

Legislative Council

Tuesday, the 3rd September, 1974

The PRESIDENT (the Hon. A. F. Griffith) took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

PAY-ROLL TAX ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Assent

Message from the Governor received and read notifying assent to the Bill.

QUESTIONS (6): ON NOTICE

1.

RAILWAYS

Derailments

The Hon. LYLIA ELLIOTT, to the Minister for Health:

Further to my question of the 31st July, 1974, concerning cyclic maintenance of the railway track, and the written reply of the Minister for Railways of the 2nd August, 1974—

(1) Will the Minister advise—

(a) why the findings of inquiries and joint reports on derailments are confidential;

(b) why he will not supply a copy of these to the railway unions?

(2) Does he agree that there has been a dramatic increase in main line derailments this year?

(3) Will he indicate—

(a) whether the 62 derailments which have occurred this year have been due to—

(i) track condition;

(ii) condition or design of rolling stock;

(iii) overloading;

(iv) other factors; and

(b) the number of derailments caused by each factor related to in (3) (a)?

(4) How much of the cyclic maintenance of the permanent way is carried out by private contractors?

(5) (a) Does the WAGR carry out cyclic maintenance with its own employees;

(b) if so, on how much track?

(6) When did cyclic maintenance under private contract commence on—

(a) standard gauge track;

(b) narrow gauge track?

The Hon. N. E. BAXTER replied:

(1) (a) and (b) The information obtained from inquiries made by senior officers into the cause of derailments is related to the internal operation of the railway system and is therefore confidential to the department's administration. When boards of inquiry are convened they are attended by union representatives and a copy of the board's findings is supplied to the unions concerned.

(2) Yes. Excessive rainfall experienced this winter has been a contributing factor.

(3) (a) and (b)—

(i) track conditions—37;

(ii) condition or design of rolling stock—6;

(iii) overloading—4;

(iv) other factors—14.

The cause of one (1) derailment has not yet been determined.

(4) This is a complex question involving various phases of track maintenance carried out by both contract and departmental labour. It is assessed that approximately 40% of track maintenance is performed by contract.

(5) (a) Yes.

(b) Approximately 60% of total track kilometrage.

(6) (a) January, 1969.

(b) October, 1968.

HOUSING

Meekatharra

The Hon. R. Thompson for the Hon. S. J. DELLAR, to the Minister for Justice:

(1) How many State Housing Commission homes are currently vacant at Meekatharra?

(2) Of these, how many are available for rental by—

(a) Aborigines; and

(b) non-Aborigines?

(3) How many applications for rental accommodation at Meekatharra have been received and are still outstanding for—

(a) Aborigines; and

(b) non-Aborigines?

The Hon. N. McNEILL replied:

(1) There are seven vacant houses in Meekatharra at the present date; four are under maintenance prior to re-letting and three are under offer to applicants.

- (2) (a) four houses;
(b) three houses.
- (3) (a) 35, including 17 pensioners;
(b) the three outstanding applicants have been offered the houses referred to in the answer to (1).

3. KANGAROOS

Products and Skins: Export

The Hon. G. W. BERRY, to the Minister for Education:

What is the latest information in regard to the export of kangaroo products or skins, and the acceptance of the Commonwealth Government of this State's management programme?

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON replied:

The Commonwealth Minister for the Environment and Conservation has written that he is prepared to recommend to the Commonwealth Minister for Customs that the ban on the export of kangaroo products be lifted as far as Western Australia is concerned provided that—

- (1) The vermin declaration on red kangaroos, euros and agile wallabies is revoked.
- (2) That the determination of the levels of culling be the responsibility solely of the Minister for Fisheries and Fauna on the advice of officers of his department and such other consultations as may be considered necessary.

The Commonwealth Minister for Customs has indicated that he might, in the future, consider the possibility of permitting commercial export by Western Australia if he felt that such action would be calculated to bring about an Australia-wide observance of a national co-ordinated conservation programme for kangaroos.

Negotiations are continuing.

4. HOUSING

Aborigines: Gnowangerup

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH, to the Minister for Justice:

In view of claims by various organisations that there has been discrimination against Aborigines in the allocation of rental homes in Gnowangerup, could the Minister inform the House—

- (1) The number of houses let during the last five years to Aborigines by—

- (a) State Housing Commission;
- (b) Native Welfare Department;
- (c) Shire Councils; and
- (d) others?

- (2) The total number of houses available for rental in the categories of (a) to (d) in (1)?

- (3) The number of Aborigines who have been allocated houses in other country towns such as Esperance, and who formerly lived in Gnowangerup?

The Hon. N. McNEILL replied:

- (1) (a) This information is not available for the period prior to 1st July, 1972, since State Housing Commission owned rental homes were available to all eligible applicants and there was no discrimination. From 1st July, 1972, to present date, nine houses have been let to Aboriginal applicants.

- (b) The Commission has been advised that through the former Department of Native Welfare 10 houses were let to Aboriginal families during the period 1st July, 1969, to 1st July, 1972.

- (c) and (d) This information is not available to the Commission.

- (2) (a) 33 houses, of which 20 are currently occupied by Aboriginal families.

- (b) Nil.

- (c) and (d) This information is not available to the Commission.

- (3) Since applicants are allocated houses in towns of their own choice this information is not known to the Commission.

5. EDUCATION

Wyndham and Kununurra: Free Air Travel

The Hon. R. Thompson for the Hon. S. J. DELLAR, to the Minister for Education:

- (1) Is the Government implementing the proposals of the previous Labor Government which were to apply from the 1st July this year—

- (a) to extend the free air travel scheme for students living in isolated areas to students living in Wyndham and Kununurra areas and attending schools in Darwin;

(b) the provision of three free air fares a year to children living in isolated areas who found it necessary to travel to centres within the State to complete their education?

(2) What is the expected cost of these concessions in a full year?

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON replied:

(1) (a) The free air travel scheme has been available for a number of years to students living in Wyndham and Kununurra and attending school in Darwin—including years prior to the term of the Labor Government. There is no intention to withdraw the concession.

(b) There is no current proposal to increase the present scheme to three return trips a year but in the course of a review of the scheme at an early date the question of frequency of travel will receive consideration.

(2) On present values and numbers of students travelling, extension to allow three return trips per annum would require additional subsidy payment of \$65 000 to \$70 000 each year. This figure would need to be adjusted to allow for rises in fares and future population increases.

6. FAUNA WARDENS

Appointment

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON, to the Minister for Education:

(1) How many full-time fauna wardens have been appointed during this year?

(2) Where are they located?

(3) What are their duties?

(4) How many further appointments are expected to be made this year?

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON replied:

(1) One.

(2) Throughout the State in a relieving capacity.

(3) To relieve district wardens during annual leave.

(4) None.

OFFICIAL PROSECUTIONS (DEFENDANTS' COSTS) ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 28th August.

THE HON. R. THOMPSON (South Metropolitan—Leader of the Opposition) [4.49 p.m.]: When the Minister introduced the Bill he said it was a relatively new

piece of legislation, but the Law Reform Commission has found certain amendments necessary. Of course if we trace back the history of the Act we will find that it was the result of an election promise by the Tonkin Labor Government. The legislation was introduced last year to fulfil that promise and it was expected that amendments would be made to it as time progressed.

At that point we could not gauge the full extent of the costs. These were a calculated guess but we were well within the budget appropriated at the time for the legislation.

This legislation deals with a matter of social justice. It gives the right to claim costs to people who would not normally be able to do so, and section 6 of the Act gives Justices of the Peace discretion to allow costs when people have been wrongly charged or in the circumstances of various other Acts, such as the Child Welfare Act, the Education Act, the Police Act, and the Criminal Code.

It would be as well for me to quote the subleader of *The West Australian* on Friday, the 21st September, 1973. It was headed "Court Costs" and it read—

It has long been a weakness of our judicial system that legal costs have put recourse to the law beyond the reach of many people.

In line with a suggestion by the Premier, Mr Tonkin, soon after taking office in 1971, the State Government has now acted to amend the general rule that costs are not awarded against the crown or its instrumentalities.

Legislation to allow successful defendants to claim such costs in courts of petty sessions and children's courts, and in appeals from those courts, is welcome. It is to be hoped that experience at the lower levels will quickly lead to extension of the principle to higher courts.

It is patently absurd and, more important, unjust that individuals should have to bear the cost of clearing their names against mistaken charges or that innocent people should find it much less expensive to plead guilty than to seek legal advice.

There is no place in a democratic society for a system that, however unintentionally, makes justice the preserve only of those who can afford it.

I think that very adequately sums up the intention of the legislation when it was introduced.

In the period of its operation, 87 certificates have been issued by the various courts and a total of \$5 949.56 has been awarded under the legislation. That is not a very large amount of money over a

period of approximately nine months. If the legislation is bringing social justice to people in Western Australia, I think the Government's next step should be to give serious consideration to the extension of the provisions to the District Court and the Supreme Court, so long as it can be contained within reasonable costs.

Since the introduction of this legislation there have been other benefits available at a very small cost. As from yesterday, through the Law Society, solicitors will be visiting country areas to give inexpensive legal advice. In addition, offices have been set up in the city, and even the Commonwealth has seen the need to open up offices through which free legal advice can be given and cases can be prosecuted if it is deemed necessary. So I feel that, generally, we are moving in the right direction as far as it concerns giving the people the opportunity to defend their rights in the courts.

The Bill now before us does not take the initiative. It deals with circumstances where people have been wrongly charged, where cases have been dismissed because of insufficient evidence, and in circumstances under various sections of the Child Welfare Act and the Education Act, where it is not necessary that convictions be recorded.

I think it is good legislation and I support it. However, I would like to see it extended into the higher level of courts, and I hope the Government will give this matter consideration in due course. I do not think it has to be done this year, but perhaps in a year or 18 months' time it will be found possible to extend the provisions to a higher court.

Mention was made in another place of section 137 of the Police Act. This comes under the saving section; section 6 of the Act. I do not wish to labour or debate the merits of that provision. I think the point was well made in another place and I feel sure the Minister for Justice will take it into consideration when next amending the Bill.

Debate adjourned, on motion by the Hon. W. R. Withers.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 28th August.

