

of the area as defined in the Traffic Act were surveyed, it would include about 550 square miles. The cost of such an aerial survey, including the cost of preparation of maps, is about £10 per square mile. So the outside cost of such a survey would be about £5,000. Such an aerial survey would involve the taking of about 3,000 air photographs, and these would be placed together to form one large map. Taking a scale of, say, 60ft. to the square inch, a map of 15ft. by 11ft. would be the result. That map could be hung in the Public Works Department and would be available for inspection. It would be very helpful to Ministers and to those local authorities who require maps of that description. It would not be necessary for a local authority to buy the whole map, for the map would be prepared in sections of from 30 inches to 20 inches. The original negatives being available, the Government Printer could take off any copies that were required, and they would be available for sale to the public and to local authorities. Aerial photographic survey is by no means a new process. It has been recognised in Great Britain and in Africa, and its value has been recognised in this State also. I recall that when Mr. Stileman was Engineer-in-Chief he advocated an aerial survey, and I believe that the Conservator of Forests agreed with the proposal, and that the Town Planning Commissioner has since advocated it. Recently an aerial survey was taken by the Western Mining Company. I am of opinion that this is a matter of considerable importance, and one that should receive some consideration when the Estimates are being prepared.

The Minister for Agriculture: They are taking one now in the North.

Hon. P. D. Ferguson: And the hon. member knew that.

Mr. CROSS: I did not.

Hon. P. D. Ferguson: And that is why he is suggesting it.

Mr. CROSS: I am suggesting it because every section of the community is hampered by the lack of up-to-date maps, and because it would not only have an historic value but because it would be of general service to every section of the community and particularly to Government departments. So I hope the Government will give consideration to the taking of an aerial

survey of the metropolitan area. There are several other things to which I should like to draw attention, but one that I must refer to is the question of Lassetter's Reef.

Hon. C. G. Latham: We have been looking for that for a long while.

Hon. P. D. Ferguson: We ought to have an aerial survey made of it.

Mr. CROSS: I am very pleased with the attitude the Minister adopted in connection with that reef. I deplore the fact that any such scheme should exist that would possibly have the effect of preventing outside capital and people from investing in our gold mines. I honestly believe there is any amount of scope for the investment of capital in this State. I suggest that if a company were formed, either in Australia or in Britain, there is plenty of scope for prospecting the possibilities of this State, and many areas for the prospecting of which companies could be formed. If such a company were formed, with a capital of a million pounds, they could prospect by boring in some very promising areas, as for instance, that between Coolgardie and Widgiemooltha. I believe that if the capital were raised and the company were systematically to sink 500 or 600 holes they would be terribly unlucky if they did not find three or four good mines. Such a scheme has great possibilities, and I hope the Government will do everything possible during their tenure of office to render every assistance to that most profitable of all industries, the goldmining industry.

MR. SHEARN (Maylands) [7.56]: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Marshall: You must stand right up when you address the Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. SHEARN: If the hon. member will keep quiet for a little while, I will endeavour to show him that I believe, Sir, you are entirely capable of controlling the House. Also I think that as an old member, the member for Murchison might well have been prepared to extend courtesy to a new member. However, judging by his conduct since I have been in the House, one would look in vain for anything like that. But I am speaking under some difficulty, because I am only just recovering from a very severe cold, and I therefore trust that the hon. member will not seek to antagonise me more than seems to him necessary. I have had

to deal with interruptions elsewhere, and I do not for a moment think the hon. member's interruptions will be more formidable than others I have already met. I wish to associate myself, Sir, in the congratulations and good wishes extended to you by other speakers. I am in some degree qualified to do this, because I have had the privilege of meeting you outside; and so although I have had but little chance of appraising you in your honourable position of Speaker, I feel certain that you will administer that position with great honour to yourself and with satisfaction to us all. It is not my intention to address myself at any length to the motion before the House, as I assume from information I have received that I will have opportunity at a later stage to refer to many matters of general interest to the State and particular interest to my own electorate. Also I am reminded that the member for Katanning (Mr. Watts) made an appropriate reference to a practical reform. Without having any desire to proffer advice, it would appear from the addresses I have listened to that much good would accrue from a reasonable curtailment of the debate on the Address-in-reply. It would give the Government opportunity to present to the House measures dealing with major problems that they have before them. At this juncture—a very crucial one—I am always taking note of the fact that subsequently we shall have opportunity to deal with all the matters that are raised in a debate such as this one. For that reason I am hoping that the suggestion made by the member for Katanning, which I have the temerity now to support, may bear fruit in the near future. Again there is another aspect that occurs to me as one interested in politics previous to securing a seat in the House, I mean as an occasional reader of "Hansard." There appears to have been in the past—and one might reasonably assume that it will recur—experience of legislation being introduced into this Chamber at a very late stage of the session, and either dealt with in undue haste or held over on account of the necessary adjournment that takes place at Christmas time. I support what the member for Katanning said, hoping that that weakness will be corrected. I wish to direct attention to the gradual increase in taxation, some of which is voluntary. I submit that the claim of the Government that they have not increased taxation cannot be successfully sustained. While

