - (b) what grades will the classes cover?

Mr CLARKO replied:

- (1) It is expected that one additional part-time withdrawal class for intellectually talented children in the metropolitan south-east region will be opened in 1983.
- (2) (a) and (b) The location of the class and the grades to be involved have yet to be decided.

## BOOKMAKERS, LOTTERIES COMMISSION, AND TAB

### *Turnover*

1569 Mr HERZFELD, to the Minister representing the Chief Secretary:

What was the aggregate turnover of investment with each of the following agencies for each of the preceding three financial years—

- (a) Totalisator Agency Board;
- (b) Licensed bookmakers;
- (c) Lotteries Commission?

Mr HASSELL replied:

(a) Year ended 31 July	\$
1979/80	202 897 554
1980/81	234 869 082
1981/82	263 253 932
(b) Year ended 31 July	\$
1979/80	100 954 786
1980/81	105 114 868
1981/82	113 080 289
(c) Year ended 30 June	\$
1979/80	28 912 464
1980/81	33 059 071
1981/82	42 655 829

1570 to 1572. *These questions were postponed.*

## COMMUNITY WELFARE

### *Aborigines: Fringe Dwellers*

1573. Mr WILSON, to the Minister for Community Welfare:

- (1) Can he confirm that earlier this year the Director for Community Welfare received a letter from the Aboriginal fringe dwellers at the Lockridge camp requesting a number of modest improvements to living conditions including sinks for washing dishes and clothes and better water supply, and that these particular requests and others were refused?
- (2) Can he also confirm that to date there has not been a positive response to requests for scheme water to be connected to three of the four houses at Saunders Street?

- (3) Is it a fact that there is no regular rubbish collection service provided for the Lockridge camp or the houses at Saunders Street?
- (4) In view of the reported epidemic of gastro intestinal tract diseases affecting residents in the Saunders Street houses and the Lockridge camp, and the potential danger that this poses, particularly for the health of children in these situations, will he ensure that the long-standing problems referred to in (1), (2), and (3) are now given urgent and effective attention?

Mr SHALDERS replied:

- (1) An undated letter was received by the Director for Community Welfare from the Aboriginal fringe dwellers at Lockridge on 2 June 1982. It requested, amongst other things, repairs to bunk-houses and a supply of bedding and blankets. In fact, five days prior to this letter being received, following discussions with the Lockridge Aboriginal community, the following arrangements had already been made by the department, or were being negotiated—

- (a) the delivery of five tonnes of fire-wood;
- (b) quotations for repairs to damaged units;
- (c) supplies of bedding and blankets.

The last two items were to be finalised in discussion with the community, but the offer of a subsequent meeting with departmental staff was not accepted.

Regarding ablution arrangements, there already exist at the Lockridge camp, central shower, toilet, and laundry facilities. In view of the temporary nature of the Lockridge site, no extension to these facilities is proposed.

- (2) I am advised by the Aboriginal Lands Trust which owns this property that the Metropolitan Water Authority has indicated it is not possible to connect three of the Saunders Street houses to scheme water because the existing 4" main has no additional unused capacity.

- (3) The position at Lockridge is that 12 large rubbish bins were provided in the past and these have periodically been replaced. The department has also contracted with the local shire for regular rubbish collections. I am advised however that the rubbish bins provided have all been broken. Notwithstanding this, the department has periodically arranged for bulk disposal bins to be left at the camp and also provided other self-help equipment including rakes and wheelbarrows.

In respect to Saunders Street the Aboriginal Lands Trust has advised that the Swan Shire Council does not make routine collections from properties off the West Swan Road. The council has indicated however that it would collect rubbish placed at an intersection with that road.

- (4) Both the Lockridge camp and Saunders Street situation have received considerable attention and hard work in the past and this will continue. It is, by nature, however, an ongoing process requiring the active participation and co-operation of the residents concerned and their representatives.

## HOUSING: RENTAL

### *Construction Programme*

1574. Mr WILSON, to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) With respect to the State Housing Commission's construction programme for 1982-83, how many of each of the following categories of rental accommodation will be constructed in—

- (a) the metropolitan area; and
- (b) non-metropolitan area—

- (i) one-bedroomed pensioner units;
- (ii) two-bedroomed units;
- (iii) three-bedroomed units;
- (iv) four-bedroomed units;
- (v) five-bedroomed units?

- (2) How many of each of these categories will be—

- (a) flats;
- (b) town houses;
- (c) duplexes;
- (d) single detached houses?



- (3) In which suburbs and towns will these units be located, and how many of each type will be built in each of these suburbs and towns?
- (4) (a) What will be the total cost of this rental building programme; and  
(b) from what source/sources will this programme be funded?
- (5) What were the comparative figures for the number and type of units referred to in (1) and (2) constructed in 1981-82?

Mr SHALDERS replied:

- (1) to (5) As the answer requires detailed information the member will be advised by letter.

## EDUCATION: HIGH SCHOOL

### *Balga*

1575. Mr WILSON, to the Premier:

Referring to his answer to my question without notice 465 of 1982, in which I had sought the precise completion date for the hall-gymnasium at the Balga Senior High School, as the third term is now at the beginning of its fifth week and the building is still not completed for handover, I ask again: Will he ascertain the precise date for the handover of the building to the school for occupation?

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

The building was handed over to the school principal on Monday, 11 October 1982.

## HOUSING: LAND

### *Leeming*

1576. Mr WILSON, to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) What is the extent of the State Housing Commission's land holdings at Leeming?
- (2) What are the boundaries of these holdings?
- (3) When does the commission intend to proceed with the development of this land?
- (4) What type of development is proposed and how many units of each type of rental and purchase accommodation will be built in the current financial year and in future years?

Mr SHALDERS replied:

- (1) 54 hectares approximately.
- (2) The land is bounded to the north by South Street, to the east by T. M. Burke Pty. Ltd. development, to the south by Hooker Rex Estates development and to the west by the Kwinana Freeway reserve.
- (3) Subject to the issue of necessary approvals, physical subdivisional commencement is programmed for the latter part of the current 1982-83 financial year.
- (4) It is envisaged that the subdivision will comprise predominantly single detached housing lots.

It is proposed that of the total potential housing units, up to 30 per cent will be allocated for rental purposes, with an admixture yet to be finally determined of elderly persons units, single detached houses and attached houses or grouped dwellings. The balance of the lots are to be sold.

It is unlikely that building construction will commence during the current 1982-83 financial year.

It is intended that building will follow the finalisation of subdivisional development.

## HOUSING

### *Mortgage and Rent Relief*

1577. Mr WILSON, to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) Referring to the commitment by the Federal Government in its March housing package to outlay \$20 million in 1982-83 for a scheme to assist private rent and mortgage payers who are in distress because of increases in interest rates and rents, what proportion of this total outlay is to be allocated to Western Australia?
- (2) Has the State Government reached agreement with the Commonwealth regarding the requirement to match these funds on a dollar-for-dollar basis, and if not, what stage has been reached in negotiations on this matter?
- (3) What funds have been allocated in the 1982-83 State Budget for assistance to private rent payers facing difficulty due to rent increases, and if no such assistance is to be made available, why not?