THE HON. D. K. DANS (South Metropolitan) [4.56 p.m.]: All I have to say is that this is a machinery Bill which brings the particular weights and measures into line with the directions given by the Commonwealth Government in respect of metric conversion. I support the Bill in principle and in detail.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee

The Deputy Chairman of Committees (the Hon. Lyla Elliott) in the Chair; the Hon. G. C. MacKinnon (Minister for Education) in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 and 2 put and passed.

Clause 3: Section 20 repealed—

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: I think the clause should stand as printed; but I rise because I think history is being created in the Parliament of Western Australia at this moment. I understand it is the first time we have had a lady occupying the position of Deputy Chairman of Committees. It is quite pleasing to see the businesslike manner in which she is going through the clauses, although it is only a small Bill. I am sure members of the Chamber feel gratified that a representative of her sex has been afforded, as Deputy Chairman of Committees, the equality and rights about which we hear so much nowadays.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (the Hon. Lyla Elliott): Thank you very much. I should have ruled you out of order but on this occasion I will close my eyes.

Clause put and passed.

Clauses 4 to 6 put and passed.

Title put and passed.

As to Report

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: Miss Deputy Chairman, I move—

That you do now report the Bill to the House.

As Mr Thompson said, having you in the Chair takes a little getting used to. I think we should regard lady members as just members, and be done with it. May I add my congratulations to those of Mr Thompson.

Report

Bill reported, without amendment, and the report adopted.

HIRE-PURCHASE ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 29th August.

THE HON. D. K. DANS (South Metropolitan) [5.02 p.m.]: This is a machinery Bill which emanates from the findings of the honorary Royal Commission into hire-purchase. Once again I support the Bill in principle and in detail.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: Thank you.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

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

DAYLIGHT SAVING BILL*Second Reading*

Debate resumed from the 29th August.

THE HON. D. K. DANS (South Metropolitan) [5.05 p.m.]: Like other members from both sides of this House I do not find it necessary to engage in any mental gymnastics or to turn any political somersaults, because the statements I am about to make are those I have made previously. I have always been of the opinion, right from the introduction of the first Daylight Saving Bill, that we should have daylight saving on a trial basis so that we may allow the people of this State some form of participatory democracy.

I have never introduced or supported the idea of a referendum, because I have been of the opinion—and I still am—that if people do not like daylight saving they will soon let us know. I have no way of determining whether daylight saving is good or bad for the people, apart from turning the matter over to the people for them to choose. I can well understand that—to use an expression I have used previously in this place—one man's laughter in respect of some things in life is another man's tears.

Therefore, I have some regard for the drive-in theatre operators and for those members in this House who represent country electorates. But I must also have regard, as have many other members for their electors, for the people I represent. I am fully aware of the apprehension of many country people, not so much about whether cows can tell the time—although that was an interesting observation made by Mr Gordon Masters, and I think it was well put—but in respect of their children travelling to school. At the same time I must also have regard for those who live in the metropolitan area, and whilst I have great regard for the contribution made by rural areas of our country—and particularly within our State—towards the general economy of our nation, I still recognise the great contribution made by those people within metropolitan Australia—and particularly those within the environs of Perth.

I suppose after considering some of the arguments presented in this place one could be a little facetious and say a very good case has been presented in favour of regional government. This would enable daylight saving to be introduced in certain regions to suit the desires of the local people, while allowing other regions to remain on standard time. I think we must understand that the life style of most people—certainly of those within the metropolitan area, and probably also those in country areas—has changed considerably over the years. Many people have approached me in respect of the question of daylight saving.

I have examined closely the situation of country areas versus city areas; and I am also aware of decisions taken by the Trades and Labor Council. However, I must also have regard for the many people who live in apartment-type accommodation within the province I represent; and there are literally thousands of them. So must I have regard for the life style of people in 1974, which is different from that of the people who experienced daylight saving during the war years. People now are mainly mobile; they have vehicles in which they may travel, and they can get from place to place very quickly.

No-one would deny that there is now available to the population at large a much greater degree of sporting and recreational facilities. For those reasons I must support the introduction of daylight saving on a trial basis, once again emphasising that the people will let us know very quickly if they do not like it.

I am not so happy about the referendum. I think if the question had been put to the people some three years ago we might have had a definite result by now; and having regard to our climatic conditions the decision could quite easily have been in favour of daylight saving. But here is the measure before us once again for the fourth or fifth time, and still the same arguments are being put forward. I am amazed at the referendum proposition; I am not so much amazed that it is proposed a referendum be held, because the Government is at least being consistent in that respect as it said it would conduct a referendum in the first place. I am amazed, however, at the manner in which the question is proposed to be put to the people.

They are to be told, "If you are in favour of daylight saving you will vote '1' opposite the word 'Yes'; and if you are against it you will vote '2' against the word 'No'." If we look at the Australian Constitution we may find it lays down that referendums may be put to the people only on the basis of answering "Yes" or "No". I have been long of the opinion that many referendums would be carried if the questions were put on the basis of the voters answering the questions by voting either "1" or "2"; because people find it very easy to write "1", and if the question must be answered by a "Yes" or a "No", they find it easier to write "No". Maybe that sounds a long way out, but I think it is true. I do not know how the Government will get over the situation—at least constitutionally—but I suppose it has considered just how the referendum will be put to the people.

The Hon. T. O. Perry: If the intention of the voter is clear you would have to accept it as a valid vote, wouldn't you?

The Hon. D. K. DANS: I have no intention of following that line of thought. I would say that Mr Perry's province is

way down south, and I view the question differently from him. Maybe we could examine this position in the Federal sphere with a view to making voting at referendums easier by doing away with voting "Yes" or "No" and introducing numerical voting; because such a system would be to the advantage of those putting the referendums, and to me it has many possibilities.

If daylight saving is introduced, then I think we must at least agree it is a foregone conclusion, if a referendum is put to the people on the basis that they must vote "1" if they are in favour and "2" if they are against, that daylight saving will be here to stay by popular demand.

The Hon. D. J. Wordsworth: Do you think the Government should go against the referendum?

The Hon. D. K. DAns: I can hear an interjection from Mr Wordsworth, whose voice I have not heard for a long time. I really like him to be in the Chamber because he makes me feel at home. In answer to the honourable member, that is a matter for the Government to decide. It is not a matter for me to decide; I am merely observing that I will be very interested in the result of the referendum.

A number of other matters must be considered. The question of dealings in finance and business has been raised, and I agree these are very important ingredients of our life style. Members have raised the questions of transport, navigation, and communications; and these are also very important. However, I do not think they should be the overriding considerations in respect of daylight saving, because once we start bringing it back to those considerations we start bringing it back to a sectionalisation of the community. I suppose one could speak on a sectionalised basis and present a good argument on behalf of whatever section one cared to support, and one's argument would be quite valid.

However, the fact is that the vast majority of people—at least in the area I represent—want to try daylight saving. I simply have not had one person say to me so far that he will embrace it with open arms; but they at least want to find out what it is all about. I think for those reasons daylight saving should be introduced for a trial period.

However, I am not so sure about the referendum, because I am still of the opinion, as I was three or four years ago, that the people will soon let us know whether or not they like daylight saving. I will be interested if and when the referendum is held to see whether the "1", "2" method of voting achieves a better result than the "Yes", "No" method.

I conclude by saying I find it a little surprising that—even though in the dying stages of the last Parliament it was mentioned in this Chamber that the then

Opposition would be interested in having a trial period of daylight saving followed by a referendum—at this stage the position should have resolved itself into something similar to what I saw recently in one of the cartoons published in the paper, which suggested that "good old capitalist daylight saving will probably be better than good old socialist daylight saving." That is how the people are summing up the position in their own minds. I support the Bill.

THE HON. CLIVE GRIFFITHS (South-East Metropolitan) [5.16 p.m.]: Many of the members who have spoken to the Bill have indicated that because they entered this Chamber for the first time during the present session they were not in a position of having to justify any action they may have taken on previous occasions in regard to daylight saving. Fortunately I am not one of those members. Daylight saving has come to be an old faithful so far as it concerns those of us who have been here for some time.

The Hon. G. W. Berry: It's a hardy annual.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: That is so.

The Hon. D. K. DAns: Like the Gascoyne dam.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: I feel it would have been a sad loss to the notice paper had the Bill not been introduced; because the Government Printer probably has the type set up and intends to maintain it in this condition so that in years to come he will have it on hand when a similar Bill is introduced.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: It's a pity the type for the *Hansard* speeches cannot be kept set!

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: Some members have said they support the Bill and have referred to their previous speeches; they have contented themselves with limiting their speeches to those few remarks on this occasion.

I have always been an opponent of daylight saving. Personally, I am opposed to it. The point I want to stress is that some accusations have been made by members of the Opposition in respect of the attitude being adopted by members on the Government side of the House on this occasion; the implication being that, in the past, Government members having opposed the Bills for daylight saving which were introduced by the previous Labor Government, should not now introduce a measure along similar lines.

This leads me to the point I wish to make that the Bill before us is only similar inasmuch as it deals with the subject of daylight saving. It is not similar to the measures we have debated in the past inasmuch as the present legislation provides for a trial period to be followed by

a referendum of the people. In the previous years, Bills have been introduced for daylight saving—full stop.

The Hon. Lyla Elliott: On a trial basis.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: That may be so, but they certainly did not contain the provision for a trial period to be followed by a referendum; previous legislation provided for a referendum or a trial period.

Accordingly the Bill we have before us tonight does not coincide in its content with the Bills we have had introduced previously. Members are, of course, quite justified in adopting whatever point of view they like, without consideration or concern for the manner in which they voted on previous Bills. I say this because the Bill before us provides for something which was not provided for in the previous Bills.

Apart from my own personal opposition to the introduction of daylight saving one of my other reasons for having opposed it is based on the effect that daylight saving will have on the various sections of the community. Not having readily available copies of previous *Hansards* from which I can quote, I will simply content myself by saying that, from memory, I can recall having said on at least one occasion that, so far as the people who are advocating the introduction of daylight saving are concerned, the benefits to them will come in the form of a bonus. To those people in the community who will be adversely affected by the introduction of daylight saving it becomes a penalty to which many of them have no solution.

My personal opposition to the introduction of daylight saving has been backed by my desire to speak on behalf of those sections of the community which I believe would be adversely affected by the introduction of such a measure. Accordingly I have gone along with this view in mind. One section of the community on whose behalf I have spoken on each occasion has been, indeed, the motion picture industry.