they have attempted to free from the incidence of the financial emergency tax those on the basic wage who will now be brought within the range of the tax, they have practically doubled the emergency tax on other sections of the community. As a result they received last year from the financial emergency tax a sum of over £800,000, and as there are returns yet to be assessed, that amount will undoubtedly be increased. It will be admitted that the Government have been most fortunate in that they have received the advantage of the reduced interest rates on loans overseas; that they have enjoyed considerable freedom from the need for finding moneys for hospitals, and that they have been generally relieved by the operations of the Lotteries Commission. With other hon. members I am afraid that that institution will be with us for quite a long time. The Lotteries have been the means of assisting many charities which otherwise would have had to call for Government assistance in order to ensure their continuance. In addition the Government have received over £800,000 from the Commonwealth by way of disabilities grant. The ordinary taxes such as income, dividend, duties, etc., have returned marked increases. The Railways have benefited from the operation of the State Transport Co-ordination Act, and practically all public utilities have improved considerably and therefore have assisted to swell Government funds. In the circumstances, surely the fact that the financial year closed with a surplus can create no surprise in the mind of one who takes into account the facts I have mentioned. It is plain, however, that through taxation, private investments and expansion of industries which are expected to provide exports for the State's existence are being hampered, and the position is being gradually forced on the State of recognising a large organisation of permanent unemployed. If we are to expect the provision of employment to be possible, with any degree of success, outside of Government services, it is imperative that taxation be closely reviewed and lightened wherever possible and practicable, in order that money may be available for expansion and to increase the private employment of the masses. I take this opportunity to draw attention to the unsatisfactory tram service on the Walcott-street route and the urgent necessity, apart from its due extension, of duplication from Beaufort-street. This would obviate

the great inconvenience and loss of time occasioned to residents of that part of Mt. Lawley and North Perth who have no other means of transport. In this regard I feel that I can support the member for Victoria Park in that where single lines exist they should be duplicated, or that a trolley bus service would be far more expeditious and generally more satisfactory than the tram service we have. I am not concerned as to whether it is to be a duplication of the tram line or the institution of a trolley bus service. What I am concerned about, and what the people in the locality are concerned about is the question of additional facilities. Another matter to which I wish to make brief reference is that of the lack of school facilities in Mt. Lawley and the adjacent territory. It is probably known to metropolitan members, and possibly to some country members, that in the Mt. Lawley-North Perth territory are large numbers of children of tender age who are compelled, through lack of these facilities, to travel to the Angove-street (North Perth) and Inglewood schools, both of which are at such a distance from the locality referred to as to be highly undesirable in the interests of the children. I have already, in conjunction with members representing that district in another place, submitted a petition which will be found amply to support the advocacy I submit for the provision of a school. Before leaving the subject of the schools, may I point out that some years ago a site was allocated for this purpose, and so it cannot be said that the question of a site or the cost of a site has been an obstacle to the provision of a school. I would urge the speeding-up of the provision of bulk handling facilities and of installing greater facilities at the terminals. Dairy products and kindred industries must be given every possible consideration and assistance. Side by side with rural development, a similar policy must be adopted in regard to the State's secondary industries, thus bringing about a co-ordination of those two factors in social organisation, the primary producer and the industrialist. I heartily endorse all that the member for Perth (Mr. Needham) had to say in support of the wonderful and commendable work being performed by the Boys' Employment League, and its amply justified claim for considerably better financial assistance from the Government. Another matter to which I would briefly refer is the fact that for many years the civil servants have been

