

of civil defence training and planning has been initiated. The State Emergency Service is being extended and integrated with the civil defence organisation.

Legislation to be placed before you, other than already mentioned, will include—

Bills to amend—

Companies Act;
Licensing Act;
Judges' Salaries and Pensions Act;
Legal Practitioners' Act;
Associations Incorporation Act;

A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Business Names;

A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Trustees.

I now declare this session of Parliament open and trust that Providence may bless your labours.

His Excellency and members of the Legislative Assembly then withdrew from the Chamber, and the President resumed the Chair.

SWEARING-IN OF MEMBER

THE PRESIDENT (The Hon. L. C. Diver) [3.40 p.m.]: I wish to inform the House that on the 23rd May, 1962, I administered the Oath of Allegiance to The Hon. Harry Charles Strickland who had been re-elected as a member for the North Province and who was then leaving for overseas.

ASSOCIATIONS INCORPORATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Leave to Introduce

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (Suburban—Minister for Mines) [3.41 p.m.]: In order to assert and maintain the undoubted rights and privileges of the House to initiate legislation I move, without notice—

That leave be given to introduce a Bill for an Act to amend the Associations Incorporation Act, 1895-1957.

Question put and passed; leave granted.

Introduction and First Reading

Bill introduced, on motion by **The Hon. A. F. Griffith** (Minister for Mines), and read a first time.

GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

Distribution of Copies

THE PRESIDENT (The Hon. L. C. Diver) [3.42 p.m.]: For the sake of greater accuracy, I have obtained from His Excellency the Governor copies of the Speech he has been pleased to deliver to Parliament. These will be distributed amongst members.

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY: FIRST DAY

Motion

THE HON. H. R. ROBINSON (Suburban) [3.44 p.m.]: I move—

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

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

I will preface my remarks by congratulating you, Sir, on being elected as President of this Council. It was the unanimous decision of the members of this Council that you be elected to the position, and I feel sure that it is because of your good judgment and the manner in which you have filled the position in the past that you have again been elected. I congratulate you on your elevation to that office once again.

All those who listened to the Speech delivered by His Excellency today must have been impressed by the spirit of optimism shown by His Excellency. The Speech is a story of Western Australia on the march; it shows progress within our State and indicates an exciting new era when industry and all the associated functionings of the State are marching ahead. The standard gauge railway, too, will play an important part.

This morning I was reading through the remarks made last year by The Hon. H. K. Watson when he formally moved the motion for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply. He said that he felt the opening of Parliament should be televised throughout the length and breadth of the State so that the message contained in His Excellency's Speech could be conveyed to everybody. This year we have a direct telecast from the Chamber, and I believe it is a good thing to keep the people informed of the happenings of Parliament.

There are several points about which I would like to speak and which are covered in His Excellency's Speech. Reference was made to the east-west road. In my view the Premier should be given every possible encouragement to obtain additional funds for the completion of this road. Quite a considerable sum has already been spent on the Eyre Highway, and I believe that the time is now opportune to press the Commonwealth for additional funds—something like £12,000,000 is required to complete the highway. Other States are linked by highways and it is only logical that Western Australia, too,

should be linked with the Eastern States by a properly constructed highway. Not only will this road be of national importance but it will also be a great aid to tourism in this State. Already five motels are either under construction or have been built.

A brief reference was made in the Speech to town planning and the Metropolitan Region Town Planning Scheme, the supporting report of which is now in the hands of the Government. It is gratifying to know that such progress has been made. Town planning is of great importance to the progress of a State, and I believe that every effort should be made and encouragement given to those experts who are planning our State. We now stand where Sydney stood 80 years ago, and our experts should be able to obviate the mistakes that were made there and in other places.

In reality town planning as envisaged in the Stephenson-Hepburn report of 1955 is now being implemented under the interim development order, and steps are being taken under that order to proceed with the provision of a road system throughout the metropolitan area. I refer in particular to the western switch road, for which work land is now being acquired. The same applies to open spaces, and I feel sure that the sooner the whole matter is placed before Parliament the better it will be for the progress of town planning. We should do nothing to hamper the progress made by our experts in this field.

The Swan River Conservation Board has done a good job with the limited finance at its disposal. The Swan River—and I refer particularly to its upper reaches—is a great heritage of the people and, in my view, some consideration should be given to the plans that have been made for foreshore development. Those plans should be developed in conjunction with the construction of the Swan River drive, which is recommended for high priority under the Stephenson Plan.

The Local Government Act, which came into operation on the 1st July of last year, is a great step forward in local government in Western Australia. Previously local governing authorities operated under either the Road Districts Act or the Municipal Corporations Act, and there were many anomalies. There are still anomalies under the new Act, as I have found from personal experience; and, as His Excellency said today, some amendments are necessary. However, generally speaking, the new Local Government Act will make history in local government circles in Western Australia.

To get back to the first part of His Excellency's Speech, I believe I express the feelings of all Western Australians when I say how pleased we are at the proposed visit to Australia of Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke

of Edinburgh next year, and also at the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh to open the British Empire and Commonwealth Games in our State this year. We are indeed honoured, and we pledge our complete loyalty and assure them of a warm welcome in this State of ours.

THE HON. J. M. THOMSON (South) [3.54 p.m.]: I formally second the motion.

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

House adjourned at 3.55 p.m.

Legislative Assembly

Thursday, the 26th July, 1962

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