I would like to make it perfectly clear that I have no axe to grind so far as the motion picture industry is concerned. I cannot recall when I last visited the pictures; nor can I recall when I last saw a film. Therefore any suggestion that I have an axe to grind on behalf of that organisation can be discounted at once; because I do not go to the pictures; I have no desire to go to the pictures; and I certainly have no time to indulge in such a pastime; unless, of course, the motion picture industry puts on a show at 3.00 a.m., because that seems to be the only time I have available.

The Hon. R. Thompson: If you went at 8.15 p.m. or 3.00 a.m. you would still see an R certificate film.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: That remark of Mr. Thompson's provides me with the material for the next comment I wish to make. I have never seen an R certifi-

cate film; I do not know what they are about. However I picked up a *Daily News* when Mr Dellar and Mr Cooley were speaking to satisfy myself as to what was being shown in town. After listening to the tirades of these members I thought when I picked up a copy of that paper that I would find every one of the films advertised as films which come into the R category. But, surprisingly enough, on page 51 of the *Daily News* of Wednesday, the 28th August, which carries a full-page advertisement of the films showing—and I hope you can see what I mean, Mr President, because I am holding up the paper for members of the House to see—there are films which have a little red circle and every one of these films is either in the G category or in the NRC category.

The Hon. R. Thompson: It is the school holidays, of course.

The Hon. G. W. Berry: It's a special occasion.

The Hon. R. Thompson: For the first time.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: It seems rather extraordinary that out of the thousands of newspapers I could have picked up I happened to fluke the only newspaper which carried all these G and NRC films. There are some in the R category and also others in the M category—though I do not know what the latter means.

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: Those are for mature audiences.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: There is quite a comprehensive list of films which are showing at the moment. The other interesting point I notice is that the motion picture theatres have either two G films showing or one in the category of G and one listed as NRC. I am not too sure what that means.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: Are they all NRC films? What does NRC mean?

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: National rehabilitation council!

The Hon. Lyla Elliott: Not really cricket!

The Hon. R. Thompson: I will help you—it means not recommended for children.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: What does R really mean? I could give you a couple of connotations.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: It means rude.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: I never thought of that one.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: The point I wish to stress is that from Mr Cooley we heard a very savage attack on the motion picture industry. He said it was an industry in which most of the employees were employed part-time and were, therefore, apparently of no consequence. He said that apart from the projectionists they were all employed on a casual basis.

I have made some inquiries and this is far from the truth; indeed for many of the cleaners, cashiers, candy bar attendants, and managers it is a full-time job.

The Hon. D. W. Cooley: They are not there all the time.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: They do not take these jobs on as a part-time arrangement. I could go on in this strain but I do not wish to weary the House.

The Hon. R. Thompson: Oh do not disappoint us.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: Each of the members to whom I have referred has suggested that the motion picture industry is a crummy sort of industry. Mr Dellar referred to the types of films they show and said they were muck.

The Hon. D. W. Cooley: I said that.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: That may be so but Mr Dellar agreed with the honourable member. The point is that the newspaper I happened to pick up seemed to contain quite a decent selection of pictures which are being shown at the moment.

The Hon. G. W. Berry: What is the date of the paper?

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: It is the 28th August.

The Hon. D. W. Cooley: I made the point because they have had some amnesty as a result of the children's holidays.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: It is a clear indication to me that the people concerned with the motion picture industry have some regard for the situation, but to listen to the comments that have been made it would make one believe that this industry completely disregards the fact that children are viewing these films.

Anyway to get back to the NRC category films, which means not recommended for children. From my information the Commonwealth censor, Mr Prowse, has made the comment that films marked "not recommended for children" refer to children under the age of 12 years. That is a very significant point. To somebody who did not know what NRC meant it would give the impression that it was a shocking type of film; that it was certainly not the type of film to which children could be taken.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: I thought it was a religious film; national civic council or something like that.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: In order to support the point of view of the industry concerned—which I have done in the past—I want to say further that the adverse comments made by members quite indiscriminately in connection with the industry are unjustified and unwarranted.

I understand that if, in the making up of their programme, they cannot get two G-films, but only one G-film and one

NRC-film, they will exhibit the G-film before the interval and the NRC-film after the interval. In the case of a child under the age of 12 years there is a strong possibility that it will be asleep after the interval, and so will not see the NRC-film. I think this is a responsible attitude for the exhibitors to adopt in drawing up their programmes. For that reason I think the members of the Opposition have launched an unwarranted attack on the integrity of these people; in an endeavour to justify their point of view in regard to the introduction of daylight saving they have resorted to character assassination of this industry. If members of the Opposition have a legitimate argument then it ought to be possible for them to put it forward without launching into character assassination, a course on which they embarked last week.

The Hon. R. Thompson: Whose character did we assassinate?

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: The character of the exhibitors of films. Members of the Opposition commented adversely on them.

The Hon. R. Thompson: That is not character assassination.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: If I were a responsible businessman endeavouring to carry out the pursuits of my industry, and to do the best with the films made available by the producers, I would take exception to such comments. The exhibitors do not manufacture or produce the films; they are forced to exhibit the films which are available to them. In a responsible approach, the exhibitors go out of their way to ensure that when films of the classifications I have mentioned are available, they are shown in the sequence I have outlined.

The Hon. D. W. Cooley: We are not in the land of the midnight sun. These people will still be able to exhibit their films.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: If the honourable member reads the comments I made in respect of this matter in the past he will find that I acknowledge all that he is saying, and I have explained what all this means. He is making his comments as though there is to be some significant change in the pattern of film exhibition, as well as in the habits of the patrons attending drive-in theatres. The extra hour of the evening would make a vital difference.

The Hon. R. F. Cloughton: Are you indicating that we should not criticise the films?

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: I am not talking about criticising the films.

The Hon. R. F. Cloughton: You are criticising our description of the films.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: Members opposite may criticise the films as much as they like, but I would point out they have been criticising the integrity of the people I have mentioned.

The Hon. R. F. Claughton: In criticising our description of the films you say we criticised the exhibitors.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: It seems that the honourable member is embarking on one of his sessions of making rude interjections. This is something in which he engages from time to time, in an endeavour to put me off the track. I can assure him he is not being successful.

The Hon. R. Thompson: We are trying to put you off the sound track at the present time!

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: I take strong exception to the fact that the Opposition, in an attempt to bolster its point of view in respect of daylight saving, has found it necessary to make some adverse remarks on and criticism of the film industry. I do not go along with those remarks, because I believe these are responsible people. They provide employment to certain people, and entertainment for the community. Members of the community are the ones who make the decision as to whether or not they see the films. I cannot remember when I last saw one of these films, but the interesting aspect about the criticism of the films is that the "R" classification was introduced by the Tonkin Government in the face of opposition from the film exhibitors of this State.

The Hon. R. Thompson: We knew the Tonkin Government introduced the "R" classification.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: What has this to do with daylight saving?

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: This has exactly as much to do with daylight saving as the tirade of abuse which emanated from the Opposition last week against the film exhibitors of this city. I am sure that you, Mr President, concede that what I am saying has something to do with daylight saving, because if you did not you would have told me so. If I were in your position I would take strong exception to any member suggesting that I was not aware of what I was talking about.

The Hon. R. Thompson: I think the President will pull you up at any tick of the clock, if you continue along that line.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: The Bill before us is entirely different from similar legislation introduced in the past. I have always been against the introduction of daylight saving, and in this regard I have supported numerous sections of the community, including the motion picture industry, because of the effect daylight saving will have on it. I have bolstered my argument by agreeing with the adverse effect that daylight saving will have on

elderly people in "C"-class hospitals, and I have opposed daylight saving for the other reasons I espoused in the past.

That being the case I think I am justified in saying that in my view daylight saving should not be introduced. However, because similar legislation was brought before this Parliament on several occasions in the past, and because the Bill before us provides for a trial period of daylight saving to be followed by a referendum to be conducted among the people after they have had experience of daylight saving, I think on this occasion I have every justification for supporting the second reading.

My personal point of view has not changed. I am quite convinced that if we have a trial period of daylight saving to be followed by a referendum, the people of Western Australia overwhelmingly will defeat the legislation, and it will be done away with forever. However, if we do not experiment with the introduction of daylight saving in the manner proposed in the Bill then I am sure that about this time next year we will see a similar Bill presented. Should that eventuate none of us will be able to say that we were not in this Parliament on the previous occasion and therefore people cannot accuse us of changing our minds. I am sure that if we do not follow the course proposed in the Bill then next year and the year after we will see similar legislation presented.

At this point of time I feel inclined to support the second reading so as to give the people of Western Australia an opportunity to experience daylight saving, and enable them overwhelmingly to reject the legislation at the appropriate time.

THE HON. T. O. PERRY (Lower Central) [5.40 p.m.]: I rise to oppose the Bill, and I shall do so very briefly. I take this course of action in defence of the views of the great majority of people I represent, because they have made it crystal clear to me that they are opposed to daylight saving.

Various organisations—the Country Women's Association, some parents and citizen's associations, the Farmers' Union, and shire councils—have indicated to me that they wish me to oppose the Bill. I believe that the great majority of these people, who will be inconvenienced by the introduction of daylight saving, will not be able to adjust themselves to the difficulties that will be placed in their way.

I would now like to quote a letter which I received from the Honorary Secretary of the Western Australian Council of State School Organisations. It is dated the 28th August, and is as follows:—

Members of the Trayning W.A.C.S.S.O. wish to record their protest at the introduction of Daylight Saving, even for a trial period.

It is a matter of concern for all members that their children will be dismissed from school at an even hotter time of day and particularly those with long bus journeys will be subjected to even more discomfort from the heat. It is felt this will be especially so with the children from the lower grades.

Then of course there will be the added difficulty of children being unable to go to sleep in the evening while it is still daylight and this they should do if they are to have adequate rest to be able to cope the following day.

We would appreciate any efforts you could make on our behalf that daylight saving be not introduced.

During my term as a shire councillor I travelled on school buses, and on one occasion I saw a child of 5½ years of age with its face blackened and bruised, because it had fallen off the seat through sheer exhaustion from the long hours of travel each day.