seeking better conditions. Those on the lower-salary scale have good reason to feel a sense of dissatisfaction; the salaries paid are not reasonable and they are entitled to improved conditions. Last session the Government brought down a Bill—the Industrial Arbitration Act Amendment Act—and this Bill, I believe, had the backing of all members, with possibly one exception. The service now find that although they expected so much from this amending Bill, they are unable to obtain that reasonable satisfaction to which they are entitled. I suggest that there should be a tribunal of three Commissioners—I know that with some this is going to be an unpopular idea—whose duties in this connection need not engage their full time. Given this, and a sound scheme of superannuation, the Civil Service of this State would be of even greater value than it is to-day. After listening to some of the speeches in this House, and taking into account the turbulent period through which not only we, but Australia and the world at large are passing, I trust that we shall set about developing a better national conscience. The grim realities of poverty and distress have culminated in incalculable harm to the morale of our national life. The after-effects will be suffered for a greater period than can be estimated, and I therefore feel that some definite reform must eventually come, or even greater hardship may overtake us. The position of relief workers of the State has been discussed at great length and while, for the moment, I am not associating myself with what has been said either for or against, I am primarily and wholly concerned with the actual position in which the relief workers and the distressed farmers of this State find themselves. I feel that, as a representative of one electorate which I regret to say is very directly affected in this connection, it is my duty to make a reasonable and sound contribution in order to try and assist in, at any rate, ameliorating the position in which these people find themselves, and which has a very material bearing upon the prosperity, or otherwise, not only of the immediate community in which they reside, but of the whole State. I say quite fearlessly that, while we did last night have a speech from the Minister for Employment outlining certain proposals, surely we are entitled to what I might term a better clarification of the position which exists? Surely

it is fair to ask the Government to enlighten us as to what the plan is which they have in mind, and which I understand they propose to inaugurate in October, aiming, I presume, at full-time employment? The plight of distressed producers and relief workers justifies the fullest co-operation, irrespective of party, in a genuine effort to at least alleviate the present conditions. Confidence must be our dominating quality. We must rise above any demoralising tendency of doubt, we must return to a sound optimism based on never-failing confidence in the future of our State. We must vitalise this spirit and make it a permanent torch, inspiring confidence in the future, not only of the State but also in the individual lives of our citizens. Finally, I urge that the prevailing conditions call for an absolute frankness by the Government from time to time as to their proposals to deal with the many problems confronting the State, and an equal readiness by those in opposition ungrudgingly to give their support to any definite project shown to be in the best interests of all, and not to any particular class or section alone. By the pursuance of this very clear duty on our part, we shall merit the goodwill and confidence of all, which, I suggest, is our inviolable trust.

HON. P. D. FERGUSON (Irwin-Moore) [8.15]: I move—

That the debate be adjourned.

Motion put and negatived.

HON. P. D. FERGUSON: I regret that the Government should have seen fit to use their brutal majority—

Mr. Marshall: The only majority we have is in hospital.

Hon. P. D. FERGUSON:—against such a friendly critic as I have always been. If you would not regard it as tedious repetition, Mr. Speaker, I would like to join the other hon. members who have offered their congratulations to you on your re-election to the Speaker's Chair, and may I express the hope that if, owing to the exigencies of the political situation, your occupancy of that Chair should be somewhat curtailed, nevertheless it will be congenial. Members on this side of the House, I know, will do all they can to help you in the discharge of those duties. May I also express my regret at the illness of the Premier and the ex-Premier, and voice the hope that

they will speedily be restored to normal health. I would also like to offer my congratulations to two personal friends on their elevation to Ministerial rank—the Minister for Employment (Hon. A. R. G. Hawke) and the new Minister for Railways (Hon. F. C. L. Smith). The speech which was placed in His Excellency's mouth by the Government, and with which he was pleased to open this, the first session of the Sixteenth Parliament of Western Australia, was merely a recital of the various fortuitous circumstances which have come to the aid of the Government during the last two or three years, circumstances which have, in varying degrees, been helpful to the Government and for which, apparently, they take full credit. It has been said that if the Opposition could find anything to criticise in such a nebulous document as the Lieut.-Governor's Speech, they would be the ablest Opposition which had ever sat on these benches. I do not intend to try. The elections were held last February and I have been searching in vain for some reason why they were held then, unless it was that the Government of the day did not regard it as very likely that those electors mainly concerned with primary production, who would then be busily engaged in taking off their harvest, would record such a heavy poll if the election were held in February instead of at the end of March or the beginning of April as usual. No reason has been vouchsafed to us by the Government, and it is difficult to find any. The Government have been returned to office with a very considerably reduced majority compared with the number of supporters they had in the previous Parliament. This has been due in a great measure to the inhuman preference policy they placed before the people. This policy provided that there should be no Government sustenance or Government employment unless the individual concerned was prepared to contribute towards the funds of some political union, approved of by the Government or Trades Hall.

Mr. Sleeman: The primary producers are doing that now.

Mr. Doney: Where did you learn that?

Hon. P. D. FERGUSON: That policy did not meet with the approval of the electors. I suggest that if there is another election in the near future, that particular plank of the