

will be that the Bill will be thrown out in another place. I am sure that he desires to make some improvement. Let us get this measure through and I will support him if he later moves the amendment to the Act that he desires.

Mr. MARSHALL: It is most remarkable to observe the perpetual somersaulting indulged in by members immediately one seeks to assist them to give effect to the desires they have expressed for a considerable time. The hon. member says she wants equality. The Bill by means of which she desires to effect that equality, is based upon the ideas of 1898. The member for Subiaco is quite willing to take the modern girl back to that period. As soon as ever an attempt is made to achieve equality of sexes, objections are raised. The member for Subiaco says that if my amendment is carried, every woman will be obliged to serve on juries. The hon. member says that is not practicable, because women become mothers. I think it is practicable. Does the woman who writes asking to be exempt from jury service know whether she will become a mother or not? If we are to give women the equality that we hear so much about, why not put them on the same plane as men? The hon. member said women would not know they were obliged to serve on juries. Because of the over-legislation in Australia, many men as well as women do not know of various legal obligations until the law takes hold of them. However, so that other members may move amendments they have in mind, I ask leave to withdraw my amendment.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. SLEEMAN: To test the feeling of the Committee, I move an amendment—

That in the proposed subsection the following words be struck out:—"who has the property qualification required of a male juror under the preceding subsection."

The amendment deals only with the property qualification. I hope it will be carried. I do not believe in a property qualification in any case, and especially not as regards women, on whom it bears more hardly than on the average man. Very few wives of workers in Western Australia have banking accounts. Every woman should be granted the privilege of sitting as a juror.

Progress reported.

House adjourned at 10.23 p.m.

Legislative Council.

Thursday, 15th September, 1938.

	PAGE
Question: Railway, Parkeston-Kalgoorlie, Commonwealth's offer to construct	820
Leave of absence	820
Resolution: Yampi Sound iron ore deposits, Commonwealth embargo	820
Bills: Local Courts Act Amendment, 1A.	831
Geraldton Sailors and Soldiers' Memorial Institute (Trust Property Disposition) 2A., Com. report	831

The PRESIDENT took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTION—RAILWAY, PARKESTON-KALGOORLIE.

Commonwealth's Offer to Construct.

Hon. J. CORNELL asked the Chief Secretary: 1, To obviate retrucking of stock and minimise risk of infection, and also to prevent additional cost, has the Commonwealth Commissioner of Railways offered to construct a 4ft. 8½in. gauge railway from Parkeston to a point close to the Government Abattoirs, Kalgoorlie? 2, If so, has this sensible offer been accepted? 3, If not, why not?

The CHIEF SECRETARY replied: 1, No. 2 and 3, Answered by No. 1.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

On motion by Hon. J. Cornell, leave of absence for six consecutive sittings granted to Hon. C. B. Williams (South) on the ground of ill-health.

RESOLUTION—YAMPI SOUND IRON ORE DEPOSITS.

Commonwealth Embargo.

Debate resumed from the previous day on motion by the Chief Secretary to concur in the Assembly's resolution as follows:—

That this Parliament of Western Australia emphatically protests against the embargo placed by the Commonwealth Government on the export of iron ore from Australia, in view of its disastrous effects upon the development of the State. We consider that the information available does not warrant such drastic action, and we urge the Commonwealth Government to remove the embargo.

HON. J. J. HOLMES (North) [4.37]: At the outset I desire to make it clear that I am emphatically and definitely opposed to the motion. Before I resume my seat, I hope I shall have convinced at least a majority of the members of the House that I have right on my side. To begin with, no good will result from the passing of the motion. As I understand the position, the Federal Government has declared definitely that until it can say that the export of iron ore can be allowed, export will not be permitted. That is definite, and the Federal Government will not depart from that attitude. On the other hand, the State Government claims that there is plenty of iron ore in Australia, and that we should be allowed to export quantities from Yampi Sound to be sold to the Japanese who, we are informed in the Press, will stand behind Germany should war eventuate.

The Honorary Minister: And you will not sell them any wool, either?

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: The resolution amounts simply to a rod wielded by the State Government in order to flay the Federal Government. We in Western Australia have reached the stage where, in the eyes of the State Government, the Federal authorities can do nothing right. State Ministers seize every opportunity to harass and annoy the Federal Government. In effect, the resolution amounts to a sort of swan song of the Labour Party, which seems to ask, "What can we say in opposition to the Federal Government?" The Labour Party forgets that at the last Commonwealth elections Australia definitely declared in favour of the Lyons Government, irrespective of what the State Government may claim. We constantly hear complaints about the State having been robbed of its control of the finances because of the Financial Agreement. Who signed the Financial Agreement? It was the then Premier of the State, Mr. Collier, who was supported by the Labour Party. So if anyone gave away control of the finances of the State, it was a Labour Government.

Hon. G. Fraser: A majority of the members of this Chamber agreed to it.