We should appreciate the fact that many children of 5½ and six years of age board the school bus shortly after 7.00 a.m. By the end of the week these children are completely exhausted. Many of them have to travel up to 40 miles in the morning, and the same distance on the return journey in the afternoon, to attend school. These children are not able to adjust to the hours under daylight saving.

During harvest time the farming community is governed by the sun. It does not matter what hour the clock indicates; at a certain time of the morning when the temperature is right, these people begin harvesting the crop. The fact that under daylight saving the clock is put back does not influence the actual time when harvesting commences. If the operators at the grain receival points do not co-operate with the farming community then the farming community will be disadvantaged.

We have heard the arguments put forward by those who are engaged in the financial world, and who have to adjust to the three-hour lag during the period of daylight saving in the Eastern States. It is rather remarkable that the banks and the financial institutions cannot quote a figure of their losses on the short-term money market brought about by the non-introduction of daylight saving in Western Australia.

If you, Mr President, and I were to attend the races at the week-end, and I lost \$10, I am sure that I would know at the conclusion of the meeting that I had lost that amount; and you would also know whether you had lost or profited in your betting transactions. However, in the case of the financial houses they cannot esti-

mate their losses as a result of daylight saving. That indicates to me that their losses must be very trivial.

I wish to refer to another letter. This is from the Shire of Manjimup, and is dated the 22nd August, 1974. In it the shire advances an argument which I have not thought of. The letter is as follows—

Daylight Saving

Council resolved at its last meeting to request that you consider the matter of daylight saving in the vein of country residents and does request that you vote against daylight saving when it is introduced into Parliament.

There are many items which have previously been mentioned and discussed, and it can seriously affect the Council's bitumen surfacing programme which must be carried out during the hot summer months.

This is one small point but if men are knocking off work at 3.30 p.m. actual time the best part of the sealing day is being wasted, and it is not economical at this time to use overtime.

Of course, I can support that because of the Federal Government hand-outs to local authorities for road works—

The PRESIDENT: Order please; daylight saving is the subject matter.

The Hon. T. O. PERRY: Well, I am talking about the serious effect the Bill will have on council finances, if the councils have to pay overtime. To continue the letter—

Therefore it will probably be necessary for application to be made to the Union concerned for a later starting time and of course you would realise that this is unreasonable.

There are many other items such as dairying and other occupations as well as school children's lives which probably are well known to you, but should you desire any further comments on this particular point the writer will be only too pleased to assist.

It would be appreciated therefore if you would advise of your consideration of Councillors requests please.

Yours faithfully,

M. L. DUNN,
Shire Clerk.

I believe we have already had a trial period in Western Australia where, for three years, we have not fallen into line with the Eastern States. The average man in the street was not aware that clocks in the Eastern States had been advanced one hour.

Daylight saving possibly had a minimal effect on the financial world; the banks and the stock exchanges. I still believe it would be far easier for the people involved

in banking and the stock exchanges to adjust to this State being three hours behind the Eastern States rather than the housewives and shift workers having to adjust. I understand the Collie miners are opposed to daylight saving and, as members know, I have always supported the Collie miners even though I was accused, in another case, of jumping on the bandwagon.

Of course, the argument involving the Collie miners is one I could never win because it seems that if I do not speak in their defence I do not support them, and if I do speak in their defence I am jumping on the bandwagon.

With those few remarks—and because I do not wish to delay the business of the House—I indicate that I have not departed from my previous view.

THE HON. D. J. WORDSWORTH (South) [5.48 p.m.]: I rise to say that I will, once again, oppose the introduction of daylight saving. The inclusion of a referendum in the legislation has not changed my views, in any way. There is little demand for the introduction of daylight saving in my electorate, but there is a continuing preference for opposition to it.

The area in which I live already has 24 minutes of daylight saving, built in, anyway. We have heard some ridiculous arguments—if I might put it that way—and one was put forward by our friend who had trouble ordering spare parts late in the afternoon. However, I would remind him that he could get up at 5.30 a.m. next day to order his spare parts an hour earlier than normal.

The Hon. G. E. Masters: What about the train service?

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: The talk about a referendum has very little issue in this regard. Undoubtedly, the Federal Government has made a complete and utter mockery of referendums and I think the people have lost trust and faith after observing the joint sitting, and the reintroduction of Bills on which the public had already spoken.

It would be foolish of this Parliament to request a decision from the public on a minor matter such as daylight saving. We have been elected to this Parliament to govern, and to make decisions. We should implement legislation on what we consider to be the requirements of our electorates, and we should be able to do that without a referendum.

Members of Parliament are not held in high enough regard, anyway, and it would be ridiculous for us to go back to the people and ask them for a decision on such a minor matter.

The Hon. R. Thompson: Well, give the people a chance to signify their wishes.

The Hon. D. J. WORDSWORTH: They have had plenty of chance to signify their wishes, and I think they have indicated their opposition to daylight saving. I will oppose the Bill.

THE HON. R. F. CLAUGHTON (North Metropolitan) [5.50 p.m.]: Like my colleagues, I have, in the past, made quite plain my position with regard to this legislation.

The Hon. A. A. Lewis: It would be the first thing you have ever made plain!

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: If anything is plainer, it is the clear split in the Government ranks regarding the way the vote will go on this Bill.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: It will be a free vote.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: The term "a free vote" is a euphemism, if ever there was one. It is rather revealing to glance back through the debates which have occurred on previous Bills. For instance, Mr McNeill was enthusiastically opposed to the introduction of the first Bill in 1971, and it seems he remained that way for the next couple of years. However, he went through a magical transformation when it came to the referendum proposal put forward by the previous Government. One of the most drawn-out periods of political gymnastics by the Government parties, I have ever witnessed, was supported by a report which appeared in *The West Australian* of the 12th March, 1974. It is headed "Court: Liberals consistent on daylight" and states—

The Opposition Leader, Sir Charles Court, denied yesterday that the Liberal Party's attitude to daylight saving had changed since the last session of State Parliament.

He was commenting on a statement by his deputy, Mr D. O'Neil, on Sunday that a Liberal government would move to introduce daylight saving for a trial period next summer and would then hold a referendum on the issue.

Labor Party politicians immediately accused the Liberals of backing away from their previous opposition to daylight saving.

Later in the article it is reported—

He said Labor's rejection of the Liberal proposal last year confirmed his fear that the Labor Party was playing politics and was not very concerned about whether daylight saving was introduced.

That is rather typical, I would say, of the sort of comments the Premier makes: one always accuses the Opposition of what one is, in fact, doing oneself. It is the Government parties which are playing politics with this legislation. It must have been quite plain to whoever decided this policy for the Government parties that there would be little chance of the legislation

passing in this Chamber if the decision were to be based on the way members of the Liberal and Country Parties voted previously.

The Hon. W. R. Withers: It is entirely different legislation.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: The only party which has been consistent is the Country Party, the members of which have consistently opposed daylight saving.

The indication of a division within the Government is shown by the fact that four Ministers, in another place, voted against the Bill. What is to be the situation here? Are we to find that, in fact, more than half of the Cabinet Ministers are in favour of this legislation? We are entitled to ask why the legislation is now before us. If the Government sincerely believes that the public deserve an opportunity to experience daylight saving—as the Premier now seems to believe—then why does the Bill not have the wholehearted support of the Liberal and Country Parties in this Chamber?

The Hon. W. R. Withers: Because we do not operate in the same manner as does your party.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: Because the member opposite is not sincere.

Point of Order

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: On a point of order, Mr President, I object to those words and ask that they be withdrawn.

The PRESIDENT: Order! The honourable member has asked that the words be withdrawn.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: Of course, I withdraw them; that is the Standing Order.

The PRESIDENT: Perhaps the honourable member would state the words he wishes to have withdrawn.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: The Hon. R. F. Cloughton said we were insincere and I took it to mean it referred to me and the people on this side of the House. I will vote for this Bill.

The PRESIDENT: Order! Just state the words you want withdrawn.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: The words "that the members on this side of the House are insincere".

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: In fact, I did not say that; I said that Mr Withers was not sincere, and those are the words I withdraw.

Debate Resumed

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: What has been said does not change the point I was making. It would be very difficult for the public to come to any other conclusion. The Hon. Lyla Elliott has already detailed the members on the Government

side who supported the previous legislation. Those members held that view until the proposal for a referendum was introduced late in the tenure of the previous Government.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: Do not forget that you voted against it then.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: At that time we saw a number of Opposition members changing their stand very late in the day.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: Do not forget that you took violent objection to the measure and voted against it.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: The Tonkin Government, through the Minister who introduced the Bill in this Chamber, made it clear that our proposal was for a trial period only and that an assessment of the public feeling would follow.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: But you voted against the provision which is contained in this Bill, didn't you? You voted against it.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: The honourable member who is interjecting has done his fair share of twisting on this legislation already.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: No, I voted for it last time.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: The member opposite cannot, by any manner of means, make that accusation against members of my party.

The PRESIDENT: I think the use of the word "twisting" gives an unfair connotation of the debate in the past. It is not a very nice word to use.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: In fact, the Government is relying on the responsible attitude and the stability of the Labor Party in order to get this legislation through. That cannot be denied; without our support it is highly unlikely that this legislation would pass. I do not intend to dwell on the point any longer.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: That is good.

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON: More than enough has been said and all the points have been well and truly covered. If we are to believe the arguments put up previously in opposition to the Bills introduced by the Labor Party, it is difficult to understand how Government members can now support the legislation which is before us.

THE HON G. C. MacKINNON (South-West—Minister for Education) [6.00 p.m.]: Members would not expect me to go through all the debate to answer all the points made. With two noticeable exceptions, the speakers to the debate put their particular point of view for or against daylight saving. To my knowledge only two members really tried to make this

issue entirely political: Mr Cooley tried to prove that because he was prepared, as President of the Trades and Labor Council, to go against the views of the TLC, he was more honourable than the rest of us who were apparently being led by the nose by big business, or something like that.

Mr Claughton made one fundamental error when he stated that the present Bill is almost identical with the measure which this House voted on last year. That measure was supported by the Liberal Party and opposed by the Labor Party. As a matter of fact, if any change of opinion has occurred, it has occurred amongst Labor members.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: I said that.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: Mr Clive Griffiths pointed that out—it is as simple and as clear as it can be. The legislation referred to was not defeated in this House last year. It was supported by the Liberal Party and opposed by the Labor Party.