Mr SHALDERS replied:

- (1) \$1.74 million.
- (2) The State Government has agreed to match the Commonwealth funds of \$1.74 million provided for 1982-83.
- (3) Apportionment between rental and mortgage relief is currently being finalised.

#### HOUSING: MORTGAGE ASSESSMENT AND RELIEF COMMITTEE

##### *Budget Allocation and Eligibility*

1578. Mr WILSON, to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) What additional funds have been allocated for use by the mortgage assessment and relief committee in the 1982-83 Budget and from what source have these funds been allocated?
- (2) (a) Has any further consideration been given to a review of the guidelines governing eligibility for assistance from the committee; and  
(b) if so, what has been the outcome of such a review?

Mr SHALDERS replied:

- (1) An additional \$1 million was allotted for use by the mortgage assessment and relief committee from the 1982-83 home purchase assistance account allocation.
- (2) (a) and (b) When operating details for the joint Government mortgage and rent relief scheme are finalised, the results of a review of the guidelines for mortgage relief will be announced.

#### HOUSING: PURCHASE

##### *Assistance*

1579. Mr WILSON, to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) What are the guidelines governing eligibility for State Housing Commission purchase assistance for—  
(a) metropolitan applicants;  
(b) non-metropolitan applicants?
- (2) How many applicants are currently listed for purchase assistance by the State Housing Commission in—  
(a) the metropolitan area;  
(b) non-metropolitan areas?
- (3) What are the upper and lower interest rates applicable to State Housing Commission purchase loans?

- (4) What is the maximum repayment period for such loans and how does the interest rate vary during the repayment period?
- (5) What would be the minimum weekly income required by an applicant to qualify for such a loan at the lowest rate of interest available?
- (6) (a) Is the scheme structured to allow pensioners and other social security beneficiaries, including supporting parents, to qualify for such loans; and  
(b) if so, can he provide details of the way in which such an applicant could be deemed eligible for such assistance?

Mr SHALDERS replied:

- (1) to (6) As the answer requires detailed information the member will be advised by letter.

#### HOUSING

##### *Welfare: Budget Allocation*

1580. Mr WILSON, to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) What specific housing programmes will be funded from the 1982-83 Budget's allocation for welfare housing?
- (2) How much of the Government's allocation for welfare housing will be spent on each of these programmes in 1982-83?

Mr SHALDERS replied:

- (1) and (2) The commission's housing programme for 1982-83 consists of 800 dwelling units as follows—

	Units
Rental	
Family housing	426
Pensioner housing	124
Total rental	550
Purchase	250
	800

#### HOUSING

##### *Welfare: Commonwealth Allocation*

1581. Mr WILSON, to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) What was the State's allocation for welfare housing from the Commonwealth

works and housing programme funds in 1981-82 and what amount has been allocated from these funds for welfare housing in 1982-83?

- (2) What proportion of this allocation did the Commonwealth require the State to match on a dollar-for-dollar basis?
- (3) What additional funds have been allocated by the State for welfare housing from Commonwealth works and housing funds under the power given to the States following the last Loan Council meeting to nominate such additional funds on an unmatched basis?

Mr SHALDERS replied:

- (1) The funding by the Commonwealth Government to Western Australia towards welfare housing for the financial years 1981-82 and 1982-83 are—

	1981-82 (\$000's)	1982-83 (\$000's)
Advances—housing agreement	13.038	12.984
Grants	14.279	20.430
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$27.317</b>	<b>\$33.414</b>

- (2) The State's proportion for matching the Commonwealth's allocation for welfare housing for the years 1981-82 and 1982-83 on a dollar-for-dollar basis is—

1981-82	\$17 503 000
1982-83	\$23 461 000

- (3) \$7.2 million.

## TOWN PLANNING

### *Dianella Electorate*

1582. Mr WILSON, to the Minister for Urban Development and Town Planning:

Referring to my letter of 22 July 1982 to the Metropolitan Region Planning Authority (as yet unanswered) and my grievance speech of 25 August 1982 regarding the need for action on a regional basis to provide better east-west road links with eastern suburbs for traffic using Alexander Drive north of Widgee Road, what progress has she been able to make in seeking the MRPA's determination on this matter?

Mrs CRAIG replied:

I am advised by the Acting Chairman, the Metropolitan Region Planning Authority, that the complex problems relating to the planning and development of the Ballajura-Malaga-Beechboro localities are the subject of a planning investigation by my department on behalf of the authority. It is expected that a report will be before the authority shortly.

## HOUSING: BUILDING SOCIETIES

### *Terminating*

1583. Mr WILSON, to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) Is he aware that the flow of new funds to terminating building societies in Western Australia from private banks and other institutions has fallen from \$6 250 000 in 1978-79 to \$3 690 000 in 1981-82?
- (2) Is he also aware that funds made available by the Rural and Industries Bank of WA for lending by the terminating societies fell from \$1 500 000 in 1978-79 to \$400 000 in 1981-82?
- (3) If "Yes" to (1) and (2), what action is he or the Government taking to encourage financial institutions in Western Australia to make increased amounts available to terminating societies for on-lending at lower interest rates to low and middle income earners?
- (4) Why was the allocation to the terminating societies from the State Housing Commission's revolving fund discontinued after 1978-79?

Mr SHALDERS replied:

- (1) and (2) Yes.
- (3) To meet increased competition for funds financial institutions have needed to revise their lending practices, resulting throughout Australia in less funds being made available through terminating building societies with State Government guarantees.

Whilst appreciating this change of policy the Government has, and will continue to support the WA terminating building societies wherever possible with their requests from the financial institutions.

- (4) In 1978-79, \$5.2 million of State Housing Commission revolving fund was allocated to terminating building societies to provide a useful boost to the home building industry. This was the first year in which an allocation of this type had been made.

As a result of the considerable reduction of Commonwealth loan funds under the housing agreement since 1978-79, the State Housing Commission has needed to hold all of its own funds for its own purposes.

### COMMUNITY WELFARE

#### *Youth Services Programme*

1584. Mr WILSON, to the Minister for Community Welfare:

- (1) What has been the Commonwealth allocation of funds to Western Australia under the youth services programme for each of the years—
  - (a) 1979-80;
  - (b) 1980-81; and
  - (c) 1981-82?
- (2) What proportion of the total grant to the States under this programme did Western Australia receive in each of these three years?
- (3) Can he confirm that the State Government matched these funds from the Commonwealth on a dollar-for-dollar basis in each of these three years, and if not what the State allocation was in each of these years?
- (4) (a) Which organisations applied for grants under this programme for funds made available in 1981-82;
  - (b) which of these organisations were successful in their applications; and
  - (c) what funds did each successful applicant receive?
- (5) What further funds have been made available by the Commonwealth for the youth services programme in 1982-83 and beyond, and on what basis are these funds being made available?
- (6) What decisions have been made with regard to on-going State Government participation in this programme and what process will be followed in allocating grants in 1982-83?

