

I have already said that that will be a recipe for doom for some and poverty for very many others; but it will also affect the Western Australian dairy factories. As milk throughput decreases, they will find that profits will also decrease and they will be hard pressed to maintain employment levels in an already very difficult and competitive industry.

Not only will dairy farmers certainly go out of business—and that is acknowledged by all in the industry, as well as by the Minister for Agriculture in this State—but people involved in the production side of the industry are also threatened with the loss of their jobs.

The whole basis of all this is that John Kerin has the misguided view that Australia is better served if the ultimate price of dairy products in Australia is brought down to the same level as those in New Zealand. Therefore Australian dairy farmers will sell their product at the same level as farmers in New Zealand irrespective of what happens within the New Zealand industry. This will certainly bring chaos and be a recipe for disaster in Western Australia.

These are very serious matters, and the Western Australian Government has an obligation to put the case more forcibly on behalf of Western Australia. As it has failed to do that, the obligation now rests very firmly with the State to ensure that it arranges for the 1.5c per litre levy, or whatever it might be, to be paid for by the State in the interests of the State's dairy industry. It could be by way of a charge on consumers, and I would support that; but unless that happens there will not be a dairy industry as we currently know it in this State—it is facing demise.

I believe the amendment is very soundly based and I have much pleasure in supporting it.

Amendment put and a division taken with the following result—

| Ayes 23      |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| Mr Blaikie   | Mr MacKinnon |
| Mr Bradshaw  | Mr Mensaros  |
| Mr Cash      | Mr Nalder    |
| Mr Clarko    | Mr Rushton   |
| Mr Court     | Mr Schell    |
| Mr Cowan     | Mr Stephens  |
| Mr Crane     | Mr Thompson  |
| Mr Hassell   | Mr Trenorden |
| Mr House     | Mr Tubby     |
| Mr Laurance  | Mr Watt      |
| Mr Lewis     | Mr Williams  |
| Mr Lightfoot |              |

(Teller)

#### Noes 29

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Mrs Beggs        | Dr Lawrence    |
| Mr Bertram       | Mr Marlborough |
| Mr Bridge        | Mr Parker      |
| Mr Bryce         | Mr Pearce      |
| Mr Brian Burke   | Mr Read        |
| Mr Terry Burke   | Mr D. L. Smith |
| Mr Burkett       | Mr Taylor      |
| Mr Carr          | Mr Thomas      |
| Mr Peter Dowding | Mr Tonkin      |
| Mr Evans         | Mr Troy        |
| Dr Gallop        | Mrs Watkins    |
| Mr Grill         | Dr Watson      |
| Mrs Henderson    | Mr Wilson      |
| Mr Gordon Hill   | Mrs Buchanan   |
| Mr Tom Jones     |                |

(Teller)

#### Pairs

| Ayes           | Noes       |
|----------------|------------|
| Mr Hodge       | Mr Grayden |
| Mr P. J. Smith | Mr Spriggs |

Amendment thus negatived.

#### Point of Order

Mr COWAN: Mr Speaker, may I ask you whether you intend to take questions now, or at a predetermined time?

The SPEAKER: It is my intention to take questions at the earliest available opportunity. It is my intention before doing so to make a short statement to the House. It is appropriate for somebody now to move the adjournment of this debate.

#### Motion Resumed

Debate adjourned until a later stage of the sitting, on motion by Mr Pearce (Leader of the House).

### UNPARLIAMENTARY BEHAVIOUR

#### Statement by the Speaker

**THE SPEAKER** (Mr Barnett): It is probably timely that, at this early stage of my responsibilities as Speaker of the House, I should say a few words about what I expect from members in the matter of behaviour and decorum within the House.

As members already know, I am not the sort of person who enjoys being heavy-handed about rule making or telling other people what they must or must not do. Probably, the easiest course for me to take would be to sit back and allow the House to set out its own standards of behaviour and I suppose, in the ultimate, that is what will be arrived at anyway.

However, I do feel it to be my duty to seek to uphold the traditions of the parliamentary institution and to seek, where possible, the im-

provement of those traditions, rather than lowering the standards that have been observed in this House.

I am concerned that the image of Parliament which is in the minds of the public at large is at times very poor, indeed. All too often there have been reports in the media of insulting words and unruly behaviour which have, at times, led to members being suspended and the image of the institution diminished. I earnestly hope that this will not be the case during the time that I am Speaker. My hopes and wishes in that area cannot be fulfilled without the support of you, the members.

To be a little specific, I particularly deplore the use of what we all know as "unparliamentary" expressions. It is a pity that so often it is necessary for the Presiding Officer to determine whether or not particular words are "unparliamentary". If we try really hard we should be able to debate issues without descending to verbal abuse of one another.

We are here to represent the community at large and in doing so we will, from time to time, have different points of view about the issues before us. My intention is to allow those issues to be debated as freely as they must in a parliamentary democracy. What I am anxious to avoid is the attack upon the personalities, either of other members or, even as has sometimes been the case, people who are not members of this House.

I appreciate that Parliament cannot be isolated from the pressures existing in the community and there will, at times, be moments when people feel very strongly about the points they are trying to make. All I ask is that the various Standing Orders and practices which have already been established in this House be observed and if this is done, I shall make it my earnest endeavour to enable the debate to flow as freely as possible.

I ask members to remember that it is the duty of the Chair to protect the member who has been given the call by the Chair. It is not my intention to attempt to ban interjections completely. Such a step, although technically possible and theoretically correct, would do a lot of damage to the interest and colour of the debates in this place. However, I will not tolerate other members repetitiously shouting down the member who has been given the call and will take whatever action is open to me to see that behaviour of that type does not occur or, should it ever occur, is severely dealt with.

I appreciate that I have been Speaker of this House for a relatively short time but, nevertheless, accept it as my responsibility to say these things now so that all members have a fair warning of what they might expect from the Chair during the time that I have the honour of holding this position.

The assistance of member of both sides of the House in helping me to achieve these aims will be greatly appreciated.

[Questions taken.]

*Sitting suspended from 6.00 to 7.15 p.m.*

#### ADDRESS-IN-REPLY: SECOND DAY

*Motion*

Debate resumed from an earlier stage of the sitting.

**MR COWAN** (Merredin) [7.15 p.m.]: I have already conveyed to you, Mr Speaker, my congratulations on behalf of the National Party. May I convey to you again on my own behalf my congratulations and express the hope that you have a very successful three years in that position. I assure you that members of my party will certainly give you treatment equally as fair as that which you give to them.

The **SPEAKER**: Thank you very much.

**Mr COWAN**: It gives me a great deal of pleasure to be joined in the Parliament by the four new members of the National Party of Australia in this House and a new member in another place. We have the record of being the only party which doubled its parliamentary representation at the last election.

**Mr Brian Burke**: You started from a fairly low base.

**Mr COWAN**: We accept that, but nevertheless we are very pleased to be able to add to the numbers and recover the ground lost by a rural-based party over a period of some years. I can say with great conviction that the resurrection of the three-party system in Western Australia has been at some cost. Once upon a time the member for Stirling and I were easily able to conduct our meetings during the parliamentary session by remaining on the back bench and discussing tactics. Now it is a little different, and because we have an expanded membership some of the decisions taken by the party have had a degree of pain attached to them.

**Mr Bryce**: We will look to see who is there after afternoon tea on Thursday.