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: I do not know what the hon. member said, but doubtless it was not an intelligent remark so it does not matter. I have already stated that the Federal Government has declared definitely that

until it is satisfied that we can part with that iron ore the embargo will not be lifted. What good, therefore, could result from our passing the motion? We have heard much about the iron ore of this country. Dr. Woolnough has said something at one stage and someone else has said something at another stage. If all these geologists have been misleading the respective Governments, it is time somebody was sacked. That we should wake up at the eleventh hour to find that we have not the ore we were told we had, is not right. I have no hesitation in saying that this motion has been moved to cover up a blunder of the State Government for which the late Mr. Munsie was indirectly responsible. I do not want to say a word against Mr. Munsie. I think he set a political example in this State of which we might all be proud. I do not want to say anything against him except that he was misled by the parasites of London and elsewhere. I think I shall indicate that more clearly before I have finished. The Government endorsed Mr. Munsie's action and it must accept the blame.

At one stage Mr. Munsie said he would not sell this iron ore to the Japanese. He said he would not have anything to do with the Japanese. The significant point is that the Premier, when speaking on the motion in another place, mentioned Brasserts, Ltd. only once. The Nippon mining company was the company for which he had all the consideration. When the Chief Secretary spoke last night I do not think he mentioned Brasserts, Ltd. at all, but he did refer to the Nippon company. Mr. Munsie was misled by a dummy company in London being used to cover the Japanese who really intended to exploit the deposits. In my opinion, Mr. Munsie should have known that the dummy company would pass on the contract to the Japanese. Parasites are hanging around London ready to make money at the expense of anybody and at the expense of any country. I shall deal with that aspect of the matter as I proceed. One of those parasites is a gentleman who at one time occupied the position of Agent General for this State. I believe that these sharp-practice men in London sold Mr. Munsie a pup, to use an everyday expression. So far as I can judge, Brasserts, Ltd. was introduced only to cover up the tracks of the Nippon Mining Company. Mr. Munsie was led to believe that he was dealing with an English company, but it now transpires that the English company

was merely a dummy for the Japanese. We were informed that English machinery would be used at Yampi. We now find that it was never intended to use English machinery, but that in the first instance American machinery was to be employed and that as the work proceeded, the bulk of the machinery would be supplied from Japan.

When speaking to the motion in another place the Premier, according to the Press report, defended the Japanese company. He referred to the Japanese trade with Australia. All I know about that is that the Japanese bought from Australia only what they actually wanted, and they bought those goods only on condition that Australia purchased from them in exchange goods made by cheap labour.

Before making further comments, I wish to read a copy of a lettergram that I sent to Canberra regarding this matter—a lettergram which I believe had something to do with the retention of the embargo. This lettergram, I understand, was placed before the Federal Cabinet. It expressed the views I held at that time and I have not since altered those views. The lettergram was as follows:—

Yampi Sound. I am afraid vested interests are clouding the issue. I have been for years urging the State Government to keep Japanese boats off the State pearling banks and understand State Government has been urging Federal Government to do so. State Government now doing all it can to persuade Federal Government to encourage Japanese boats to take away iron ore. Inconsistent, is it not? State Government have granted lease, and if Federal Government consents to export of ore, what would happen in that isolated locality if strike occurred when several Japanese boats were waiting to load ore and Japanese crews landed to load their own ships? Would Federal Government prevent Japanese crews from loading the ore when it had granted permit to export or could State Government intervene to prevent export conditions of lease being complied with? Information already supplied to you gives proof that Japanese boats come in and take water and help themselves to beef to meet their own requirements and nothing is done to stop them. Early history shows and French navigator recalls having located 22 Malay vessels anchored Yampi locality in year 1800, and in the year following Western Australia's white settlement, namely 1830, British Government sent warship to inspect that area. What Western Australian development likely to follow export of ore from that isolated locality? Cattle export is a bogey. Eastern markets prohibited export cattle several years ago. J. J. Holmes.

The views I expressed in that lettergram remain unchanged. We have some parasites in this country, some of them in the Terrace, and I thought that to counteract their influence the time had arrived to express my views. I would like to say that the "West Australian" newspaper has always been a good friend to the North, but I think it was misled by vested interests as to the true position regarding the development of the Yampi iron ore deposits. You, Mr. President, are aware—as I am—that when the "West Australian" or any other newspaper reaches a certain opinion, to change its outlook requires a very big effort. That, however, is by the way.

One does not like to be personal; one does not like to deal with absentees, but one has a duty to perform, and I repeat that one of the worst enemies Western Australia has in London is an ex-Agent General who is also a Knight of the Empire. I go further and say the time has come when he should be put in his place. Two or three years ago he published a pamphlet on the possibilities of the Kimberleys, and when I saw the book I went to the Chief Secretary and told him he ought to cable to London and contradict the statements contained in it. I do not know whether that was done.

The Chief Secretary: In what year was that?