Mr SHALDERS replied:

- (1) Western Australia's entitlement was as follows—

(a) 1979-1980	\$83 800
(b) 1980-1981	\$83 800
(c) 1981-1982	\$83 800

\$251 400

- (2) Allocations from the \$1 million made available nationally for the programme were based on the numbers of 14-17 year-olds in each State's population. The scheme did not commence in Western Australia until 1 March 1981. The figures are as follows—

(a) 1979-1980	Nil
(b) 1980-1981	\$17 331 (1.7%)
(c) 1981-1982	\$119 490 (11.9%)

\$136 821

- (3) As indicated in earlier questions on this matter, the State has not been prepared to enter strict dollar-for-dollar cost-sharing arrangements with the Commonwealth in respect of this programme. Certain State expenditures on specified youth services were however identified for matching purposes. The figures are as follows—

(a) 1979-1980	\$62 254
(b) 1980-1981	\$71 794
(c) 1981-1982	\$86 756

\$220 804

- (4) (a) Applications on hand from 11 organisations were considered—Communicare Inc., Centrecare, Tenants Advice Service, Jesus People Inc., Perth Inner City Youth Services, Swan Emergency Accommodation Inc., City of Fremantle, City of Melville, City of Belmont, Anglican Health and Welfare Services, and Christian Welfare Centre.

(b) and (c)

	\$
Centrecare	22 300
Jesus People Inc.	36 490
Swan Emergency Accommodation	15 000
City of Fremantle	5 000
City of Melville	1 300
Anglican Health and Welfare	15 600
Christian Welfare Centre	23 300

\$119 490

- (5) \$145 000. The funds are to be made available under the existing terms and conditions for this programme.

- (6) The State Budget contains provision for up to \$177 000 to be provided for youth services in 1982-1983. Available funds will be advertised shortly and submissions invited from the non-Government welfare sector.

## COMMUNITY WELFARE

### *Family Crisis Accommodation*

1585. Mr WILSON, to the Minister for Community Welfare:

- (1) Can he confirm that Western Australia received an allocation of \$160 000 from the Commonwealth for family crisis accommodation in 1981-82?
- (2) If "Yes", where have these funds been allocated?
- (3) (a) Which organisations applied for grants from these funds;  
(b) which were successful with their applications; and  
(c) what amounts were allocated to the successful applicants?
- (4) What body was responsible for considering these applications, and what criteria were used in assessing the applicants?
- (5) What funds were allocated by the State Government for family crisis accommodation in 1981-82?
- (6) What is the Commonwealth's allocation of funds for family crisis accommodation to Western Australia for 1982-83?
- (7) How will these funds be allocated and when will grant applications be advertised?

Mr SHALDERS replied:

- (1) Western Australia received an allocation of \$165 000 from the Commonwealth for family crisis accommodation to be spent under the terms of the WA emergency accommodation programme for families.
- (2) The funds were allocated for the purchase, lease, or construction of emergency accommodation for families, by non-Government welfare organizations.

- (3) (a) Eleven organizations made applications for the funds—Anglican Health & Welfare Services, Association for the Care and Rehabilitation of Alcoholics, Drug Addicts and Homeless People Inc. (ACRAH), Centrecare, Christian Refuges Inc., Lockridge Emergency Housing Project, Marribank Children's Homes, Nardine Womens Refuge, Shire of Wanneroo, Stepping Stones Welfare Services, Swan Emergency Accommodation Inc., Wesley Central Mission.

- (b) and (c)  
Swan Emergency Accommodation Inc., Midland to purchase a large house to provide emergency accommodation for up to 3 families—\$70 000  
Centrecare, Catholic Counselling and Welfare Services, Perth to buy one house and lease another—\$42 000  
Marribank Children's Home, Katanning, to buy a three-bedroomed transportable home—\$25 000  
Anglican Health & Welfare Services, West Perth to lease two houses—\$9 000  
Nardine Women's Refuge, North Perth to lease and upgrade one house—\$5 500  
ACRAH (Association for the Care and Rehabilitation of Alcoholics, Drug Addicts and Homeless People) to lease one house—\$4 500  
Christian Refuges Incorporated, Rossmoyne to lease a house—\$4 500  
Stepping Stones Welfare Services, Bridgetown to lease a house—\$4 500

- (4) All applications were considered by an interdepartmental committee chaired by an officer from the Department for Community Welfare and with membership drawn from the State Housing Commission and the local Department of Social Security. Advice was then tendered to the Minister for Community Welfare, based on the programme's advertised guidelines.
- (5) No State funds were released under this scheme.

- (6) \$332 000
- (7) Grant applications were advertised in *The West Australian* on Saturday, 9 October. A closing date for applications has been set at 12 November, and it is anticipated that allocations will be made shortly after that time.

## HOUSING

### *Maintenance*

1586. Mr WILSON, to the Minister for Housing:

Referring to advice received in a letter of 28 September 1982 from the General Manager of the State Housing Commission that the inspection of day-to-day maintenance items is currently taking two to three days as a result of the present staffing situation at the Mirrabooka regional office—

- (a) what are the details of the staffing situation which are affecting the inspection of day-to-day maintenance items;
- (b) why has this situation arisen, and when will it be rectified?

Mr SHALDERS replied:

- (a) and (b) The member for Dianella would be very much aware of the emergency maintenance system operated by the State Housing Commission whereby depending upon the urgency of the situation maintenance repairs to rental housing are attending to without delay. The staffing of the maintenance sections within the commission are maintained at a level sufficient to deal with matters within a reasonable time.

## HOUSING: INTEREST RATES

### *Mortgage Relief: State Funds*

1587. Mr WILSON, to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) What additional funds has the Government allocated for the interest rate subsidy (all homes) scheme in the 1982-83 Budget?
- (2) What additional money has been provided by the permanent building societies for this scheme?

- (3) In view of the fact that funds allocated under this scheme were only 55 per cent take-up in the past year, what alterations have been made to the guidelines governing eligibility for this assistance?

Mr SHALDERS replied:

- (1) and (2) An amount of \$200 000 has been set aside in the 1982-83 allocation of home purchase assistance account funds to combine with an additional \$10 million of permanent building societies own funds in an interest rate subsidy scheme.
- (3) The eligibility limit of the breadwinner's income has been increased from \$300 per week to \$350, and the period in which a migrant needs to reside in Australia before being assisted has been reduced from 12 months to six months.

## HOUSING: PURCHASE

### *Sale of Homes*

1588. Mr WILSON, to the Premier:

- (1) Referring to his comments in *The Sunday Times* of 11 July 1982 in which he claimed that the sale of State Housing Commission homes to occupiers would raise at least \$20 million, what is the estimated number of homes that would have to be sold to offer a return to the commission of \$20 million?
- (2) Within what period of time does he anticipate that this return of \$20 million will become available to the State Housing Commission for spending on additional public housing accommodation?
- (3) What is the estimated cost to the Government and the State Housing Commission of providing low interest loans at 8½ per cent to the 577 applicants and 6½ per cent to the 92 applicants referred to in the same article?
- (4) What is the significance of his comment that "some people, depending on their length of tenancy would be able to acquire finance as low as 6½ per cent"?

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

- (1) Approximately 700 homes.
- (2) The period to realise the sales will largely depend on the level of funding available at the time. It is estimated 120 houses will be sold to tenants in 1982-83.

- (3) Purchase instalments have been assessed at a level sufficient to recover the cost of borrowings by the commission.
- (4) Tenants who wish to purchase their homes under mortgage conditions may do so under the home purchase assistance scheme and interest rate may commence as low as six per cent dependent on income.

## CONSERVATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### *Woodman Point*

1589. Mr BRIAN BURKE, to the Minister representing the Minister for Recreation:

- (1) Is it correct that part of the Woodman Point area will be opened up for recreation purposes?
- (2) Is it also correct that within the quarantine station area are two crops of Rottneest cypress and tuart?
- (3) In view of—
  - (a) the susceptibility of Rottneest cypress to fire;
  - (b) the fact that the Rottneest cypress (which grew widely along the coast prior to colonisation) outcrop is one of the few areas left where the tree is growing healthily; and
  - (c) the fact that the tuart trees are also healthy;

will he ensure that the area where the trees are growing is not opened up for recreation and that every effort is made to preserve the trees?

Mr LAURANCE replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) (a) to (c) The Woodman Point concept plan endorsed by the Government in February 1982 allows for the preservation of the Tuart area and the greater portion of the cypress belt.

## MINISTERS OF THE CROWN

### *Responsibilities: Meetings with Organisations*

1590. Mr BRIAN BURKE, to the Premier:

- (1) Did he issue a circular to Ministers requesting that they arrange meetings with organisations which have interests relevant to Ministers' portfolios, or otherwise have contact with departments or Government bodies?
- (2) Will he table the circular?

- (3) If "No" to (2), why not?
- (4) With which organisations has each of the Ministers met?
- (5) Where were the meetings held in each case?
- (6) Who attended representing the Government?
- (7) Which public servants attended in each one?
- (8) If so, what for?
- (9) Are any costs incurred?
- (10) If so, for what purposes?

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

- (1) to (10) A circular was sent to Ministers. The circular is confidential.

## MINING: IRON ORE

### *Production and Export*

1591. Mr GRILL, to the Minister for Mines:

- (1) What is the total estimated world iron ore production per annum?
- (2) What proportion of that tonnage is traded between countries?
- (3) (a) Which are the 10 major iron ore producing countries; and  
(b) what is their estimated tonnage production per annum?
- (4) (a) Which are the 10 major steel making countries; and  
(b) what is their annual steel production?
- (5) (a) Which are the 10 major iron ore exporting countries; and  
(b) what is their annual export?
- (6) (a) Which are the 10 major iron ore importing countries; and  
(b) what is their input per annum?
- (7) (a) What is Australia's annual present export tonnage of iron ore;  
(b) to which countries; and  
(c) what volume is that iron ore exported?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

- (1) to (7) The member may like to examine the Mining Annual Review, the 1981 Mitsui report, the Tex report, and the report of the Australian Bureau of Statistics to obtain the information he is seeking.

## FUEL AND ENERGY: GAS

### *North-West Shelf: Dampier-Wagerup Pipeline*

1592. Mr GRILL, to the Minister for Fuel and Energy:

- (1) With reference to his answer to question 1005 of 11 August 1982, has he seen

articles in *The Western Mail* of 7 August and *The Fremantle Gazette* of 25 August, alleging that ICC Construction Co. Ltd. is not experienced in the manufacture and deployment of large pipelines?

- (2) (a) What are the details of any large pipeline which ICC Construction Co. Ltd. has completed;
- (b) what are the details of the pipeline projects the company is said to be working on currently in the Middle East?
- (3) Did ICC Construction Co. Ltd. tender for the construction of the northern section of the Dampier to Wagerup pipeline?
- (4) (a) As Saipem S.p.A. of Milan was the recommended tenderer, why did the Government not accept the advice of its consultants and contract Saipem to construct the northern section of the pipeline rather than encourage the formation of a joint venture;
- (b) was there any deficiency in Saipem's tender that could be overcome by the formation of a joint venture; and
- (c) if so, what?
- (5) In view of frequent statements by him and other Government spokespeople that the use of natural gas for generating electricity is not a preferred use for natural gas and would only be considered as a short-term measure while alternative markets were developing, why has the Government signed a preliminary agreement for ICC Construction Co. Ltd. to carry out a feasibility study to supply electricity from gas turbines to a proposed aluminium smelter in the south-west?
- (6) (a) Approximately what annual quantity of gas would be required for turbines generating electricity sufficient to meet the needs of a 240 000 tonne per annum aluminium smelter;
- (b) what would be the maximum power rating for such a set of turbines?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

- (1) and (2) The Government is endeavouring to secure new industrial and mineral processing developments in Western Australia. Its objective is to provide more opportunities for employment, and to upgrade our mineral exports.

Consistent with the above objective, the Government has been negotiating with the Government of the Republic of Korea and with the Kukje Group of Korea regarding a group of development initiatives—the involvement of ICC Construction Co. Ltd. in the construction of the Dampier to Wagerup gas pipeline, the construction of an aluminium smelter intended to supply metal primarily to the Korean market, and the construction of power generating facilities which would be Korean financed and owned, to supply electricity to the smelter.

Having regard to the progress to date with the power station and smelter proposals, it has been judged by the Government that ICC Construction Co. Ltd. should be involved in the pipeline project, provided it is associated in a joint venture or other similar arrangement with a suitable experienced pipeline construction company, and provided also that the contract price was linked to the competitive prices secured in open tender for the northern section.

Saipem S.p.A. has been awarded the construction contract for the northern section of the pipeline on the basis of favourable prices tendered and their extensive experience with pipeline construction.

Consistent with the Government decision to consider ICC in a joint venture, the State Energy Commission approached ICC, which indicated a desire to work with Saipem in a joint venture. Saipem also indicated a willingness to work with ICC on a joint venture basis.

The arrangement which has now been developed by Saipem and ICC is that there will be a joint venture for the overall pipeline project, with Saipem providing the major technical and management role. Under the overall management of the project, Saipem would be directly responsible for the northern and southern sections, and ICC would be responsible for the central section.



With regard to the specific questions (1) and (2), it should be realised that work on which ICC will be involved in the proposed joint venture is not associated with the manufacture and deployment of pipelines. Rather it is the field construction of the pipeline.

ICC has been involved in a number of major water, sewerage, and drainage pipelines in the Middle East, and in a 60 km oil pipeline. The company has no direct experience with long major oil and gas lines.

It was for the above reason that the Government insisted it was only prepared to consider the involvement of ICC in the construction of the pipeline project if it is linked with an internationally experienced pipeline construction company.

The Korean involvement in the pipeline, expressed as a proportion of the total pipeline cost, is only about 10-12 per cent of the overall project cost.

(3) Yes.

(4) (a) to (c) Saipem S.p.A. of Milan was the recommended tenderer for construction of the northern section pipeline. It will be contractor for the work involved in this section of the pipeline project.

(5) The preliminary agreement with ICC Construction Co. Ltd. for a proposed aluminium smelter and associated power generating plant provides for the supply and construction of both coal-fired power plant capacity to be located at Bunbury, and for gas turbine plant. The basis of this proposal is that the coal-fired power plant capacity will meet the greater part of the power needs of the aluminium smelter, and that the gas turbine plant will be installed to provide for the requirements of the combined smelter and normal system loads during the early years of operation of the smelter, prior to the new coal-fired plant at Bunbury coming into service, after which the gas turbine plant will supply system peak and reserve power requirements.