Question put and a division taken with the following result—

Ayes—13

Hon. R. P. Claughton	Hon. R. Thompson
Hon. D. W. Cooley	Hon. J. C. Tozer
Hon. Lyla Elliott	Hon. Grace Vaughan
Hon. Clive Griffiths	Hon. R. J. L. Williams
Hon. E. T. Leeson	Hon. W. R. Withers
Hon. G. E. Masters	Hon. D. K. Dans
Hon. I. G. Pratt	(Teller)

Noes—12

Hon. C. R. Abbey	Hon. G. C. MacKinnon
Hon. N. E. Baxter	Hon. M. McAleer
Hon. G. W. Berry	Hon. N. McNeill
Hon. H. W. Gayfer	Hon. T. O. Perry
Hon. T. Knight	Hon. D. J. Wordsworth
Hon. A. A. Lewis	Hon. V. J. Ferry
	(Teller)

Question thus passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee

The Deputy Chairman of Committees (the Hon. R. J. L. Williams) in the Chair; the Hon. G. C. MacKinnon (Minister for Education) in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 to 10 put and passed.

Sitting suspended from 6.06 to 7.30 p.m.

Clause 11: Ballot papers, method of voting, etc.—

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: I should like to move an amendment in the following terms—

Delete all words after "shall" in line 35 to and including the word "Yes" in line 36.

The Hon. R. Thompson: Would it not be better if you were to leave line 35 as it stands and insert a new line 36, "word 'Yes' in the space provided"?

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: That would achieve the same purpose as my amendment. I am happy about that, if the Committee believes it is a better term to use.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (the Hon. R. J. L. Williams): Should your amendment not be to delete line 36 and replace it with the words, "word 'Yes' in the space provided"?

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: Yes, that is correct. I move an amendment—

Page 6—Delete line 36 and substitute the following—

word "Yes" in the space provided.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: What we are doing is striking out line 36 and replacing it with the words, "word 'Yes' in the space provided". The proposed new clause will read—

If he is in favour of standard time in the State being advanced one hour from the last Sunday in October in each year until the first Sunday in March next following, he shall place the word "Yes" in the space provided.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is correct.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: Clause 11 sets out the way in which a ballot paper shall be marked and it also determines which votes will be regarded as formal and informal. The reason for the adoption of this method of voting is that the informal ruling in clause 11(4)(a) would appear to be somewhat confusing to electors who have not studied the Bill closely, if at all. It has been suggested that a great deal of complexity could be removed by the elector being required merely to write "Yes" or "No" on the ballot paper, which would be the normal sort of response an elector would have when looking quickly at the ballot paper.

Most electors who can read the printed word "Yes" can write it. However, a problem arises with those who cannot read, because instead of writing the numeral "1" on the ballot paper, he will write "Yes" or "No". Perhaps this would not be a problem because if the elector could not read the ballot paper, surely he would ask for assistance in the first place. In all the inquiries I have made, I have found no real reason for the adoption of the numeral method of voting other than it happened to be in the Bill that was last introduced.

The Hon. D. J. Wordsworth: You can be led astray.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: Yes, I could be led astray. I must admit that my feelings on this matter run akin to those of Mr Clive Griffiths. However, I would suggest that the Minister for Justice should give us the benefit of his advice later in the debate in case other problems are associated with the clause as it now stands.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: When I first heard the amendment moved by Mr Clive Griffiths I thought it was a good idea and made a lot of sense. However, I

have now started to consider the effect of his amendment and of the clause as it now stands. If we accept Mr Clive Griffiths' amendment we will have only one square and, during the counting after a referendum, it would be only human if the electoral officers mistakenly place the "Yes" votes in the "No" stack and *vice versa*.

The Hon. G. W. Berry: There would be no need to worry about that.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: I think it would be a little hard to use a computer to count the votes when only one square is used. Perhaps it would be better if two squares were used, in which case one would not need to interpret the vote but would merely look at the upper or lower square. I am not certain how I will vote on this measure for the simple reason that Mr Clive Griffiths' idea appears to be a sound one. I certainly am not qualified to speak on behalf of those who will count the votes of the people. I merely present that idea to the Committee for its consideration and ask members to give me the benefit of their expert advice.

The Hon. LYLA ELLIOTT: I am attracted to the amendment to clause 11 and also to form C on page 12 of the Bill. I think it makes a lot of sense to keep uniformity in the conduct of referendums. After all, people in Australia are used to voting either "Yes" or "No" in referendums and I would support this principle. However, I do not think enough attention has been given to the drafting of the amendment because clause 11(4) also deals with placing the numeral "1" on the ballot paper.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (The Hon. R. J. L. Williams): Order! We are aware of that fact; subclause (4) would have to be deleted.

The Hon. Clive Griffiths: We have not reached that clause yet.

The Hon. LYLA ELLIOTT: With due respect, Mr Deputy Chairman, I would have thought that the amendment should have included the words, "and delete subclause (4)". This would have made it complete.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I appreciate the honourable member's view, but we are dealing with only one clause at a time.

The Hon. D. K. DANS: I am afraid I must throw cold water on this amendment. I agree with the first part of the clause that a square or rectangle should be provided for the word "Yes". Do not let us run around pulling one another's legs. People in this country are used to voting in referendums.

The Hon. G. W. Berry: They are becoming more popular.

The Hon. D. K. DANS: They are going to get more used to them in the future. We are going a long way tonight towards making them popular. I appreciate the

sincerity of Mr Clive Griffiths in moving to delete line 36—which provides for the placing of a numeral on the ballot paper—and to substitute it with the new line, "word 'Yes' in the space provided". Perhaps I have not read the Bill correctly, but the amendment does not line up with what is contained in clause 11. During my speech on the second reading stage of this Bill I made the observation that it is much easier to write the numeral "1".

I am not trying to be hypocritical, but I believe in a trial period for daylight saving, and I then believe in the equality of opportunity for people to vote against it if they do not like it. The proposed amendment seems to be a rather *ad hoc* method of achieving this and if it could be tidied up I would be much happier.

The Hon. R. THOMPSON: What Mr Griffiths must do is to indicate all the amendments he proposes to clause 11. I take it when he rises to his feet he will do that so we will know exactly where we are in regard to the clause. For example, line 36 could be deleted and other words could be inserted. On page 7 the numeral "1" could be deleted in line 5 and the word "No" could be inserted. The honourable member then wishes to delete subclause (4) of clause 11.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: I apologise to the Committee. I commenced by saying that it would be necessary for me to speak on other than the first part of the clause. You, Sir, asked me to move the part I had reached and I was therefore sidetracked from making the explanation I intended to make.

I must also apologise to the Committee for not including the amendment in question on the paper I sent around to members. However, it must be appreciated that this paper was prepared during the tea suspension and I did not have time to set out all the amendments. I presume, however, that members realise the intention of the amendments that are currently being proposed to clause 11. These are merely machinery amendments which are proposed in the event of the schedule being amended. Therefore, originally, I should have continued to speak on Form C which I propose to have included in the schedule and which is set out on the paper I have distributed.

I believe that, in the interest of simplicity and of obtaining the least number of misinformed votes; in the interest of obtaining the correct decision from the people of Western Australia on whether or not they want daylight saving, we should provide a ballot paper so that the person voting can simply say "Yes" or "No". The whole of the amendments set out on the paper have been drafted for this purpose, and to do that clause 11 must be amended by the move I have outlined in line 36. The same clause will have to be amended in line 5 of page 7 so that the

word "No" may be inserted in the space provided. Also, further down page 7 the whole of subclause (4) will have to be deleted.

I am simply trying to gain the views of members of the Committee on whether or not they believe that what is provided in Form C is simple to follow, bearing in mind that, traditionally, the community votes "Yes" or "No" on a referendum. In these circumstances I fail to see why we should move away from this procedure.

The Hon. V. J. FERRY: I will support the proposition put forward by Mr Clive Griffiths, but it should be in the form that only one answer should be given to a simple question. I do not think it is out of keeping on a referendum for people to be asked simply to vote "Yes" or "No" on certain questions. Therefore I do not believe that the form set out in the schedule to the Bill is the most suitable in the circumstances.

I am sure we are all aware of the advantage of having the top spot on the ballot paper. This is simply a matter of a person voting "Yes" if he is in favour of daylight saving, or voting "No" if he is not. If a person cannot answer "Yes" or "No" in this day and age he does not deserve to have a vote. I support the proposal put forward by Mr Clive Griffiths in regard to the schedule, and that clause 11 should be suitably amended in due course to allow a person to vote "Yes" or "No" as he so decides.

The Hon. N. McNEILL: I feel I should make some observations on the proposal put forward by Mr Clive Griffiths and not necessarily from the point of view of expressing my support or otherwise. It is necessary to draw attention to some complications that may arise and, in making these comments, Mr Deputy Chairman, I hope you will be indulgent with me. In the first instance I wish to refer to something to which the Committee has already agreed and also to something in clause 11 which I believe has some relevance. In making the comments I put forward for the support of the Committee I would point out that members may wish to take some time out to give consideration to these factors.

First of all, I draw the attention of members to subclause (2) of clause 10 which reads—

(2) The provisions of the Electoral Act, 1907 relating to postal voting, absent voting and voting pursuant to section 122A of that Act apply with such modifications as are necessary to voting on the prescribed question.

It may well be, bearing in mind that provision, that if the method of voting is otherwise than provided in the Electoral Act, the provision in that Act could have some bearing on the voting on this question. For the information of the Committee I think it is necessary for me to quote

not section 122A of the Electoral Act which sets out the general method of voting, but section 128 (1) which reads—

The elector shall mark his vote on the ballot paper by placing the numeral 1 opposite the name of the candidate for whom he votes.

Bearing in mind that the Electoral Act itself does not provide for the holding of a referendum, it is therefore understood that the provisions set out in clause 10 (2) will apply to the holding of this referendum. One may then believe that the ballot paper shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Electoral Act, unless otherwise prescribed by this legislation. I point out, then, that the provision needs that further contemplation. At the moment my personal view is that if Mr Clive Griffiths' amendment is agreed to and the legislation is passed, it will probably be in order. However, I think it needs a little further investigation.