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: Three or four years ago. It was during Mr. Drew's time as Chief Secretary and he said he had seen the pamphlet. I do not know what was done in the matter. I understand that this gentleman was associated with an iron ore lease at Yampi Sound—a lease held by a syndicate. A friend of mine told me that the ex-Agent General informed him that his first rake-off was £25,000. I know that several thousands of pounds came to this State and was split up amongst co-lessees. The Premier stated that under the arrangement with the Japanese, 15,000,000 tons of iron ore would have been exported in 25 years, and that we would have received a quarter of a million of money. That means that the State would have received 4d. per ton. I have it on fairly reliable authority that the Japanese were really to be charged 9d. per ton for the ore. They were to pay the State Government 4d. per ton; they were to pay the syndicate that engineered the job 2d. per ton, and they were to pay the dummy company in London 3d. per ton. Those figures

may be resolved down to this, that the State, for parting with 15,000,000 tons of iron ore over 25 years, would have received £250,000; one combination in London would have received £125,000 and the other combination would have received £187,500, a total of £562,500. Thus, the State would have received £250,000 while the others reaped £312,500. Therefore I consider myself justified in saying that the State Government was sold a pup.

Within the last two weeks I received a cable message from London, dealing with a cable sent by the Premier, and asking me to see what I could do at this end to rectify matters. I saw the Premier's cable and replied that I endorsed what he had stated. So far as I can judge, there are a lot of wealthy Jews in London who want a country to which they can go. The proposal of the London parasites referred to was to send them to Kimberley to irrigate from the Fitzroy River and grow pork and bacon for the British Empire. I think I put the stopper on that little scheme. Simply because a man has money is no reason why he should be sent here in order to lose it. Our object should be to encourage people with capital to come here in order to make money. Schemes of this kind should be dealt with effectively to allow of the truth being made known at the other end.

Hon. A. Thomson: Would it be possible to do that in Kimberley?

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: I do not think it could be done by Jews because they are not built that way. Some time ago a Jewish family lent me a book, in which I read with interest that Jews would not undertake agriculture, but that their bent lay rather in dealing in precious stones and jewellery of which no one knew the value.

Hon. J. Cornell: And old clothes.

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: After heavy rains, the Fitzroy River attains a width of 12 miles and sweeps sheep and sometimes cattle out to sea. The money of a Rothschild would be needed to deal with the problem. I know of pastoralists in the Fitzroy valley who have gone out of sheep and changed over to cattle because of their sheep having been washed away by the floods. Cattle will move out of the way of a flood but sheep will not.

What are we going to do with the Kimberleys? I shall give the House my views later. The other day the Premier said he

had always felt the necessity to establish large-scale industries in the North-West. What large-scale industries could be established? He said that the State lacked the necessary funds to develop the North. So far as I know, the present Government refuses to hand over the North to the Commonwealth. Now we have a Labour Premier, pledged to State enterprise, proposing to hand over one of the principal assets of the North to the Japanese. To me that appears to be a little inconsistent.

Hon. W. J. Mann: Selling our birthright.

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: Should we wonder that the motion received little or no support in another place? Apparently only three Labour members, apart from the two Ministers, spoke to the motion, namely, Mr. Coverley, Mr. Rodoreda and Mr. Marshall. Mr. Rodoreda complained of the lack of enthusiasm the motion had evoked in that House and expressed the hope that Federal representatives would be spurred to action. The Premier invited members to express their opinions. He said, "I am expressing my opinion and I hope other members will do the same." But Labour members sat silent. Where were our Labour friends from Fremantle, Mr. Sleeman and Mr. Fox? Where were the Labour members from Perth? Where were the Labour members from the goldfields? They were silent, and the motion was sent to this House without a division having been taken. It is time we had men in the Lower House to force divisions on questions of this kind so that we may know where members stand.

Here is another matter of importance. We talk about the development of the North. We have Mr. Wise as Minister for the North-West, a man with a knowledge of tropical agriculture, and one would have thought that he would have told Parliament and the country what could be done with the Kimberleys. But he is silent on the subject, just as are a good many others. There are only two things that can be done with the North. We can grow cattle and sheep there and we can develop the mineral country. And we can develop the mineral country without the help of the Japanese; that is, unless the Commonwealth lifts this embargo. If the embargo is lifted, I feel certain that the Japanese will enter Kimberley and do as they like, just as they have been doing at Broome and elsewhere.

What development would result from the establishment of the iron ore industry at Yampi Sound? Ships would go to the island to load the ore in the same way as ships call at Christmas Island to load phosphatic rock. The ships anchor at the cliffs, the phosphatic rock is loaded into them through chutes, and then the ships sail for their destinations. That is the only development that would take place if the proposed concession were granted to the Japanese. Their ships would arrive at Koolan Island, the ore would be loaded through chutes, and the ships would then return to Japan. As far as I can learn, only 20 or 40 men were employed at Yampi Sound. Assume 100 men were employed and that complications arose over the loading of a ship. Suppose the 100 men went on strike. I do not think the Japanese would hesitate for a moment to help themselves to the ore and take it away. What trade will we get from those ships? One hundred men in that community would require 1 lb. of meat per day, which would represent one bullock a week. How to get the bullock to the island is another matter. Still, that is some trade we have missed.

Hon. A. Thomson: Would the bullock have to be slaughtered at the abattoirs?

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: People ask why we cannot do the same in the Kimberleys as is done in Queensland. The whole problem is one of rainfall. Rain falls for three months of the year in the Kimberleys—in December, January and February; during the remaining nine months no rain falls. That is the trouble with fat cattle for the Wyndham Meat Works. What is the use of talking about tropical agriculture if we have not the rainfall? Queensland has an entirely different rainfall. That brings me back to what I have said, that the only things to do in the Kimberleys are to grow cattle and sheep, and to look for minerals.