(6) (a) and (b) The quantity and capacity of gas performance required in association with the aluminium smelter will be determined by the timing of the aluminium smelter, and the extent of the system load growth up to that time. A decision on the amount of capacity of gas turbines to be installed can be left to close to the time of their requirement, as the lead time for supply and installation of gas turbines is generally of the order of 12 months or less, depending on the gas turbine market conditions at the time.

## FUEL AND ENERGY

### *Demand: Non-transport and Transport*

1593. Mr GRILL, to the Minister for Fuel and Energy:

- (1) (a) What was the total Western Australian non-transport fuel demand in 1980;
- (b) in 1981?
- (2) (a) What was the total Western Australian transport fuel demand in 1980;
- (b) in 1981?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

(1) and (2) In this question, and in questions 1594, 1598, and 1601, the member is seeking detailed information concerning fuel demand in Western Australia in 1980 and 1981. The data sought in relation to 1980 is contained in State Energy Commission report RP 95/1—"Western Australia Fuel Demand 1980-2000". Reports of this nature are published regularly by the State Energy Commission and, as I have previously indicated, a revised edition of the report is currently under preparation. Preliminary estimates of fuel demand in 1981 have been made, and final estimates will be published in the main body of the new report.

## FUEL AND ENERGY

### *Demand: Indigenous Sources*

1594. Mr GRILL, to the Minister for Fuel and Energy:

- (1) What percentage of Western Australia's total demand for petroleum and pet-

roleum products was met from indigenous sources of supply in each of the last 10 years?

- (2) What percentage of Western Australia's total primary energy demand has been met from indigenous sources in each of the past 10 years?
- (3) What is the State Energy Commission's estimate of consumption of petroleum and petroleum products in Western Australia in the year 2000?
- (4) What proportion of this consumption is expected to be met from indigenous sources?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

- (1) to (4) I refer the member to the answer given to question 1593.

## HOUSING

### *Insulation*

1595. Mr GRILL, to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) Is he aware that the Fibreglass Insulation Manufacturers' Association of Australia has been placing advertisements in the national press which state—

In Australia, the NSW, Victorian, Tasmanian and ACT Governments have set minimum insulation standards for Government housing and use fibreglass insulation for the ceilings.

The South Australian Government has gone a stage further and insists on insulation in the walls as well as ceilings of its Government housing.

- (2) (a) Does Western Australia have minimum insulation standards for Government housing;
- (b) if so, what are the standards and how do they compare with those in the above listed States and the ACT?
- (3) If Western Australia does not have such standards, why have they not been set?

Mr SHALDERS replied:

- (1) No I am not aware of the advertisements.
- (2) (a) The State Housing Commission has a minimum standard for Government housing;

- (b) (i) I am not aware of the details of standards in other States so I cannot make a comparison;

- (ii) The State Housing Commission standards for Government housing are—

- (a) Southern Areas (south of 26th parallel)

SHC and GEHA—full masonry

R1.5 (70 mm thick fibreglass or 65 mm thick loose fill cellulosic fibre in the ceiling space)

SHC and GEHA—masonry veneer

As above in the ceilings and double sided sisalation (reflective foil) in the external walls.

- (b) Northern Areas (north of 26th parallel)

SHC—masonry veneer or framed

25 mm fibreglass on reflective foil to the underside of roof sheeting  
Double sided sisalation (reflective foil) in the external walls

GEHA—As above but in addition R1.5 insulation in the ceiling space.

- (3) Not applicable.

## FUEL AND ENERGY: SEC

### *Expenditure*

1596. Mr GRILL, to the Minister for Fuel and Energy:

- (1) How much did the State Energy Commission expend on public works in 1981-82?
- (2) How much did the State Energy Commission expend on interest in 1981-82?
- (3) How much interest did the State Energy Commission capitalise in 1981-82?
- (4) What proportion of total State Energy Commission expenditure was comprised of interest and loan flotation expenses in 1981-82?
- (5) What proportion of total State Energy Commission expenditure did total financial charges comprise in 1981-82?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

- (1) to (5) Details of State Energy Commission expenditure and other financial details relating to the commission's activities are presently before the Auditor General, and will be tabled in the Parliament as part of the annual report of the State Energy Commission.

#### FUEL AND ENERGY: GAS

##### *North-West Shelf: Dampier-Perth Pipeline*

1597. Mr GRILL, to the Minister for Fuel and Energy:

What is the current estimated completion date for the Dampier-Perth natural gas pipeline?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

It is currently estimated that the Dampier-Perth natural gas pipeline will be completed for free flow of gas in July 1984, and will be fully operational by October 1984.

#### FUEL AND ENERGY

##### *Demand: Year 2000*

1598. Mr GRILL, to the Minister for Fuel and Energy:

- (1) What is Western Australia's total primary fuel demand in the form of petroleum liquids expected to be in the year 2000?  
(2) What proportion of this is expected to be imported?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

- (1) and (2) I refer the member to the answer given to question 1593.

#### FUEL AND ENERGY: GAS

##### *Local Use*

1599. Mr GRILL, to the Minister for Fuel and Energy:

- (1) In view of Western Australia's high dependence on liquid fuels, and particularly imported liquid fuels, what steps has the Government taken to ensure that the maximum quantities of liquid petroleum gas and natural gas condensate produced in Western Australia are used locally?  
(2) What quantities of—  
(a) liquid petroleum gas; and

(b) condensate (expressed both in terms of thermal content and as a percentage of total production) were reserved for local use in 1981?

- (3) What are the corresponding estimates for 1990 and 2000?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

- (1) The Government is aware of Western Australia's dependence on imported fuels, and has taken steps to ensure that maximum usage is made of local sourced fuels. All locally produced liquid petroleum gas and natural gas condensate is used in Western Australia.

- (2) (a) and (b) Answered by (1) above.

- (3) Production of liquid petroleum gas and natural gas condensate in future years will be dependent on production volumes associated with North-West Shelf gas. Volumes of LPG and natural gas condensate, therefore, will be linked to production levels of natural gas for domestic market and liquid natural gas for export market. Liquid petroleum gas and natural gas condensate will be sold into the Western Australian market to the extent necessary to satisfy local demand.

1600. *This question was postponed.*

#### FUEL AND ENERGY

##### *Motor Spirit: Demand*

1601. Mr GRILL, to the Minister for Fuel and Energy:

What was Western Australia's total demand for motor spirit in—

- (a) 1980;  
(b) 1981?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

- (a) and (b) I refer the member to the answer given to question 1593.

#### FUEL AND ENERGY: ELECTRICITY

##### *Generation: Oil*

1602. Mr GRILL, to the Minister for Fuel and Energy:

- (1) Does the State Energy Commission still plan to use more oil for electricity generation in the year 2000, as outlined in report RP95/1?

- (2) If not, how much oil does the State Energy Commission now expect to commit to electricity generation in the year 2000?
- (3) If so, what is the Government's attitude to estimates of increased amounts of oil being committed to electricity generation?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

- (1) to (3) Although oil usage is declining, the full import of the question is not clear, and seeks an opinion on "attitude" towards suggested "increased" oil usage. I would appreciate the member's writing and clarifying his information requirement.