I will make one further comment. Clause 11(3)(c) reads—

it has upon it any mark or writing which in the opinion of the Returning Officer will enable any person to identify the elector.

A similar provision is contained in paragraph (c) of section 139 of the Electoral Act, because it reads—

if it has upon it any mark or writing not authorised by this Act which, in the opinion of the Returning Officer, will enable any person to identify the elector;

I sought some advice on this question, and while I have not been aware of any particular ruling on it, it may well be held—in fact a view has been expressed on it at some time—that by writing the words "Yes" or "No" this could well serve as identification. It is not necessary for the returning officer to identify a person from the writing. The words are, "will enable any person to identify the elector".

It may be said that this is stretching the long bow; that anybody could identify the elector, but whether the amendment be agreed to or otherwise, I think some further inquiry should be made. I therefore suggest to the Committee that if members believe there is any substance in my observation they may consider it wise that further discussion should be deferred and that progress be reported. It may be as well that members of the Committee express some views on the question in order that appropriate advice can be sought.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: This is one of those matters that looks extremely simple, but the further we go the more complex it becomes. The proceedings will not be hampered should there be a little delay. I notice from the Press this evening that it seems to be accepted that Western Australia will be having daylight saving, so may I suggest that in order to clear the

air procedurally Mr Griffiths may be so kind as to withdraw his amendment by leave of the Committee. He could then, in conjunction with the Clerks, frame amendments so that they may be printed on the notice paper in due course and then we would all have them in front of us for proper consideration.

I therefore suggest that we should report progress and ask leave to sit again. We would then have the benefit of some further detailed advice and possibly have all the amendments in front of us so that we would know precisely that which we were deliberating.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: I would be quite happy to do that. I point out to the Minister for Justice, of course, that so far as I am concerned clause 10(2) contains many other provisions. It provides that such provisions of section 122A of the Electoral Act as are necessary shall apply when a person has to vote on a prescribed question. I would think that that section takes care of the point the Minister has raised in respect of the voting procedure.

However, I will do whatever is correct procedurally to put into effect what the Minister for Education has suggested, which includes the withdrawing of my amendment.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (the Hon. R. J. L. Williams): Strictly speaking, it is not necessary for you to withdraw your amendment but for the sake of clarity and to keep all the amendments on the notice paper together that would be preferable.

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS: Very well, Mr Deputy Chairman. I ask leave to withdraw the amendment to clause 11.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Progress

Progress reported and leave given to sit again, on motion by the Hon. G. C. MacKinnon (Minister for Education).

WHEAT MARKETING ACT AMENDMENT AND CONTINUANCE BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 28th August.

THE HON. R. T. LEESON (South-East) [8.01 p.m.]: This Bill is relatively small, but is very important. It provides for the continuation of the Wheat Marketing Act for a further five years. The Act has never been invoked because the wheat marketing stabilisation scheme was implemented and, up to the present time, it has operated satisfactorily.

I cannot stress the importance of this Bill too much to members, most of whom would know more about wheat marketing than I do. I am sure that the Bill has

the support of everyone in the House as we all realise the assistance the wheat industry is to Western Australia. I am sure that with the passing of the Bill the breakfast cereal Weeties will be with us for a considerable time to come.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

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

PLANT DISEASES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 29th August.

THE HON. R. T. LEESON (South-East) [8.05 p.m.]: This is another small Bill which is designed to make two amendments to the Act, the first being to remove from it the definition of "Under Secretary" because such a person has not existed in the Department of Agriculture for many years now.

The other amendment deals with an increase in the rate of charges for fruit-fly baiting. Of course we all acknowledge that costs are rising and it is understood that charges must be increased. However, over a number of years the industry has been subjected to many problems with fruit-fly baiting and it is questionable whether we are going about the task in the right way.

I do not come from an area in which fruit is grown in commercial quantities, but it does contain a tremendous number of backyard orchards. If the water is available, the fruit on the goldfields grows reasonably well, but a considerable number of people do have problems with fruit fly. It is unfortunate that the better the fruit the more fruit fly there is present, regardless of how much spraying is done, who does it, and how much is paid for it.

The scale of charges becomes complicated in that for one to 100 trees something like 16 charges are involved. In my area when a person has between two and six trees in his backyard, tremendous argument arises between the owner and the fruit-fly baiting committee as to the exact number of trees which were there at the count. Sometimes a fellow cuts a tree out because it is in the way of something he wants to do, or a tree will die and he removes it. When he receives the bill for the baiting and it is \$2 more than it should be, all hell breaks loose and sometimes many angry words are spoken.

I personally know the people who do the work and I am aware of the problems they have. I would have thought it possible to

bring the number of charges for between one and 100 trees down to something like six rather than 16 because the situation is a little ridiculous. I do not think that if I have three trees and someone else has four there should be a great difference in the amount charged. Perhaps we should commence with one tree and make the same fee applicable for anything up to 12 trees, and so on. The situation must be very complicated and create a fair amount of work at the office. I do not know what the situation is in the metropolitan area, but I can imagine what it will be in my electorate with some of the staff there having to charge from one to 100, and so on. I do think we should have another look at this issue and modify it.

With those comments I support the Bill.

THE HON. G. W. BERRY (Lower North) [8.10 p.m.]: I feel I must say a few words on the Bill. We seem to be approaching the problem involved in a very haphazard manner. We are increasing the charges because of rising costs, but we must make the right approach to the problem. I am sure some members do not appreciate the menace the fruit fly is to the industry in this State.

South Australia and Victoria have a system which keeps the fruit fly at bay in their fruit-growing areas, and the penalties are severe for anyone who introduces fruit fly. We do not seem to adopt that attitude here. The fruit fly in the metropolitan area is worse than it has ever been, for the simple reason that the matter has been placed in the too-hard basket. Because of the menace of fruit fly, it is doubtful whether people in the metropolitan area would grow much fruit, unless they enjoy eating fruit fly.

The pest has been responsible for the closing of markets for fruit and I know what occurred in the Carnarvon area because that is a declared area and the fruit fly is kept under control, but not eradicated. Special treatment must be given to fruit which is going to particular places, although it is banned altogether at others. We are merely trying to contain the pest when we should be attempting to eradicate it. The problem should not be put in the too-hard basket. A concerted effort should be made because I am sure that methods are adopted in other parts of the world and the pest has been eradicated there.

The main necessity seems to me to be money and the community in general should be responsible for taking an active part or contribute to the eradication of the pest.

Although I support the Bill I do not believe it goes far enough because the mere increase in the charges to meet rising costs is hopelessly inadequate to deal with the problem of fruit fly in this State.

THE HON. N. McNEILL (Lower West—Minister for Justice) [8.13 p.m.]: I wish to convey my thanks to Mr Leeson and Mr Berry for their support of the Bill, qualified as it may have been by them both, but by Mr Leeson in relation to the scale of fees provided for in the Bill. It will be noted that certain propositions were made in another place and amendments were suggested to the scale of fees. However, the scale which has been included in the Bill is the one which is considered will yield the necessary amount of finance, which brings me to the point Mr Berry raised that if the local committees are to be in a position to provide at least a degree of control, if not total control, then quite clearly they must have access to finance.

It is my understanding that the requests for this finance came from the local committees which, needless to say, have been finding themselves in some difficulty in providing the control measures.

However, I acknowledge the remarks of Mr Berry and I agree with him that perhaps we are not getting on top of the problem as well as we might. Fruit fly does constitute a considerable and expensive hazard to the fruit industry generally throughout the State, and the situation requires some pretty punitive measures. While the Bill does not necessarily set out to provide these, it certainly goes part of the way by providing the means at least by which the local committees can be in a somewhat better position to effect the sort of activities and control measures presently employed.

I thank members for their support of the Bill which I commend to the House.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

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

JUNIOR FARMERS' MOVEMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 29th August.

THE HON. R. T. LEESON (South-East) [8.18 p.m.]: This is another small Bill the sole purpose of which is to change the name of the Junior Farmers' Movement Act to "Rural Youth Movement Act".

I believe that the original Junior Farmers' Movement Act was introduced in the 1950s to assist youth in rural areas who were disadvantaged and required training in public speaking and in other avenues. Unfortunately the movement did not reach the goldfields; it operated mainly in the agricultural areas and in later years it extended into the metropolitan area.

I understand the membership of the Junior Farmers' Movement has been declining over the years but at the same time monetary assistance has increased. As we are now changing the name of the legislation to "Rural Youth Movement Act" I wonder whether any of the money should be spent in the metropolitan area or whether we should try to expand the activities of the movement to the pastoral and mining areas in Western Australia. From what I can ascertain, that was the original intention of the legislation, and with an increase in funds from Governments I think money should be available to assist disadvantaged people in remote areas. Perhaps we could have a look at that aspect.

I do not think there is anything else I need say about the Bill at this particular time.

THE HON. R. J. L. WILLIAMS (Metropolitan) [8.20 p.m.]: It would be remiss of me if I did not take the opportunity to speak to this Bill. I have had a little to do with the organisation named in the measure. In point of fact, I was employed by the organisation at one time. Some of my colleagues in both this House and another place were similarly employed much before my time.

I have one very pleasant memory of this movement when, in the course of my duties as an extension officer, it was my pleasure to meet for the first time ever the member for Avon, who has now been translated and promoted to this House. I refer to the Hon. H. W. Gayfer. It was an extremely wet night at Bruce Rock and we were attending the last function in the old Bruce Rock hall which was to be demolished the next day. While the honourable member and I did not pre-empt that event and try to demolish the hall it was fairly evident that others attending the function were going to try to help the contractors somewhat.

I would like it to be known to the House that the change of name has taken some seven years of debate outside this Chamber. This is the last State in the Commonwealth to change the name of the movement to "Rural Youth Movement" as opposed to Junior Farmers' Movement. A great deal of debate took place at each annual conference and, as with daylight saving, it was a hardy annual which was constantly being defeated by a narrow majority. The step has now been taken and I am pleased to see the change has at last come to pass.

I agree with the Hon. R. T. Leeson that the word "Farmers" in the name of the movement precluded quite a number of people in rural areas from joining it; but I think I should explain, in fairness to the movement, that the junior farmers were being displaced from the land at a tremendous rate and it was considered by the council of the day that provision had to be made for them in the city. Four years

ago the city club of the junior farmers had by far the greatest membership. The transition which occurred in the movement at that time was quite amazing. The rural and metropolitan youth came together much more often and began to appreciate the problems of both communities.