Hon. G. B. Wood: The missionaries have had a rough time trying to grow tropical products.

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: The Japanese have practically wiped out Broome and one of our principal industries in the North. I refer to the pearling industry. For years past they have been taking our pearl shell. Who is to chase them off the coast? We return to the issue whether that is the job of the Federal Government or of the State Government. For years past the Japanese have been landing on our coast for water

and have even been taking cattle for their own requirements. The Federal authorities know this, because I have informed them of it.

Hon. A. Thomson: What steps has the Federal Government taken to prevent it?

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: The Federal Government says this is happening in Western Australian waters, over which it has no control. The Federal Government says it cannot enter our waters without the consent of the State Government. The responsibility is being passed from one to the other and, as is customary, nothing is done. The Japanese have been coming to our coast since the year 1800, according to records. They are coming further and further south, and so are getting too far away from their home base. They are becoming a nuisance in the Dutch possessions off the Australian coast. If this embargo is lifted and we grant the Japanese the right to come into one of the finest harbours in Australia, they will make it a permanent base. Then what will happen? We know they want to take part in the whaling industry here. If they have a fleet of ships running between Yampi Sound and Japan, calling at Yampi every three days, they will bring sugar and rice down for the crews at about one-quarter of the price our Broome pearlers have to pay. The Japanese pay no license fees. They will tranship the goods into pearling and fishing boats outside territorial waters, and their boats will also take pearl-shell to Japan. This is an important subject. I believe there is more behind the embargo than appears on the surface.

Hon. E. H. H. Hall: There must be.

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: Our Governor-General, Lord Gowrie, went out of his way to pay a visit to the Dutch possessions off our coast. Ostensibly, it was a friendly visit. Did he go for the good of his health? I think he went as an ambassador of the Empire. I have told members that the Japanese can evade payment of Customs duties by transshipping their goods into boats outside territorial waters. But our people in Broome are forced to buy Australian sugar and rice. They import goods from overseas and have to pay the freight on them. They indenture Japanese to work in the pearling industry, and pay their passages to Australia. If those Japanese are put in gaol, or go into hospital, our people have to pay for their upkeep, and when their term of inden-

ture is completed, our people have to repatriate them. How can our pearling industry stand up against such an expense and compete with the Japanese? Yet we have the spectacle of a Government that favours a White Australia inviting Japanese to come to Australia.

Another aspect of the matter is this. Our pearlers, under their license, cannot fish shell under a certain size, but these interlopers from overseas can take shell of any size they wish. I am convinced that the Japanese do so. From what I know of the Japanese on the North-West coast, they are a cheeky crowd and nothing will stop their depredations, except perhaps a gun-boat. The Premier told us through the Press during the last day or two that we have only one white person for every 62 square miles of country in the North. If that is not an invitation for the Japanese to come here, I do not know what is.

Hon. A. Thomson: They probably know more about the coast of Australia than Australians know.

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: The Premier referred to the value of the export trade to be derived from this concession. If my figures are right, we might get £250,000 for the iron ore if we sold it to the Japanese. but the larger proportion of the money would go to those who engineered the job. Much has been said about the export of cattle. I am really surprised that persons in authority do not make inquiries before uttering such ridiculous statements as have been made. In the first place, the export of cattle has been prohibited for a very long time because we cannot give a clean bill of health. In the second place, anybody who knows the head from the tail of a bullock is aware what would be the result of transporting live cattle in tramp ships that would take 14 to 21 days to reach their destination. Any person who attempted such a thing ought to be put under restraint.

Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. J. Cornell: The beasts would be only hides when they reached their destination.

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: The Premier said the Japanese wanted lean meat. I respectfully suggest they want live cattle, not carcasses. To think of shipping cattle to Japan is preposterous. The irony of the whole thing is that nobody knows where the suggestion emanated. It did not emanate from the Nippon company that desired to deal in

iron ore; that company never said anything about shipping cattle. In any event, the cattle would have to be shipped from Derby, not from Koolan Island. The ship would first have to load the ore and then proceed to Derby to take on the cattle, and there is not sufficient depth of water at Derby for a ship loaded with iron ore. Such talk is piffle. Incidentally, from what I know of geography, the cattle would have to cross the Equator to reach Japan, and they would be very lean meat when they reached their destination. I would like the Chief Secretary, when he replies, to tell me what development would follow the export of iron ore from Koolan Island to Japan.

What industries would be developed if the embargo were withdrawn? It seems to me that nothing could be developed except the three items to which I have referred. No doubt the chilled meat trade could be put on a satisfactory footing as between the North and Singapore and elsewhere, if properly equipped ships were provided. We cannot send away live cattle because of disease, and freezing works would have to be erected at Derby before chilled meat could be shipped.

Hon. C. F. Baxter: And refrigerated space would have to be provided on the ships.

