

It is obvious that the Fremantle eastern bypass forms a vital, indeed imperative, component of the major road network for this part of the metropolitan region. As a matter of urgency the reservation must be reinstated to ensure that there is a firm commitment to that facility. Planning can then continue against the knowledge that the bypass will be constructed.

The strength of objections raised at the time of the amendment to remove the Fremantle eastern bypass reservation should have signalled to the former Government that its actions were not prudent. Apart from the State Planning Commission, the Main Roads Department, the Department of Transport and the Department of State Development all made strong representations against the proposed deletion, as did the Fremantle Port Authority.

Furthermore, objections were not confined to agencies of the State. They were also expressed by local government authorities in the area - the Cities of Melville, Cockburn and Rockingham, and the Kwinana Town Council. Public reaction at the time was also weighted in favour of the retention of the reservation. More recently, since publicising the Government's intention to reintroduce this important road link, I have received numerous letters of support from community groups and individuals, including a former Australian Labor Party Legislative Council member, Garry Kelly, who wrote -

"... I support your proposal to legislate the reinstatement of the reserve. It will allow a rational and reasoned debate on the transport needs of Fremantle to proceed with all options on the table".

What has come through in these representations is support for my view that the negative consequences of removing the alignment of the Fremantle eastern bypass are obvious. First, as already indicated, without the bypass there will be a serious gap in the road network of the region impinging on the balance of the network and affecting planning decisions over a much wider area. Second, there will be severe constraints upon the ability of the port and local industry to increase their contributions to the region's economy. But perhaps even more importantly there will be a detrimental impact on the quality of life of people living in this part of Fremantle. This will result from predominantly residential streets being forced to carry through-traffic seeking to filter its way to destinations in the Fremantle area, or trying to get back to other parts of the road network.

Furthermore, unwanted traffic in residential areas could not be discouraged by the use of traffic calming devices as no alternative routes would exist. From every viewpoint, therefore, the decision taken by the former Government to remove the reservation for the Fremantle eastern bypass from the metropolitan region scheme was without justification.

This Bill seeks to correct just one of the shortsighted approaches to planning taken by the former Government. I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr Leahy.

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY

Motion

Debate resumed from 23 June.

DR HAMES (Dianella) [11.41 am]: I have been advised by the member for Vasse, Mr Barry Blaikie, that it would be of enormous benefit to my future political career to congratulate you, Mr Speaker, on your election to the position of Speaker, and enormously harmful not to do so. That being the case please accept my warmest and heartfelt congratulations!

The old saying, "If my mother could see me now" has a special meaning for me today, the day of my first parliamentary speech. My mother had always wanted me to be a lawyer or a politician, mainly because I spent most of my early years arguing with all and sundry, especially with her. Unfortunately my mother passed away unexpectedly when she was only 51 years old. I therefore dedicate this maiden speech to her memory. I also pay tribute to my father, Dr Reg Hames, who taught me the importance of perseverance and determination by his own example. My father was 29 years old, married with children, working in the north west as a stockman, a butcher and on the main road and with only a Junior Certificate to his name, when the first medical school in Western Australia was opened. Having decided that he wanted to become a doctor, and despite advice from all sides that it was impossible,

my father came to Perth with his family. He studied and passed his final years of high school, did seven years of medicine, and moved to set up a private practice in Wagin, where he worked for many years. I can only hope that I share those qualities which saw both my parents through such difficult times.

My early years in Derby bring back fond memories, especially weekends which were spent mostly with my many Aboriginal friends. We moved to Perth when I was five years old and I attended primary school at Bassendean, then Dianella, and high school at Guildford Grammar. Of great importance to my outlook on life was the opportunity throughout my school and university years to spend holiday times out of Perth working on my uncle's and father's farms, mining around Kalgoorlie at Sandstone, Agnew and in the North Kalgurli mine and on Cockatoo Island. Following graduation in medicine in 1976 I worked in Bunbury and Geraldton before taking over my father's medical practice in Bedford.