The movement employs some very skilled personnel who travel many hundreds of miles in a week encouraging rural youth to participate in all kinds of events. I share the sentiments of the Hon. R. T. Leeson that the name of the movement and the character of the people within it are changing. I make an appeal to the Minister. In his wisdom, and with time on his side, I wonder whether he would care to consider expanding the activities of the movement so far as the experts and extension officers employed by it are concerned. Rather than just staying with the movement on their visits to rural areas, perhaps they could be available to all people in rural communities who wish to utilise their services.

The Junior Farmers' Movement has done some excellent work for young people in the rural areas and has produced some really first-class citizens. I feel the service could now be extended to other people who wish to participate in such activities, which are no longer confined to wool classing, sheep shearing, and calf rearing, but extend all the way from sewing to pottery, philately, and photography. Whatever one cares to name, the movement has tried it, and it has usually turned out to be very successful.

I felt in honour bound to stand up and make those few remarks. I hope the Minister will forgive me for taking up the time of the House. It is a movement of which I was very fond, as were also the Leader of the House and the Deputy Premier of the previous Government. I wish the movement well and hope that when it becomes the "Rural Youth Movement" it will be persuaded to spread its wings a little wider around the rural community, thus perhaps avoiding an expensive duplication of services. With those remarks I support the Bill.

THE HON. GRACE VAUGHAN (South-East Metropolitan) [8.28 p.m.]: I hope the Minister does not mind my prolonging the debate and that he will not become upset with me on this occasion. I wanted to say a few words in praise of the Junior Farmers' Movement, as I knew it, and add to what Mr Williams has said.

These young people not only take an interest in the rural industry and other rural pursuits, as Mr Williams mentioned, but they also take a deep interest in political issues. They take an interest in current affairs and are certainly showing themselves to be creditable young leaders of the future. I have had something to do with these young people in community

planning and with the Australian assistance plan. They were very logical and inquisitive in their remarks about the Australian assistance plan—a little more logical and constructive than some of the people I have heard in this House.

I rise to my feet only to say to the Minister that these people are very worthy of support, and the fact that the movement has changed its name does not mean a change in the philosophy it has been pursuing, because even as farmers they are interested in more than farms.

THE HON. G. C. MacKINNON (South-West—Minister for Education) [8.29 p.m.]: I would like to thank members for their comments. Firstly, I hasten to assure the Hon. Grace Vaughan that I would not dream of getting upset with anybody who wanted to get up to speak. That is the right of members. I was not at all upset about her speaking; I was markedly upset about what she said when she spoke. They are two very different matters. This evening there is no reason for one to become perturbed.

The PRESIDENT: That was not about junior farmers.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: When she was speaking before? No, Sir, that was when we got that half-baked philosophical diatribe; but tonight she made a sensible comment and I thank her for it. I also thank Mr Williams for his nostalgic comments. I suppose we could say it is two to one for our side of politics. I also thank Mr Leeson. Obviously he carried out some research, and he presented a few suggestions which I think are worthy of being considered in the light of changing circumstances. I will ensure the various matters are brought before the controlling body of the Junior Farmers' Movement for its consideration.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

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

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE

THE HON. N. McNEILL (Lower West—Minister for Justice) [8.32 p.m.]: I move—That the House do now adjourn.

Indonesian Fishermen: Trespassing

THE HON. J. C. TOZER (North) [8.33 p.m.]: I would like to take a few minutes of the time of this House to comment on a matter of grave and urgent national importance.

In Broome yesterday a meeting of pastoralists from the West Kimberley was addressed by senior executives of the Australian Meat Board. The world meat

market is in a topsy-turvy state, and the Meat Board men were not able to give the beef producers of the Kimberley a very happy report. I was impressed by one remark which went something like this—

If you are not confused—you do not understand the position.

The depressed prices of the current killing season has been a bitter pill for the producers to swallow following the buoyancy of the market last season.

On top of the whole gloomy picture came the graphic first-hand report of a pearl producer who has been directly confronted by the incursions of the foreign fishermen who have been invading our Kimberley coastline. These fishing boats are coming directly from the Indonesian islands where animal diseases, such as foot-and-mouth disease, rabies, blue-tongue, and others are endemic.

Mr President, you can imagine the concern of the cattle men when the top meat industry men in Australia stated, without reservation, that the introduction of foot-and-mouth disease into the Kimberley would immediately and automatically close the doors to beef exports to the United States, the United Kingdom, and the European Economic Community countries.

The Hon. S. J. Dellar: How do you know they are coming from Indonesia?

The Hon. J. C. TOZER: An industry, already hard hit, would collapse overnight if this disease should gain entry to the Kimberley.

We are not talking about a "two-bob" set-up when we refer to the beef industry in the Kimberley. Last year 80 000 head were killed at the meatworks of Broome, Derby, and Wyndham. It is probable that a further 30 000 were trucked out to the east or the south for slaughter or fattening. The industry export earnings alone last year were in the vicinity of \$12 million.

Almost every worker in the Kimberley is directly or indirectly associated with the beef cattle industry in some way. In other words, not only are we speaking of the collapse of an industry, but of the complete economic destruction of the region.

I earnestly appeal to the Minister for Justice to take this message to the Premier, requesting that he again urge the Prime Minister to provide—

Point of Order

The Hon. S. J. DELLAR: Mr President, under Standing Order 72 I raise a query as to whether or not the member is reading his speech.

The PRESIDENT: Is the honourable member reading his speech, or referring to his notes?

The Hon. J. C. TOZER: I am referring to notes fairly freely, Mr President.

The PRESIDENT: Then you are not infringing Standing Order 72. Would you carry on.

Debate Resumed

The Hon. J. C. TOZER: Thank you, Sir. I earnestly appeal to the Minister for Justice to take this message to the Premier requesting that he again urge the Prime Minister to provide the protection needed to keep these people away from our coastline.

The Commonwealth Government must adopt a positive and permanent policy to patrol the coastline between Darwin and Port Hedland. It is no good basing such patrol ships at Darwin, because this is too remote from the centre of illegal activities. At least one ship must use Broome—or Derby—as its base of operations.

The patrol ships have to be provided with pinnaces or smaller boats which can move about the reefs and islands of the area where the poachers are operating, so that these people will not be able to thumb their noses at our national authority. Coupled with this, there has to be aerial surveillance to ensure complete coverage of the area.

The Commonwealth cannot be permitted to abrogate its responsibilities in respect of important Governmental functions. It just has to take seriously its statutory duties to police—

- (1) The quarantine laws of this country;
- (2) the health regulations relating to the entry of humans, animals, and goods;
- (3) the Customs requirements to ensure that drugs and other illicit goods are not imported;
- (4) the immigration laws to prevent the landing of illegal immigrants;
- (5) the fundamental defence and security requirements of our nation.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: Do you think they have just arrived there?

The Hon. J. C. TOZER: The State has already indicated that it is prepared to play its part. Officers from the Department of Fisheries and Fauna, veterinary officers and stock inspectors from the Department of Agriculture, and State police officers have been to the scene on a fairly regular basis over the last four months. All they can do is say, "Shoo! Go away!"

It is of national importance that the defence forces provide the show of strength needed to send these unwanted visitors packing. They must be sent back to their island homes with their illegal harvest of trochus shell and other products confiscated—it must be shown to be unprofitable and uncomfortable to visit the Kimberley coastline.

The patrol work by the Navy must not be a once-a-year event or even on an on-call basis. It has to be a continuing and permanent involvement in the task of protecting our national sovereignty and our national economy.

Wool Marketing: Guaranteed Price

THE HON. H. W. GAYFER (Central) [8.40 p.m.]: With some diffidence I rise tonight on a matter of urgency in a debate that I find rather peculiar, but which certainly has the purpose of allowing one to raise an issue of extreme urgency.

I wish to refer to *The Sunday Times* of last weekend—three days ago—and in particular to an article which appeared in the finance section under the heading of, "Sheep riding on Australia's back". The article was written by the finance editor of *The Sunday Times*. He did discuss other topics in the same newspaper which do not concern wool, but investment guides and other matters, and he discussed them with some degree of authority, as one would expect a finance editor to do. However, if he spoke on those things with the same authority with which he spoke in relation to the wool industry, then people should not read the finance page in that newspaper with the object of following his guide towards successful investment, or of placing any faith in his commentaries on particular investments.

I am sad to think that such an article should be circulated, particularly in the metropolitan area. In country areas he would be pitied for writing such an article; but I think it is sad that it should be circulated in the metropolitan area, because this is another factor which will help to widen the rift between city people and country people, of which I spoke previously, by giving to the city people a wrong impression in regard to the buoyancy of the country at the moment.

In his article the worthy gentleman referred to the latest plan for the wool industry, coupled with Japanese resistance to present prices. He went on to say that the support scheme for the wool industry which will be financed by Australia's taxpayers looks to be an open-ended commitment. He said, "That is, of course, precisely what the Australian Wool Corporation was not supposed to be."

Previously when the Australian Wool Corporation used its rights in an endeavour to protect the industry at a certain figure it did, in fact, buy wool in; but subsequently, as everybody is aware, following those dim years of the 1971-72 recession wool was sold at quite a handsome profit which is being used now to bolster the activities of the Australian Wool Corporation. The finance editor went on to say—

Stripped to its essentials, the new wool support scheme means that the Australian Government has agreed to bank roll a floor price of 250c a kilo.

He carefully avoided the use of the word "clean"; but everywhere in the article he talks of clean wool. At no stage does he refer to greasy wool, and it is greasy wool that we understand. It is greasy wool upon which prices are given to farmers and upon which we obtain our living. He went on to say—

To get the question of wool prices into the correct perspective, it is necessary to remember that the Wool Corporation and its predecessors were designed to cope with the problems of 1971-72, when average prices were under 80c a kilo.