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: Yes; the cattle could not be sent on tramp ships. There is a dispute between the State and the Commonwealth on this question of iron ore. The Prime Minister made a statesmanlike utterance when he said, "We will not part with this ore until we see whether we have enough for ourselves. If we have enough ore for our own requirements, we will lift the embargo, but not otherwise." The Premier of this State, in his speech said, "There must be more high-class ore somewhere in this State." Surely, before he moved a motion of this kind in censure of the Federal Government, he should have been ready to say where that high-class ore was. Is it in the district where the member for Yilgarn-Coolgardie (Mr. Lambert) had his manganese field? Members will recollect that the railway to the manganese field had to be pulled up because the ore could not be worked at a profit. Of what use is ore in that locality at any price? We know that at Yampi we have the best ore the world can produce, and that the Japanese could load it into

ships and pay the State 4d. per ton for it. If any action of the Federal Government was ever justified, it was the imposition of this embargo until we ascertained whether or not we could spare the iron ore.

Hon. A. Thomson: It is unfortunate that the Federal Government allowed the Japanese to go as far as they did.

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: It is unfortunate that Hitler has been allowed to go as far as he has gone. We have to face the Japanese as they are to-day, especially as we understand they are prepared to stand behind Hitler.

The Honorary Minister: Do we not sell our wool to the Japanese?

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: Only at their own price and when they want to buy it.

Hon. J. Cornell: The sale of our wool does not give them the right to our country.

Hon. J. J. HOLMES: We must admire the Premier's simplicity. Commonsense dictates that if the Japanese got into the Yampi islands they would take 15,000,000 tons of the best iron ore they could find and leave the worst. The Premier said, "There is no necessity to conclude that the Japanese would take only the best of the ore from Yampi." Evidently he had arrived at the conclusion that they would do so. It is the only conclusion we can arrive at.

Let me refer to Brasserts, Ltd. The late Mr. Munsie would not deal with the Japanese, but he did deal with Brasserts. The present company has disappeared, and the latest dealings have been with the Nippon company. The Premier, in his speech, said this Japanese company had a capital of £20,000,000, that its ramifications spread all over the world, and he added that it was interested in the Nippon Shipping Co., which he thought was interlocked with the other. This utterance was made by the head of a Labour Government in this State and a member of the Labour Party, which is pledged to support a White Australia policy. He talks of bringing Japanese into one of the best harbours in Australia to take away our iron ore and have a good look at the resources of the country.

To deal with every point is difficult. The Warden's Court sat at Broome. I think Brasserts' representative said that the company was buying English machinery. Now we understand it never intended to do so. The question of compensation has also been

raised. Seemingly the Japanese company has acquired concessions in Malaya and has transferred the machinery to that field of its operations. I understand that Brasserts' representative stated before the Warden at Broome that his was only a holding company, and that the whole of the capital was supplied by Japanese. The position is an interesting one. During the debate in another place the Minister for Mines said, "Foreigners know more about the North and the coast there than we do." He added, "Foreign ships are constantly on our coast." Foreign ships have been trading outside territorial waters for years. If we allow them to go into Yampi Sound we shall experience great difficulty in getting them out again. The statement was made that an English company was prepared to produce half-a-million tons of pig iron per annum from the ore at Yampi Sound. I do not know whether that statement is true, but, if it is, why was preference given to Japanese instead of to English interests? The Japanese are very wily people. They will stop at nothing. We have had evidence of that over many years.

There is no doubt the British Government has been watching this particular area. I am not authorised to say so, but my opinion is that the British Government had something to say in connection with imposing the embargo, although that has been denied in the Press. If I was a member of the Labour Party pledged to a White Australia, I would be looking blue at the present moment, scratching my head and wondering how I came to be entangled in this preposterous position. The motion before the Chamber does not mean anything and will not get us anywhere. It is only another rod for the back of the Federal Government. Everything the Commonwealth Government does is wrong, and everything the State Government does is right. And yet we find that Labour members supporting the Government in this State, with the exception of three, have been afraid to open their mouths on this subject. They have not said a word in favour of the Yampi Sound iron ore concessions. This House is asked to show its hand, and I hope it will do so in no uncertain manner.

The Chief Secretary might tell us where this supposed development of the North would take place if we sold our iron ore to the Japanese. My proposal is that we

should hand the Kimberleys over to the Federal Government. The Premier has said the proposition is too big for Western Australia to handle. People have said, "What a mess the Federal authorities have made of the Northern Territory up to now." Let me answer, "What a mess we made of the South-West where we threw away between £8,000,000 and £10,000,000." The Government of this State had to rectify the wrong that was done, and the Federal Government, probably because of some influence from the seat of Empire, has seriously taken up the development of the Northern Territory. There is only an imaginary line between our East Kimberleys and the Northern Territory, and that line was only recently surveyed. Leases in the Northern Territory have a longer tenure than have those in Western Australia, and the rentals there are about one-third of our rentals. The Federal Government is paying, I understand, half the freight from Sydney or Melbourne to Darwin on all goods used for development work on stations. I am also informed that it is paying half the cost of cartage from Darwin to the stations, and half the cost of the casings and the bores that are put down. The Federal Government is prepared to do the same thing in the Kimberleys for the development of the whole area.

