

HOSPITALS, CAPITAL WORKS FUNDING

**683. Mr M.F. BOARD to the Minister for Health:**

- (1) Is the minister aware that the emergency department redevelopments and upgrades at Swan District Hospital; the general ward upgrades at Royal Perth, King Edward Memorial, Fremantle and Princess Margaret Hospitals; construction of the Geraldton Hospital, the paediatric ward at Albany Regional Hospital and the new dental clinic at Joondalup Health Campus; and the expansion of surgery facilities at Princess Margaret Hospital announced by the Premier on Sunday were all announced in last year's budget?
- (2) Is the minister also aware that the emergency departments at Sir Charles Gairdner and Princess Margaret Hospitals and Rockingham-Kwinana Health Service were all announced in the minister's press releases during the year to be completed by now, yet most have not started?
- (3) Will the minister admit that his Government is recycling unspent capital works funding on projects that are at least one year old?

**Mr R.C. KUCERA replied:**

(1)-(3) Mr Speaker -

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I call to order the members for Kalgoorlie and Vasse and the Leader of the Opposition for the first time. It is unacceptable to hear a barrage of complaints about the minister's answer before he utters one word.

Mr R.C. KUCERA: An advertisement for that very famous Australian icon, Mortein, used the words "When you're on a good thing, stick to it."

I do not apologise for the fact that at long last this Government has -

Several members interjected.

Mr R.C. KUCERA: Is it not amazing. I listened with great interest to the literary knowledge of the Minister for Education and Training on Dante's *Inferno*. I am amazed when I look at the two members on the front benches opposite. Over Easter I was very fortunate to meet a number of Western Australians at Rottnest Island when I managed to take a day off, which is unusual for a health minister. While I was sitting outside the famous Rottnest bakery, I ordered one of the Rottnest pies. It was fantastic. I had a bit of crust left and while I was sitting there, just above me -

*Point of Order*

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: We have a very limited question time today. I ask that the minister make his answers relevant to the question.

The SPEAKER: The actual question was somewhat lengthy as well. I ask the minister to get to the answer because we have only 16 minutes left.

*Questions without Notice Resumed*

Mr R.C. KUCERA: I will not refer to Dante's inferno. Members opposite should sit outside the Rottnest bakery and listen to the big black crows constantly carping. Underneath them are the birds that get on with the real job - the little seagulls that pinch the bit of tucker we give them while the crows are left in the air making a noise. That is what we have in this place.

I said clearly, "When you're on a good thing, stick to it." We are fixing the health system and we are getting on with it.