#### FUEL AND ENERGY: ELECTRICITY

##### *Generation: Expenditure*

1603. Mr GRILL, to the Minister for Fuel and Energy:

What are the current State Energy Commission estimates for the level of capital expenditure by the commission in this financial year and in each of the next three financial years for—

- (a) generating plant and power design services;
- (b) transmission and distribution; and
- (c) gas and other?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

- (a) to (c) Details of the State Energy Commission's capital works programme is currently before the Parliament as part of 1982-83 loan programme. Estimates for future years have not been finalised, and cannot yet constitute approved Budget expenditure.

#### FUEL AND ENERGY: ELECTRICITY AND GAS

##### *Domestic Consumers*

1604. Mr GRILL, to the Minister for Fuel and Energy:

What proportion of the total amount of energy supplied to customers by the State Energy Commission is supplied to domestic consumers?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

Approximately 35 per cent of the total amount of electricity and gas supplied to customers by the State Energy Com-

mission is supplied to domestic customers.

#### QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

##### STATE FINANCE: BUDGET

##### *Wages and Salaries*

582. Mr BRIAN BURKE, to the Treasurer:

- (1) In the Budget introduced two weeks ago, why has there been a change in the method of making allowance for wage and salary increases?
- (2) Why did the Treasurer not mention the changed procedure when he delivered the Budget?
- (3) Why was no expenditure shown against the \$26 million provided for by the former Treasurer in last year's Budget?

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

- (1) to (3) When introducing the Budget, I mentioned it included a number of alterations to the procedure adopted in the Budgets of previous years; this was in an effort to reduce the time taken to deliver the Budget. Indeed, I believe it still is too long, and should be reduced even further. If the Leader of the Opposition provides me with the detail of the issues about which he is concerned, I will provide him with a reply.

#### MINING: IRON ORE

##### *Opposition's Statements*

583. Mr SODEMAN, to the Minister for Resources Development:

- (1) Has the Minister read the comments of the Opposition regarding the alleged failure of the Pilbara iron ore companies to aggressively market iron ore?
- (2) Is the Government involved in discussions with companies and customers regarding present and future deliveries of iron ore?
- (3) What initiatives is the Government taking in this regard?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

- (1) Yes.

- (2) and (3) Close contact has been maintained with all the iron ore producers throughout the year. On Monday, 27 September 1982, a joint meeting was held between myself, Department of Resources Development representatives, and all producers, to discuss the present market situation.

At the 27 September meeting, I emphasised to the companies the Government's concern for the future of the industry, and detailed the actions I had taken to ensure the Australian share of the Japanese market was maintained, and tonnage reductions minimised. I did, however, emphasise that the Government did not intend to become involved in individual company-customer negotiations.

From 31 August to 2 September, I visited Japan to discuss the iron ore market situation with all the blast furnace producers and the six major trading companies which handle most of Japan's iron ore imports.

The visit followed on from meetings between Government and the steel mills on six other occasions over the last nine months—

early December 1981	Minister
10 December 1981	former Premier
21 January 1982	Minister
1 March 1982 (in Perth)	Premier and Minister
15 March 1982	Minister
24 May 1982	Minister

In addition to the above, I travelled to Europe in July 1982 and, during this visit, I had discussions with European steelmakers and the EEC specifically regarding iron ore sales.

In May, the Premier visited Italy to discuss prospects for the sale and processing of Western Australian iron ore.

As a result of the initiatives referred to, the Government already has achieved a considerable amount in the face of the world wide downturn in the steel industry—

The Government's efforts early in the year contributed to significant price increases for iron ore. These increases have been extremely important in assisting the financial position of the producers at a time of reduced shipments.

The Japanese steel mills have given assurances that Australia's market share will be maintained at the

agreed level of approximately 48 per cent to 50 per cent subject to continued competitiveness. The Japanese have been concerned about the extent of industrial disruption in the iron ore industry in the past, and have cited this as the reason for market share dropping below 48 per cent in recent years. I have been assured that they are aiming to get back to the level of 48 per cent minimum.

Where Goldsworthy Mining Ltd. is concerned, the Government has made it clear to the Japanese mills that it is essential to plan a smooth transition from existing projects, such as Goldsworthy with declining reserves, to new replacement projects. The Japanese clearly understand the Government's concern in this regard, and are negotiating an extension contract with Goldsworthy. It must be understood that Goldsworthy originally had only a limited life which has now been exceeded.

As a result of representations from the State Government and the individual producers, the steel mills now are reviewing their tonnage nominations for the remainder of this year, and the first quarter of 1983.

## MINING: IRON ORE

### *Production and Export*

584. Mr BRYCE, to the Minister for Resources Development:

With regard to question 1305 of 14 September, which languishes unanswered now for a month, I ask—

- what is the Government hiding from in refusing to supply the information; and
- if the inability of his department to provide such straightforward details is a measure of the Government's competence in the field of resources development, is it any wonder the Japanese so frequently play this Government at a break?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

- (a) and (b) Had the member for Ascot been in the House earlier, I would have been

able to hand him the answer to his question, because I brought it with me today.

Mr Bryce: It has taken you one month to answer the question.

Mr P. V. JONES: I indicated to the member I was having researched the very detailed questions he asked. Indeed, the last time he asked about this matter, I told him I was having some graphs prepared for him.

#### RESEARCH STATION: DENMARK

##### *Salé*

585. Mr STEPHENS, to the Minister for Agriculture:

Could the Minister advise when it is proposed to sell the Denmark Research Station?

Mr OLD replied:

No immediate plans are in hand to sell the Denmark Research Station; under current planning, it will be at least 12 or 18 months before any move is made in that direction. Even then, consultation will take place between the local authority, and the people concerned.

#### EDUCATION: HIGH SCHOOLS

##### *Driver Education: Pilot Scheme*

586. Mr CARR, to the Minister for Education:

Arising out of an article in last Thursday's *The West Australian* headed "High Schools to get a pilot driving scheme" I ask—

- (1) At which five high schools is the scheme to be introduced?
- (2) When will it be introduced?
- (3) How will it be funded?

Mr CLARKO replied:

- (1) to (3) The matter was raised following an approach to me by the Minister for Police and Prisons regarding the need to improve driver education and training. I replied by letter to the Minister that my department was keen to meet in the immediate future with officers of the National Safety Council of WA Inc.; that has been arranged.

Mr Carr: I thought you had been meeting for 12 months on this matter.

Mr CLARKO: In my letter, I stated that I felt it was desirable to implement some

sort of pilot scheme. The proposition was that perhaps we could establish a pilot driver education scheme in, say, five separate schools. The matter now is awaiting consideration by the meeting, which will take place between officers of the Education Department and the National Safety Council of WA. The questions of funding, and to which schools the scheme will apply, will be determined following that meeting and subsequent discussion between the Minister for Police and Prisons and me and, if necessary, after further consideration by the Government.

#### MINING: URANIUM

##### *Enrichment: Study*

587. Mr BLAIKIE, to the Minister for Resources Development:

With regard to the uranium enrichment study being undertaken by a study group of private companies in conjunction with the Federal and State Governments, I ask—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the decision to concentrate those studies on sites adjacent to Adelaide and Brisbane?
- (2) Has Western Australia been involved in the studies so far, and will the Government be involved in any further ongoing studies?