The Premier says we can do nothing with that part of the State. I trust he will not say that the Federal Government shall not be allowed to do it. Fifteen months ago the State steamers were carrying goods from Fremantle to Darwin, which is outside our territory, at a lower rate than they charged for carrying goods from Fremantle to Wyndham, and I do not think that has been altered. That is what our State Government and our State steamers are doing. They are carrying goods to Darwin at a lesser freight than to Wyndham, which is 24 hours less steaming than Darwin. I honestly believe the Federal Government has been told by someone in authority, "You have to do something with the Northern Territory." The Federal Government is spending money there—rightly now—and I think that Government should be permitted to link Derby, Wyndham and Broome with that area. Then the Commonwealth would be able to deal with all Northern questions—iron ore, Japanese, pearling or anything else.

The concluding remarks of the Premier are astounding in view of what is going on every day, the swan song against the Federal Government. The Premier said there is no room for disharmony or discord between the Federal and State Governments. Having said that, he puts up a motion of this kind to create disharmony between the Commonwealth and Western Australia. I earnestly appeal to the House to reject the motion. No good can result from it, because the Federal Government has said definitely what it proposes to do and will not depart from it. If I have not impressed the House, it is because I have not dealt with the subject in the way I ought to have. However, I have dealt with it to the best of my ability, and I cannot do more. I trust the House will defeat the motion.

HON. L. CRAIG (South-West) [5.24]: I shall spend only a minute or two on the motion. Personally I feel that to pass it will do no good. It is an attack on the Commonwealth Government, and I hold that it is not the job of this Parliament as a whole to attack the Federal Government, whether it be a Labour Government or a National-Country Party Government. I am unable to believe that any Commonwealth Government would, without excellent reason, harm any State. I fail to see that the development of the Yampi Sound iron reserves would have in any way assisted the cattle industry of the North. According to to-day's newspaper, the Japanese Government has more or less declared where it stands in the case of international trouble. It has declared that if necessity arises Japan will fight with Germany. We must not forget that we were deliberately selling a product to a probable enemy and a people absolutely unscrupulous in trade.

Recently it has been found that Japan can overcome almost all restrictions imposed on her by foreign countries in regard to trade. I have read a perfectly authentic statement that Japanese matches are made in Japan at a place called Sweden. The Japanese have named that manufacturing centre "Sweden," and the matches are branded "Made in Sweden." In Japan there is also a place called "England," and some goods exported from Japan are stamped "Made in England." The Japanese also have a place called "U.S.A." It is a big

manufacturing centre, and goods made there are branded "Made in U.S.A." The word "Japan" is stamped in such tiny letters as to be invisible to the ordinary purchaser. That is the sort of people we are dealing with; and I personally, although regretting loss of trade between Australia and any other country, feel that this loss is not anything like as much as would be supporters of Western Australia, or others interested, would have us believe. I cannot agree that the development of Yampi Sound would have helped materially in the development of the North. I am of opinion that the State Government would not have got as much out of the Yampi enterprise as it should have got. Too many rake-offs would have gone to the persons who instigated or initiated the negotiations with the Nippon company. If it is the Nippon company that is putting up the capital for Yampi Sound, we are dealing with a very dangerous company. I understand the Nippon company is partly controlled by the Government of Japan. If the company putting money into the Yampi Sound affair is the same as the shipping company, it is a highly dangerous company.

Hon. J. Cornell: The Premier says it is interlocked with the shipping company.

Hon. L. CRAIG: If that is so, it is also interlocked with Government control. The Nippon company is a colossal company. With the little knowledge we have, it is somewhat dangerous and foolish for the Parliament of Western Australia to attack the Commonwealth Government for an action which must have been justified. In the circumstances I oppose the motion.

HON. E. H. ANGELO (North) [5.38]: I listened carefully to the speech of the Chief Secretary in submitting the motion, and also listened with interest to the telegrams and speeches by Federal Parliamentarians on this subject. The Federal Government appears to have shown poor business acumen in dealing with the question. It is through the fault of the Federal Government that we have been led into this trouble; because there is a certain amount of trouble when a country makes an arrangement, especially with a foreign power, one that has been buying our wool for some considerable time.

Hon. L. Craig: Only because it could not get the wool anywhere else.

Hon. A. Thomson: Japan could get it elsewhere.

Hon. L. Craig: Not the quality.

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: It seems a pity that we should have had to break an arrangement. That is my chief complaint in connection with the matter. Negotiations with regard to Yampi Sound have been in progress for nearly two years. Surely any Government watching events and having a representative from this State in the Cabinet of the Commonwealth should have known what was going on. Surely the Federal Government should have known whether there was going to be a shortage of iron, before that last-moment discovery. Mr. Holmes has read a telegram that he sent to Canberra. I did not like to inquire the date of it.

Hon. J. J. Holmes: May last.

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: But these negotiations have been going on for two years. I think Mr. Holmes should have advised the Federal Government of his views much sooner. To my knowledge, the Japanese were mentioned at least 18 months ago. The whole trouble is that the Federal Government has allowed Western Australia to carry on these negotiations until this State has been led into the trouble facing it to-day.

Hon. J. Cornell: We are in no trouble.