While no formal qualifications are required to be a member of Parliament I hope that my diverse background and my eight years on the Bayswater City Council will be of great benefit to me in serving my constituents. Before talking about the electorate of Dianella I will take the time to thank my predecessor, Keith Wilson. He was elected to Dianella as the first clergyman in State Parliament in 1977. I pay tribute to the enormous contribution he made both to his electorate and the State of Western Australia and also thank him for his courteous and cooperative conduct following his defeat. While I did not always agree with his views I have great admiration for the way he always stood up for those things in which he believed. Thanks must also go to my wife and family who, with my team of helpers, worked tirelessly. Without their support I doubt I would have been successful in winning against such a popular opponent. I especially thank my campaign manager, Mr Paddy Thompson, and my doorknocking partner, Christian Allier, for their enormous personal effort in the many months prior to the elections.

To help formulate my maiden speech I sought help from the year 6 children of the Yokine Primary School, whom I had met during their tour of Parliament House. Who better to ask for their views on the future needs of the electorate of Dianella and of Western Australia than children, whose opinions are unaffected by any political allegiance? Their responses were wide ranging and show, I think, that children have a far greater appreciation of life than we give them credit for. Vicky, Nicholas, Jodie, Bradley and Toya all felt that shops should be opened later at night. Timothy and Jenelle, both of Yokine, have requested more recycling in the City of Stirling. Amy would like tougher laws imposed on shoplifters and for thefts. Kiryna and her family would like to see sewerage in her street, not literally I hope, while Nicole said, "My Grandma is on septic and we wish we were on sewerage." She also said, "People keep drawing graffiti on my Grandma's wall. Please stop it!" The two most consistent requests from the students were (a) a rollerblade track in Yokine Park - I hope the Stirling Councillors are receptive - and (b) better care of the environment, for which there were many requests. Maria writes, "The lake in Yokine Reserve is black, dirty and smelly and sewerage flows through it", while Kate says, "I would like the lake in Yokine reserve clean because animals drink from there and get diseases."

The children of today are for more aware of environmental concerns than ever before. It is their future we must protect in caring for our environment. As members can see, views were expressed on many issues presented to me and others were too numerous to include. However, I have saved my favourite to read today in total -

Dear Dr Hames,

My name is Jared Furtado and I am a student at Yokine Primary School. I have some ideas for your speech at the first Parliament Meeting. Here are some of my ideas:

1. As I walk down the street now I see heaps of units and flats. I can understand that most people are on the doll and they can't afford a house, but isn't this going a bit too far? Too many flats are going in the one block which makes them smaller and every empty block I see, some builder is talking about building units.
2. At the Supermarkets there are to many people and yet way to less checkouts. Mum sends me off to talk to the lady in the florist because of this, she is rather boring! Please try to get more checkouts!

I sure do hope my ideas have been of some assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely
Jared (BORED) Furtado.

P.S. I think your going to be an excellent M.P. as long as you do something about the lady in the Florist!

I would like to thank Jared and his teacher, Mrs Stocks, and all the children from Yokine year 6 who wrote to me, and hope that all members of Parliament take heed and listen to the children as I believe that their views strongly reflect the views of the community as a whole. The community is crying out for change - change to our management of juvenile crime, to our health system, and to support for our senior citizens, who have become increasingly vulnerable. My personal view is that both the State Government and the community must place greater importance on family values and that lack of these traditional values is contributing enormously to the breakdown of our society.

Having spoken on the subject of the environment, I would like to discuss environmental management. Management of our environment has always been an issue in which I have had a great interest, and on my departure from the Bayswater City Council many stated that the greens representative had gone. As I have already mentioned, there is no doubt that the children of Yokine Primary School, and any other children for that matter including my own, are, through the help of the media and school education, far more aware of environmental issues than ever before. It seems from my own attitudes to the environment that this education process must have started many years ago, and I commend those who have been active in bringing to our attention the importance of environmental management. I thought that I would need to fight to make the coalition parties more aware of environmental issues, but I must admit that I have been pleasantly surprised by similar pro-environmental attitudes held by a great many of my colleagues. There is no doubt that the coalition is not well regarded by the environmental movement at this stage, but I believe this attitude will change with time. Environmental groups say that they support sustainable development, and I strongly agree with that view. It is essential for the creation of jobs that we continue to develop in Western Australia, but it is just as important that in doing so we carefully safeguard our environment for future generations.