Mr P. V. JONES replied:

- (1) Yes, although the decision which was announced last week was transmitted to us only about one hour before it was made public. It was not the result of discussions with the Western Australian Government or, as I understand it, with any other State, despite the fact that Western Australia, with various other Governments in Australia, was closely associated with the studies being carried out.

- (2) Western Australia participated in the studies, providing a considerable amount of information and attending meetings for the whole duration of the study period. As a result of the decision, which has identified the enrichment process which they wish to use, and has located the study areas adjacent to Adelaide, and just south-west of Brisbane, the State Government has indicated it will continue to be involved in the studies, and wishes to continue to be associated with the work being done, having regard for the fact it is simply a research project, not a commitment to undertake to establish an enrichment plant. The study is designed to ascertain just what would be involved in establishing an enrichment plant; it will not go through a whole range of detailed feasibility studies as though in fact there was a commitment to establish such a plant. Be that as it may, the Western Australian Government wishes to continue to be involved, and it intends to be involved.

### HOSPITALS

#### *Revenue-raising Capacity: Assessment*

588. Mr TONKIN, to the Treasurer:

With respect to the Commonwealth Government's refusal to reassess the State hospitals' revenue raising capacity for 1982-83 and the fact that this refusal has reduced the payment to Western Australia on account of expected revenue by some \$14 million, could he indicate to the House how he is vigorously pursuing this matter and when he expects some final resolution?

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

I have spoken personally to the Prime Minister; in fact, as I was aware of the problem involved, I raised the matter on the day of the last Premiers' Conference. I requested the Prime Minister to follow the same practice as that which applied last year; namely, to reassess the situation at the end of the year so that we could take into account the updated figure. I have followed that representation with a further letter to the Prime Minister, and I intend to continue to pursue the issue. Quite frankly, unless the Commonwealth again reassesses the situation at the end of the financial year, we will

be unfairly treated by approximately the amount mentioned by the member for Morley. Previously, the Commonwealth's assessment of this area proved to be wrong, as a consequence of which it made a reassessment, resulting last year in a reimbursement to Western Australia of, I think, \$4.6 million. We are pursuing the matter in an endeavour to ensure the same situation applies this year.

### MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

#### *Bribery Allegations*

589. Mr COWAN, to the Premier:

In view of allegations made today in this House by the member for Mt. Marshall that bribes had been offered to the members for Merredin and Stirling, and as this constitutes a criminal offence, I ask—

Will the Premier move to appoint a committee of privileges to investigate the allegation?

Opposition members: Hear, hear!

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

I will give consideration to the request after I have investigated the matter.

### STATE FINANCE: BUDGET

#### *Wages and Salaries*

590. Mr I. F. TAYLOR, to the Treasurer:

With reference to the \$26 million provision for wages and salaries in the Miscellaneous Services Division of the 1981-82 Budget, could the Treasurer explain what happened to the \$7 million saved on wages and salaries last financial year, and why this amount is not shown as a saving against the wage and salary items in the division?

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

Obviously, the member is referring to the shortfall in expenditure on wages and salaries which occurred as a result of no increase to school teachers being granted in March by the Commonwealth commission. I cannot tell the member offhand where all the money went. However, he knows as well as I do that at the end of the financial year we finished with a surplus of about \$8 million, which was diverted to housing

and other areas in an endeavour to stimulate the building industry, and employment. If the member cares to place his question on notice, I will endeavour to obtain an answer for him.

### TRAFFIC: ACCIDENTS

#### *Kwinana Freeway*

591. Mr WILLIAMS, to the Minister for Police and Prisons:

How many accidents have occurred on the southern extension of the Kwinana Freeway since its completion?

Mr HASSELL replied:

Eight.

### HOSPITAL

#### *Nickol Bay*

592. Mr HODGE, to the Minister for Health:

- (1) What is the total cost to date of the Nickol Bay Hospital?
- (2) What is the anticipated completion cost including furniture, fittings and equipment?
- (3) How much has Woodside Offshore Petroleum Pty. Ltd. contributed and when did it make the funds available?
- (4) How has the building programme been financed to date?

Mr YOUNG replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question, the answer to which is as follows—

- (1) Excluding furniture, fittings and equipment, \$8 236 973.
- (2) \$8 836 973.
- (3) In June 1981, the company contributed \$5 373 300 towards the capital and operating cost of the hospital.
- (4) (a) Contribution from Woodside Offshore Petroleum Pty. Ltd.  
(b) By advances from the General Loan Fund which are to be recouped from infrastructure borrowings in 1982-83.

### SHOPPING: CENTRE

#### *Newman*

593. Mr SODEMAN, to the Minister for Lands:

- (1) Would the Minister advise the Parliament what further action has been taken concerning the proposed establishment of a second commercial centre in Newman, following the decision by John Holland (Constructions) Pty. Ltd. to withdraw from a project to develop an \$8 million complex in the town?
- (2) Have discussions been held with proprietors of the existing shopping centre, and have they been informed of the Government's current intentions?

Mr LAURANCE replied:

- (1) As the member indicated, a commercial site at Newman was released earlier this year after a successful application by John Holland (Constructions) Pty. Ltd., which indicated it was prepared to develop an \$8 million commercial complex; subsequently, the company found it could not proceed, and had to withdraw. The site now has been re-released on the understanding other parties could be prepared to develop such a commercial centre. Indeed, keen interest has been shown in the proposal for a second centre by a number of agencies, particularly the local authority and also by Mt. Newman Mining Co. Pty. Ltd.

They agreed that we should add to the shopping and commercial facilities available in Newman, and were disappointed when John Holland (Constructions) Pty. Ltd. advised that it could not proceed with its proposed development.

An extension of time was discussed, but as the commitment could not be met, the company had to withdraw. So the site now has been released for a second time and other developers who may be in a position to proceed with such a development for the town will have that opportunity. Applications now have been called for by the Lands and Surveys Department and the closing date is 10 November. It is still anticipated that a supermarket, small and medium sized shops, and a service station will be incorporated in such a centre.



- (2) Yes. I have had discussions with one of the retailers at the existing centre on behalf of a group, and, in addition, I have just written to this person to indicate the conditions of the release of the proposed second site. I indicated to him that the existing retailers will have the opportunity to be involved either individually, collectively, or in association with other interests so that they have an opportunity to participate in any new development on the second site.

## FUEL AND ENERGY: GAS

### *North-West Shelf: Sales*

594. Mr GRILL, to the Premier:

- (1) When does the Government intend to announce some coherent policy in respect of sales of North-West Shelf gas by the SEC?
- (2) What is the Government's pricing policy in respect to that gas?

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

- (1) As soon as details are finalised, the information will be released.
- (2) I am not prepared to give that detail.

## PREMIERS' CONFERENCE

### *Outstanding Matters*

595. Mr BERTRAM, to the Premier:

- (1) What are the outstanding points from the Premiers' Conference which are subject to debate and which, as stated in his Budget speech, could, if not settled, deny WA an additional \$12 million this year?
- (2) How does he intend to continue to press his case on this matter, and with what chance of success?

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

- (1) and (2) I already have given this information in reply to a question by one of the member's colleagues.

## SHOPPING: FOOD STORES

### *Petrol Sales*

596. Mr BRYCE, to the Minister for Urban Development and Town Planning:

With regard to decisions being made concerning the development of BP food-plus stores, has she yet consulted, or does she intend to consult, with any of

the organisations in WA representing the interests of the small business sector?