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: That is all very well; there is a certain amount of trouble. The Federal Government has given reasons for the sudden waking-up and for the sudden imposition of the embargo. Surely with the expert officers the Federal Government has, and the knowledge it possesses of the resources of Australia, it should have known long ago whether there was a shortage of iron. I do not believe that the shortage is the chief reason for the embargo. I believe that something of greater importance has brought about that embargo. There again I consider the Federal Government's business acumen has been wanting. If there is a more serious reason, one that cannot very well be made public, why did not the Federal Government send a confidential messenger or message to our Premier giving the reason? Then this motion would never have been moved.

Hon. J. Cornell: The embargo does not apply to Yampi Sound only.

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: I know it does not, but no one will suggest that the prohibition of the export of iron ore is not the most serious feature of the embargo or that it affects us more than anyone else.

Hon. J. Cornell: Iron ore can still be exported.

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: For the present, only to fill contracts.

Hon. L. Craig: Did you hear of these negotiations two years ago?

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: Yes.

Hon. L. Craig: Did you object?

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: No, because if we can send the Japanese wool and meat and other things, why cannot we deal with them? Further, the present unsatisfactory state of affairs in the world had not then come about, and that makes a difference. We have always had a Western Australian in the Federal Cabinet. If this was such a serious question and there was grave reason for imposing the embargo, why did not the Federal Government get the Minister representing Western Australia to have a word with the Premier?

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

Hon. L. Craig: Why has Mr. Curtin not said anything?

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: Perhaps Mr. Curtin was informed by the Prime Minister that the matter was so serious that a reason could not be given.

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! I must ask hon. members to allow the hon. member to proceed with his speech without interruption.

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: This is what I want to say. If there was a serious reason why the embargo had to be imposed, the Prime Minister could, in courtesy, have advised our Premier. In spite of his silence towards the Premier, he apparently had the courtesy to inform the Leader of the Federal Opposition. I do not feel inclined to vote for a motion that merely says that the Government protests against not having had better reasons given than those that have been supplied, for the imposition of the embargo. The words in the motion are, "That the information available does not warrant such drastic action." While agreeing with that, I am satisfied that the reasons given are not the correct reasons. I feel that there are stronger reasons. The silence of the Prime Minister on the matter has given rise to some nasty suggestions. Time and again I have heard it said that the Federal Government has been pushed into this action by the Broken Hill Proprietary Co., and a Western Australian member of the Federal Parlia-

ment told me only last week that that was a fact. Is that a fair thing? That is where the danger comes in. It has been practically suggested that our Federal Government is corrupt; but I will not have that.

Hon. J. Cornell: What did Mr. Green say?

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: I have not had any conversation with him. The statements that are being made show the danger in not doing the right thing, and I repeat that the Prime Minister should have taken the Premier of this State into his confidence and told him the exact reason for the course that was adopted. If what we have been told is the truth, then the Federal Government has taken too long to wake up to the situation. Mr. Holmes said he did not think there would be very much in the cattle industry by sending stock away on the hoof. Probably not. For some time past there has been a suggestion that chilling works may be erected at Derby, and the opening of a new port nearly opposite Yampi was also talked about. Two or three years ago, when chilling works were first mooted either at Derby or at Point Torment, I agree that it would not have been possible for cattle boats to go to Derby. But big vessels would not have been required. Smaller vessels could have made more frequent trips, and those vessels could have had the required refrigerated space. Vessels could have taken 300 carcasses perhaps twice a week.

Hon. J. J. Holmes: Where to?

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: To Japan. Again, I am afraid members are not aware of the tremendous amount of marine wealth that exists in those waters. I have seen letters from Hong Kong in which offers were made to purchase dehydrated shark at £30 a ton.

Hon. J. J. Holmes: They are taking it now.

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: I will not agree that a certain amount of freight could not have been worked up at our northern ports, and naturally I would prefer to see all the work along our coast carried out by our own people, or at any rate, by any other nation than Japan. I agree with Mr. Holmes that the last people we should encourage to visit our coast are the Japanese. That is why I am hoping that now the Federal Government has stopped the export of iron ore to Japan, it will take a long view of the matter and say that as Western Australia has suffered a disadvantage, that Govern-

ment will make it up by subsidising an English or American company to work the iron and other deposits in the North.

Mr. Holmes also spoke of the impossibility of irrigation along the Fitzroy. I remind him, however, that the Fitzroy is not by any means the only river in the Kimberleys. There are eight wonderful rivers in that part of the State, and surely it would be possible to dam water in some of those rivers. I am certain that we are going to have a big future as a result of irrigation in the Far North. It will be necessary, however, to establish holding paddocks in that part of the State before we can send baby beef to the Old Country. Mr. Holmes mentioned that rain fell in the Kimberleys during three months of the year only. Actually, it falls in about five months. That is the difficulty. With the rain falling over such a comparatively brief period stock cannot be held there. If it could be held by means of irrigation, we could compete with countries like the Argentine. I wonder whether members have read the history of the Nile. Do they know what is being done there now?

Coming nearer home, however, I may be permitted to draw attention to what is being done along the Gascoyne River, where 20 years ago people said nothing could ever be grown. To-day there are between 300 and 400 people making a living as the result of irrigation, and the work that is being carried on there is still in its infant stages. With what Mr. Holmes has said regarding the handing over of the North to the Commonwealth, I heartily agree. We can get over all our difficulties if we hand over the Kimberleys, or that part of the State north of the 20th parallel, to the Commonwealth. The difficulties of Yampi Sound, pearling, and all the rest, would no longer trouble us, and our North could be thrown into the Northern Territory.

