

that some of the blame rests perhaps with some over-zealous party members, and anything we can do to stop this practice should be applauded by right-thinking people.

It is the intention of this Bill to place in the hands of the Electoral Department the authority for arranging visits to these places to accept the votes of those capable, and of recording the names of those considered not capable of voting, thus avoiding the posting out of letters asking the reasons for electors not voting which can and does upset some families.

I commend the Bill to the House, because I believe that anything we can do to overcome the advantage that has been taken of some of these people who are not in a fit state to record a vote should be implemented by this House. I am sure there is not one member in the Chamber who will not agree that this does happen, and it is a rather unfair way of taking advantage of the inmates of these rest homes. Quite a number of them are in a mentally retarded condition, and so advantage is being taken of them. I hope, therefore, the Bill will receive the support of the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Nalder (Minister for Agriculture).

## ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE: SPECIAL

MR. BRAND (Greenough—Premier)  
[1.7 a.m.]: I move—

That the House at its rising adjourn until 11 a.m. today (Thursday).

In doing so I would remind honourable members of the joint sitting of both Houses to be held at 10.30 a.m. today in the Legislative Council Chamber for the election of a senator.

Question put and passed.

House adjourned at 1.8 a.m. (Thursday)

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# JOINT SITTING Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly

Thursday, the 26th November, 1964

## CONTENTS

Page

### JOINT SITTING—

Senate Vacancy: Election of Senator .... 3070

## SENATE VACANCY

In accordance with the Standing Orders passed by both Houses of Parliament and approved by Executive Council, the members of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly met in joint sitting in the Legislative Council Chamber to fill the vacancy in the representation of Western Australia in the Senate of the Federal Parliament caused by the death of Senator Victor Seddon Vincent.

The President of the Legislative Council (The Hon. L. C. Diver), in accordance with the Standing Orders, took the Chair at 10.30 a.m. He was accompanied by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly (The Hon. J. M. Hearman).

### Election of Senator

THE PRESIDENT (The Hon. L. C. Diver): This joint sitting has been called to choose a person to hold the place in the Senate of the Commonwealth of Australia rendered vacant by the death of Senator Victor Seddon Vincent, notification of which has been reported to this House by His Excellency the Governor. I now call for nominations to fill the vacancy.

MR. BRAND (Greenough—Premier)  
I move—

That John Peter Sim, farmer, of Chittinup, via Kojonup, be elected to fill the vacancy in the Federal Senate due to the death of Senator Victor Seddon Vincent.

I have Mr. Sim's assurance that, if elected, he is prepared to act.

MR. HAWKE (Northam—Leader of the Opposition): I second the motion. We who constitute the Australian Labor Party members in both Houses of Parliament believe in the principle of nominating, when such nominations become due, as they do in this situation, a member of the same party as that to which the deceased senator belonged. Therefore we follow that principle on this occasion. I would like, if possible, to have an assurance from the Premier, and the Leader of the Country Party, that they also believe in this principle and will follow it in the future.

THE PRESIDENT (The Hon. L. C. Diver): Are there any further nominations? There being no further nominations, I declare Mr. John Peter Sim, farmer, of Chittinup, via Kojonup, duly elected to fill the vacancy in the Senate. That concludes the joint sitting and I thank honourable members for their attendance.

*The President left the Chair*