Mrs CRAIG replied:

I am not quite sure what the member means when he refers to decisions being made. So far as I am aware, the town planning appeal tribunal upheld one application for a food-plus store, and that, as the member knows, is outside my jurisdiction. I can say that I understand I have two appeals pending relating to the establishment of BP-plus stores, and they will be considered once I have all the information before me. I will look very closely at the amount of retail shopping presently available in the area and whether the catchment area is such that another retail outlet is warranted.

I had discussions with BP Aust. Ltd. in relation to this matter some 12 to 18 months ago. I made it very plain then that I believed the proposed applications could be construed as backdoor retail zoning and it would be necessary to rezone a site from a service station use to another use. That type of rezoning would necessitate a public advertising period and an opportunity for all people in the area, including local businessmen, to make submissions. Those submissions would be examined very carefully before any decision was made.

That is the way we hope to have input from the local community. If the town planning scheme allows the land use, as I have no way in which I can insist on an advertising period, the local authority would have to accept that it has no way of disallowing the establishment of such a business. If the decision was made to use clause 30 of the metropolitan region scheme—if that clause is applicable in the particular situation—it would be impossible now for me to say specifically "Yes" to one application and "No" to another. I have not yet looked at the two appeals and I will not look at them until all the information is assembled. However, I assure the House that the maintenance of viable business for small business people will be a matter of considerable concern at the time I am considering the appeals.

## RAILWAYS: FREIGHT

*Joint Venture: Country Agents*

597. The SPEAKER: Earlier, during question time, the Minister for Transport sought to reply to a question which was asked on 29 September, and I draw members' attention to question 568 on page 3391 of *Hansard*. Clearly, the Minister indicated to the member for Avon—the member who asked the two part question—that he was not in a position to give the answer at that time, but that he would bring the information to the House when it was available. I now invite the Minister for Transport to give that answer.

Mr RUSHTON (Minister for Transport): The reply is as follows—

- (1) and (2) The fact is that no Total West truck was involved in the unfortunate fatal accident which occurred at Kalgoorlie recently.

If the member wants to know more about the accident, he should talk to the traffic police at Kalgoorlie.

In regard to the country agents of Total West, there may have been some variations between 1 August and 30 September and I would say that changes would not be unusual for any similar large commercial transport concern. I understand Total West employs approximately 120 agents in country areas.

I am very disappointed that the member for Avon either wittingly or unwittingly chooses to continue to make unsubstantiated accusations regarding Total West. This can do damage to a private company's business and put at risk the livelihoods of hundreds of people. When the true situation is checked out it does not place the member in a good light.

I urge him to examine his information before making wild claims in this Parliament. Already the considerable number of false claims he has made have likened him to the little boy who cried "wolf" and nobody now accepts his claims as true.

## HOUSING: INTEREST RATES

*Reduction*

598. Mr WILSON, to the Premier:

I refer to the Premier's comments of a few weeks ago forecasting a possible reduction in house mortgage interest

rates within three months and I ask whether he considers that any such reduction will reflect a fall in the supply price of funds or whether it will reflect deepening recession, and whether he would welcome reduced interest rates in either event.

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

I would welcome reduced interest rates; but no-one would welcome them on the basis of our going into recession.

I do not know to which article the member is referring; but what I indicated was that the interest rates had fallen in the United States of America quite substantially, and they were falling here, and I expected that they would fall as far as housing finance in this State was concerned. In fact, one of the building societies in Western Australia already has announced a drop in the interest rate. I would be surprised if we did not experience other drops before the end of this year, or certainly early in the new year.

## INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION AMENDMENT BILL

*Contradictions*

599. Mr BRIAN BURKE, to the Premier:

This is an attempt to clarify the considerable confusion surrounding the Industrial Arbitration Amendment Bill introduced in another place. I ask—

- (1) Could he explain the apparent contradiction between the indication that he gave after the Cabinet meeting last evening that the Bill would not be proceeded with this week and the fact that the Bill is being dealt with today?
- (2) Can he explain to the House why the Minister handling the Bill says that major amendments are to be made, and yet he says that minor amendments only will be made?

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

- (1) When I was asked after the Cabinet meeting last night if finalisation had been reached on the Bill, I said, "No." I said, "It may not be reached this week. It would depend on the discussions in the party room." Those discussions in the party room today led to the decision that we would proceed with the Bill.

- (2) Mr Masters has given an indication of the amendments that are being made. The Leader of the Opposition can judge for himself whether they are major or minor.

Mr Brian Burke: I just wondered whether you did not know or whether he did not know.

Mr Pearce: Are they the same amendments?

Mr O'CONNOR: The people who were asking if they were major amendments were looking at the position of whether we would go back and not give a free choice as far as unions were concerned. I was trying to indicate that that was not one of the issues on which we were going to renege.

#### RAILWAY: FREMANTLE-PERTH

##### *Decision*

600. Dr DADOUR, to the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Has a decision yet been made on the future of the Fremantle-Perth railway line?
- (2) If a decision has been made, will the situation remain as it is, or will the line be taken up?

Mr RUSHTON replied:

- (1) and (2) The deliberations upon the issue raised by the member have not been completed.

#### EDUCATION

##### *Student Guilds: Legislation*

601. Mr PEARCE, to the Minister for Education:

- (1) Is it a fact, as reported in the higher education supplement of *The Australian* of the week before last, that Government members of Parliament have been told that no further changes will be made to the student guilds legislation?
- (2) If it is a fact, can he let the public and the House in on the secret?

Mr CLARKO replied:

- (1) and (2) If I have the question correctly, the member is asking whether it is a fact that Government members have been told that there will be no further changes this year to the Acts relating to the question of amenities and service fees. The member would be delighted to hear me say on this occasion that this matter is still under active consideration by the Government.

Mr Pearce: Have Government members been told?

Mr CLARKO: It is not my intention to make any comment as to whether members have been told.

#### PREMIERS' CONFERENCE

##### *Outstanding Matters*

602. Mr I. F. TAYLOR, to the Treasurer:

This question is an endeavour to clarify the situation with respect to the question asked by the member for Mt. Hawthorn. It would seem that the Treasurer has confused that question with the one asked earlier by the member for Morley; but they relate to two separate issues dealt with in the Budget speech. I ask—

- (1) In relation to the Budget speech, what are the outstanding points of the Premiers' Conference which are subject to debate and which could deny Western Australia an additional \$12 million this year?
- (2) Does the Treasurer intend to continue to press his case in this matter, and with what chance of success?

Mr O'CONNOR replied:

- (1) and (2) The amount to which the member refers was set aside following the re-arrangement of the tax sharing arrangements with the Commonwealth. An amount was set aside after payments to the various States; and the Commonwealth gave an undertaking that that amount would be distributed to the States on a certain basis. We believe that the Commonwealth has gone back on its undertaking and made the distri-

bution of those funds to the more populous States of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and, I think, South Australia. Tasmania and Western Australia have been left out. It is no secret that under the arrangement made the Commonwealth would have given us something like \$12 million.

We have taken the point to the Prime Minister, and we are pursuing it in an effort to achieve that to which we believe we are entitled.