Hon. W. J. Mann: Would the people of the North agree to that?

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: Yes. I believe one road board is sending a petition to the other road boards asking them to agree to that part of the State being taken over by the Commonwealth. My brother returned the other day from a three months' inspection of the Kimberleys, and he told me that at one station that had sent the finest beef to the Wyndham Meat Works, a number of bores were being put down to

the east of the Western Australian border. He asked the pastoralist why he had put the bores down in that particular district, and the reply was that the Federal Government was giving him pound for pound for the work. The pastoralist added that he had never received anything from the Western Australian Government. I was at the Wyndham Meat Works about two months ago and learnt that 50 per cent. of the cattle being treated there had come from the Northern Territory.

Hon. J. M. Macfarlane: No income tax is paid in the Northern Territory.

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: Western Australia is asked to contribute its quota towards the development of the Northern Territory and at the same time the State is endeavouring to develop its own far northern districts. If the Federal Government took over the Kimberleys—and I understand it is willing to do so and develop the two areas, the Northern Territory and the Kimberleys, as one until such time as there is sufficient population to permit that part of Australia automatically to become another State—

The Chief Secretary: Where did you get that information?

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: It came to me from a Federal Minister.

The Chief Secretary: Good!

Hon. E. H. ANGELO: That Federal Minister said his Government would put up that proposal. Some people have declared that we would lose the trade of the Kimberleys. How could that possibly be? On the contrary, instead of losing the trade, it would increase, and instead of our catering for 2,000 whites in the Kimberleys—I doubt whether there is anything like that number there at present—we would probably be catering for 50,000 within the next five or 10 years. I agree that Broome is nearly finished and that we are merely trying to boost it up. We know that it cannot recover whilst the Japanese are permitted to carry on their pearling operations at about a fifth of our cost. There are no restrictions against the Japanese. Our own and the Thursday Island pearlers had an understanding that only a certain amount of shell should be lifted, so as to maintain the price. What hope have we now? The position is very similar in regard to whaling. The North must be patrolled to keep out the Asiatics and other foreigners, and the only way to have it patrolled is to hand over that

part of the territory to the Federal Government, whose duty it is to defend Australia as a whole.

On motion by Hon. A. Thomson, debate adjourned.

BILL—LOCAL COURTS ACT AMENDMENT.

Received from the Assembly and, on motion by Hon. W. H. Kitson, read a first time.

BILL—GERALDTON SAILORS AND SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL INSTITUTE (TRUST PROPERTY DISPOSITION).

Second Reading.

THE HONORARY MINISTER (Hon. E. H. Gray—West) [6.4] in moving the second reading said: This Bill proposes to authorise the trustees of the Geraldton Sailors and Soldiers' Memorial Institute to extinguish their overdraft with the National Bank by disposing of certain property vested in their trust. Members may recall that the trust was established by statute in 1929, and that in it is vested the control of the Geraldton R.S.L. Memorial Institute. Included amongst its assets are the Esplanade Hostel and a debenture for £1,113 15s. 7d. issued by the Geraldton Municipal Council. On the other hand, the trustees are indebted to the National Bank for an advance of £3,390 made by way of an overdraft.

As the hostel is an old building in constant need of attention, the trustees consider it desirable to dispose of the property and to apply the proceeds of the sale towards the liquidation of their liability to the bank. Should the hostel fail to realise a sum sufficient to extinguish the overdraft, they propose to use as much of the debenture as is necessary to make good the deficiency. Authority is already given to the trustees under Section 6 of the Act, to sell the hostel. The Bill proposes to enable them to apply the proceeds of such sale towards the discharge of the overdraft, and further provides that if the proceeds realised by the sale of the hostel are not sufficient to repay the bank in full, the trust shall be empowered to sell its debenture, or borrow on the security of the debenture, to discharge the balance owing. Any surplus

proceeds resulting from the sale of the debenture will have to be invested in trust, and the proceeds therefrom used for the maintenance of the Memorial Institute. I understand that Mr. Drew is fully in accord with the proposal and naturally he is acquainted with the whole of the details. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee.

Bill passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment, and the report adopted.

House adjourned at 6.9 p.m.

Legislative Assembly.

Thursday, 15th September, 1938.

	PAGE
Questions: Orchard, experimental, to establish in Hills District	831
Marketing, overseas, Agent General's reports, Elgin gas process	832
Youth employment, New South Wales scheme	832
Wireless sets, to control interference	832
Leave of absence	832
Bills: Northern Municipality Loan Authorisation, 1R. Local Courts Act Amendment, 3R.	833
Fair Rents, Com. report	833
Industrial Arbitration Act Amendment, 2R., Com report	835

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTION—ORCHARD, EXPERIMENTAL.

To Establish in Hills District.

Mr. SAMPSON asked the Minister for Agriculture: 1, Does he intend to arrange for the establishment of an experimental orchard in the hills district? 2, If such is