Of particular importance to me and to the electorate of Dianella is the problem of lack of deep sewerage. Almost half my electorate and 25 per cent of the metropolitan area is unsewered and, at the current rate of installation of infill sewerage, it will never be completed. I place on record my strong support for an environmental levy, on the condition that it be placed in a special fund and used only for infill sewerage, and not transferred for use in other areas. It was always thought that the sandy soils of Western Australia could easily cope with septic systems, but this is now shown not to be the case, particularly in areas such as Morley which has a very high water table. Not only is there great expense for residents, with some needing to pump out their septic systems two or three times a year, but also there is an enormous environmental danger, with significant nutrient load in the Bayswater main drain emptying into the Swan River. It should be remembered that 40 per cent of our domestic water comes from underground sources, and we just cannot risk contamination of this supply. I realise that this proposed levy may be seen as unfair to those whose properties are already on sewerage, but there is no alternative source of funding which would be adequate. As a Government we must therefore make the choice: Either apply the levy to all Western Australians, or accept the current environmental damage which will continue unabated without infill sewerage. For too long this problem has been put in the too hard basket. I for one will not accept the continuation of this practice.

I also address the issue of working conditions for our State Police Force. Successive Governments, our own included, have continued to push for increasing Police Force numbers as the major method of seeking to reduce the level of crime in our society. There is no doubt that the rate of crime has increased enormously in recent years, and there is general agreement that increased police numbers are required to control this disturbing trend. Programs such as Neighbourhood Watch and Industrial Watch have been of great benefit, and community policing programs have drawn communities together to help police and each other in the fight against crime. Despite the public outcry against the crime rate, and the demand from all sections of the community that something be done, we continue to

drastically underresource our Police Force. We call on our police for efficiency, yet in my electorate the Morley Police Station - the third biggest centre in the metropolitan area - has 24 officers housed in a police station originally designed for eight. In a small adjoining building nine operational detectives are crammed into one room in a building which measures a ridiculously small 48 square metres. Police facilities throughout the State are old and poorly maintained, with working conditions and technology totally inadequate to allow for efficient use of their manpower. I find it difficult to believe that this problem has not been addressed in the past, and I call on all members of Parliament to support me in trying to resolve this situation.

Improvement in efficiency, in the productivity of the work force, is the catchcry of the decade, and yet we fail to provide our Police Force with equipment and facilities which I believe would not only enormously improve its ability to react far more quickly and efficiently to the massive current crime rate, but also allow it the time and opportunity to be proactive in the prevention of crime. The Police Department needs a regular source of income for equipment, separate from the vagaries of the annual budget sources. I suggest that all funds generated by the recent proceeds of crime legislation be placed in a special fund for this purpose rather than disappear into Treasury coffers. There is also a need for a change of attitude by Government, a change which recognises and addresses the sadly neglected condition of our Police Force and realises that no other State Government department would be prepared to continue to work in similar conditions. I do not seek to address the many measures which must be undertaken to better manage the problem of crime, but I believe that without a Police Force with adequate facilities and equipment all other reform programs will flounder, and crime will continue its rampage through society.

What do I see as the future of Western Australia? What future for ourselves and our children do I believe I should work for during my time in Parliament? I must say from the outset that I still believe we are the lucky country, and all who share my love for Western Australia would, I am sure, not wish to live anywhere else in the world. I have seen personally the pollution in Russia and the effects of the Chernobyl disaster. I have seen the abject poverty of Bangladesh, and the living conditions in Europe and Asia. While I am sure those inhabitants love their own countries, to me there is no place like Western Australia. Yet still there is pessimism and depression. I believe that no matter which Government is in power, and no matter how poorly or how well one thinks it manages the economy, it is we as individuals who will decide our future. It is our determination to work hard, our confidence and optimism, and our ingenuity and creativity that will shape our future. It is our care for the management of the environment, without putting the importance of financial benefits before that care, which will determine the future for our children. It is not wise that we continue to make products in which our neighbours excel, and try to prop up those industries through subsidies. There are many areas in which we excel, such as mining, medicine, education, tourism, aquiculture and some areas of manufacturing and engineering. It is time to be proud and promote our achievements, our multicultural society, our stable Government and our quality of life.

In particular, I believe strongly in the enormous potential for tourism, especially in those parts of the State where Aboriginal culture and history and their deep affinity for the land can be shown with pride by the Aborigines themselves, as the original guardians of our country. I do not, however, support the concept that large tracts of Western Australia should be given back to the Aboriginal people through Mabo-style claims, despite the fact that they were the first inhabitants of our land. Aboriginal people should, however, be given freehold title to those significant parts of the land which are currently contained in Aboriginal leases. These leased areas, which represent about 10 per cent of the State, contain the traditional homes of the Aboriginal communities, and granting security of title with special conditions to recognise their unique circumstances will ensure that they have complete control of their land. Giving native title to Aborigines for a large portion of Western Australia may seem to compensate the Aboriginal people for past wrongs, but it will significantly increase the conflict between them and other Western Australians. It will reopen old wounds which should be healing, and will severely hamper the development and prosperity of our State. Ownership of land is precious to people throughout the world. Let us hold onto what is ours and treasure it, and work together to protect and care for the rest of our State for the benefit of all Western Australians.

In conclusion, Mr Speaker, I thank the members of the House for their forbearance, the electors of Dianella for their support, and the people of Western Australia for the future I believe they will provide for future generations.

[Applause.]

MR DAY (Darling Range) [12 noon]: Mr Speaker, in my first address to this Parliament, like the member for Dianella I congratulate you on your election to the important position you now occupy. I wish you success in fulfilling the requirements of the office, particularly in maintaining appropriate standards, while nevertheless allowing issues to be debated passionately and fully.

I regard it as an honour and a privilege to be elected as a member of this House. Standing here today takes me back 21 years to my first visit to this Parliament. I was still at school and my late father arranged for me to visit Parliament for my general education and because of his interest in the democratic process. The date was 11 May 1972. I remember it well because while I was sitting in the Public Gallery in this Chamber the State's longest serving Premier, Sir David Brand, made an address in which he announced his retirement as Leader of the Liberal Party and, therefore, as Leader of the Opposition. Sir David Brand was Premier of Western Australia for most of my childhood, and the occasion remains clear in my mind today. As Premier from 1959 to 1971, together with his long time Minister for the North West and Industrial Development, Sir Charles Court, as he was later to become, and other members of successive coalition Governments, he oversaw a period of great economic growth and development in this State. I was interested to read his last speech to this House as leader in June 1972 in which he said -

This is a great State with a wonderful future. It will only remain great if we believe in its future and in the vast opportunities that lie ahead. It will remain great if we are prepared to work and to produce in order that we may be able to enjoy a better way of life. We must recognise ourselves as part of a team that must produce something out of this country, be we unionists or millionaires. We have to produce more and more before we are entitled to ask for more and more.

It would be difficult to find a set of words which more aptly describe our situation today, although these days I am not sure that being a unionist and a millionaire are mutually exclusive. I succeed Hon Ian Thompson as the member for Darling Range. Ian was first elected in 1971 and at the time of his retirement had served for 22 years. For most of that time he was a member of the Liberal Party, but in 1989 he decided to part company with the party. Although I know that action disappointed many of his supporters within the Liberal Party, Ian is widely regarded as a member who vigorously and capably represented his constituency. He also played a pivotal role in the operations of this Chamber as Speaker for six years until 1983. I am sure that all members wish Ian and his wife Margaret a fulfilling retirement.

I would not be standing here today without having had the help of many people. I thank the electorate of Darling Range for their clear expression of confidence in both me as the Liberal candidate and the Liberal Party generally. I thank the members of the Liberal Party for giving me the opportunity of representing the party in the election and also the members and supporters of the campaign committee, headed by Mrs Dawn Stratton, who worked so hard over the 18 months that I was a candidate. I also thank my fellow members and the officers of the House who have assisted me since the election. There is no doubt that parliamentary and political life imposes pressures on families, particularly those with young and school aged children, which would not otherwise exist. I especially thank my wife Leigh for her support and encouragement before and since the election. My children are a little young to fully appreciate the implications of my current position, although after the past couple of days and nights I think they are rapidly becoming aware. I thank Christopher James and Olivia for their forbearance so far and I look forward to their learning about the processes of democracy through my involvement.

I owe a great debt to my parents for continually putting the interests and education of their two children before all else. I am pleased that my mother is here today, but sadly my father died when I was 17 years old. My father spent most of his working life in the Commonwealth Bank but regarded the years he spent in the Australian Army around the time of the Second World War as one of the proudest periods of his life. In October last year I