That is 80c a kilo, greasy, of course. I have no argument with that at all, because that is when the Wool Corporation did in fact come in; but it did not prop the price at 86c a kilo clean—and the finance editor has not mentioned greasy. The corporation did in fact come in at the figure of 36c a pound—which is 36c a pound greasy—and not the 86c a kilo that he has implied here by the omission of the word "clean". The article then continued, and this is where I did take exception, and said—

Of course there should be a floor price set for the corporation's auction system. Even the International Wool Textile Organisation, representing manufacturers, is in favor of that.

So it does agree there should be a floor price because it states—

But the floor price should be set to protect growers from freak falls in demand, not to try to force the market up to artificial levels, risking involving taxpayers in an open-ended subsidy.

The final paragraph states—

The floor price does not need to be as high as 250c a kilo, when according to some agricultural economists a slightly smaller and more capital-intensive wool industry could produce wool economically at 86c a kilo.

The final paragraph implies that the wool industry is being propped to an extent of 250c a kilo greasy, because in his later statement the author says that wool can be economically grown at 86c a kilo; if he talks of 86c a kilo being clean wool, that 86c clean would be the equivalent of 48c a kilo greasy, and 48c a kilo greasy in today's language would be the equivalent of 20c a pound, and 20c a pound today would be nowhere near the 36c a pound that was operating in 1971-72 especially with buying power at 36 per cent less. In fact it is a negligible propping structure compared with the year 1971-72.

The article is completely misleading, particularly when it talks about this being used only to protect growers from freak falls in demand. However the article then runs completely off the rails, because the author had no idea of the difference between clean and greasy wool.

I wish to quote my own experience with last year's wool clip. Last year I sold my wool clip for 255c a kilo greasy on the place and this included bellies, pieces and everything else, except locks for which I obtained 98c a kilo. I returned 32 bales of wool out of that clip and those 32 bales represented 24 bales of AAAM which is a good type of wool, and eight bales of AAM. In other words those 32 bales would have brought in considerably more than the 255c a kilo I obtained cash on the farm for the proceeds of my clip.

That wool was sent down to Elder Smiths in the city and at the sale at which it was offered in Fremantle on the 4th March, 1974, it was passed in by that firm, because the total price when divided by the amount of wool sold would have yielded only 151c greasy on the farm after 7 per cent for costs had been deducted. Accordingly in March it was considered by the company that this was not a payable proposition and, in fact, the company's advice was not to sell the wool. That same wool is on the floor at the present moment and this, Sir, I would have you know was top quality wool off Peppin sheep that have been Peppin-sired since 1917; and anyone with any knowledge of sheep parlance should know that this runs out at 21 micron wool, as the Minister for Justice would certainly know. The price being offered as propping wool referred to by the Wool Commission is 12 bales of AAAM at 126c a kilo; and yet a figure of 250c a kilo was referred to in the article.

Further wool to be offered at commission prices is 12 bales of AAAM at 122c a kilo, four bales of AAM at 113c a kilo, and another four bales of AAM at 109c a kilo.

If this wool is sold, and I believe it will be sold, at Wool Commission figures—and we must appreciate the commission has bought in 50 per cent of the sale so far—it means that this clip for which I was offered 151c a kilo net on the farm last March, will realise 112c a kilo net, and taking off 5 per cent that must be paid into the fund, it would make it 106c a kilo net on the farm.

If one were to take that 106c a kilo, realising that this is top wool, and consider what the amount would be if this were an average clip including all the various lines that go with an average clip, I would guesstimate fairly accurately that the 106c a kilo for the entire clip would run out at an average of 86c a kilo net on the farm, which is equivalent to about 38c a pound. In trying to strike an equivalent back to the recession days of 1971-72 and if one loses only 12 per cent by inflation for each of those years one would find that wool is being propped to the equivalent buying strength in those days of 20c a pound.

When we have this type of article coming out with half-veiled truths and it is circulated to and read by the people in the city it only tends to further widen the

rift that is between us at the present time. Until we get somebody who knows of factual cases and the facts of propping we should not allow those who know nothing about industry or commerce to write such articles in the papers as this worthy gentleman has endeavoured to do.

Indonesian Fishermen: Trespassing

THE HON. D. K. DANS (South Metropolitan) [8.53 p.m.]: I wish to make a couple of comments on the observations made by Mr Tozer. I was not here for the whole of his speech but I think I was able to get what he was aiming at. I would strongly advise him to stop trying to fly political kites or balloons about the so-called invasion of our northern coast by the Indonesian fishermen.

The facts are that these people have only recently been discovered and, I believe, for political purposes. In my experience which goes back a number of years they have been fishing the inner and outer reefs for some 27 or 28 years. That is only from my experience; in fact they have been fishing those reefs for hundreds of years.

It is an unfortunate fact that these people come mostly from the island of Sumatra—where the long hand of the Indonesian Government, even under Soekarno, did not have much sway—and the majority of them are subsistence fishermen.

I do not suggest for one moment that they should be allowed to come here, but the facts are that to maintain a mobile force to keep them out might prove to be a very expensive undertaking.

The Hon. A. A. Lewis: So would foot-and-mouth disease.

The Hon. D. K. DANS: I have made the point that these people have been coming in for hundreds of years. It is true that the island of Bali has just had an outbreak of cholera. It is also true that we have Hanson's disease in the north-west—which is in fact leprosy—which, I understand, was introduced by Chinese indentured labour. It is not so long ago that we had indentured labour coming into Broome—there were Malaysians, Chinese, Indonesians, and so on. It seems very strange that this matter has been now blown up out of all proportion. We will eventually get the message through to these people that it is not profitable for them to come here.

It was only a short time ago that two Taiwanese fishing boats were detected in the vicinity of the Montebello islands, and I can show members Press cuttings which indicate just to what extent the members of the then Opposition performed. We were told how harsh the Australian Government was being on the Taiwanese fishermen; that people were going to take up collections to buy the boats back and

send the fishermen back to Taiwan. I visited these boats and I assure members that they were dirty and rat-infested. On the one hand we had the Taiwanese who were part of a very big commercial fleet. They fished with a trawl between two boats and took everything that they could catch. We were not particularly worried about that! I could mention the names of those who were prepared to protect these people from the viciousness of the Australian Government—these poor Taiwanese fishing people who at that time just could not afford these losses! Subsequently, however, and quite suddenly the money was found to buy back the two boats. I do not know from where they got the money to buy those boats. In tonight's paper we find this continuing story has moved a step further and we see the headline which reads "Alert on N-W sites".

I think, Mr President, that you will know where Truscott's airstrip is. We find camps and rough shelters constructed in this area including pig pens and chicken pens and people suspect that these places are now being used by drug runners who are landing in the area. It is interesting to contrast with this the story that appeared in the paper the other day, for some unknown reason, that the Indonesian fishermen had proceeded inland and made some rough shelters to breed pigs, and so on.

I do not think this sort of thing gives anyone a great deal of mileage. We have these people who have been fishing our coastline for thousands of years and yet we find they have not introduced any exotic diseases, though it is not possible for one to say with any certainty that this will not occur in the future. But I do suggest there is no necessity for people to fly political kites and balloons. In my time the people in the area used to treat these fishermen most sympathetically.

From time to time when their vessels were blown ashore, we took the people down to Perth, and sometimes placed them in quarantine. We clothed and fed them, and showed them on television. We treated them as some kinds of freaks, and then we repatriated them.

I do not know to what degree, from the point of view of either the Australian Government or the State Government, we can afford the wherewithal to keep these people away from our coast—people who traditionally have been coming here for hundreds of years and, as somebody stated in the newspaper, have been trading with the Australian Aborigines for thousands of years. We all realise there are buffaloes and Timor ponies in the Northern Territory; these animals did not arrive by chance. The coastline in question is not strange to these people.

We would be serving the people much better if we departed from phoney politics and made a concentrated effort to resolve

the problem through a sympathetic understanding of the people involved and by making approaches to their Government, even if we have to send officers to that country.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: They have been sent there.

The Hon. D. K. DAns: Many people have seen these Indonesians hundreds of miles out at sea paddling their canoes. We should make every effort to dissuade them from coming here; but I suggest that by making a political issue of this we are not serving any good purpose.

THE HON. W. R. WITHERS (North) [9.02 p.m.]: I do not need to rise in defence of my colleague, Mr Tozer. However, I must correct a few misconceptions.

The PRESIDENT: The honourable member will resume his seat. The motion "that the House do now adjourn" gives members an opportunity to raise questions of privilege, and matters which a member may regard as important, but I do not think the Standing Orders provide that the matter under discussion can be debated. For that reason I think the matter should end there. I suggest the Standing Orders Committee should look into this question. If the present practice is allowed to continue I can see that the debate on the motion "that the House do now adjourn" could be lengthy and considerable.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: I appreciate what you have said about the Standing Orders, Mr President. As one speaker has been allowed to take up the point raised by Mr Tozer perhaps I should be allowed to make a few observations.

The PRESIDENT: Two wrongs do not make a right.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: That is correct but I have a precedent.

The PRESIDENT: I do not regard the motion "that the House do now adjourn" as providing members with the opportunity to participate in a second reading debate, or a debate similar to the Address-in-Reply.

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: I shall not debate the matter; I merely wish to point out that we do have a serious case in the Kimberley at the moment which is of a modern nature.

The Hon. R. Thompson: Who told you it is of a modern nature?

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: The Indonesians are visiting our coast and are thus breaking our laws. Although for hundreds of years they have visited our coastline, and left evidence of their visits among the Aborigines, we did not at that time have the laws under which we now operate; and furthermore there were very few white men on the coast.

Cattle were not introduced into West Kimberley until 1890. It was only in the last 10 to 12 years that the number of cattle increased to such a degree that in some stations in north-west Kimberley it has become absolutely necessary to undertake some sort of surveillance to protect the cattle from foot-and-mouth disease or any other diseases brought into the country by Indonesian fishermen.

The Hon. D. K. DAns: What diseases have been brought in by Indonesian fishermen?

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: Mr Tozer has pointed out that we need some form of protection and surveillance. I agree with him because these Indonesian fishermen are breaking our laws. We prevent our own fishermen from taking turtles. In today's newspaper there is a picture of two Indonesians paddling a canoe.

The Hon. D. K. DAns: Who presents the most danger—the drug runners or the turtle takers?

The Hon. W. R. WITHERS: It is not so much the danger of these people taking turtles, but of their introducing diseases into our livestock. I hope that in the future we will not carry on debates like this on such a motion, but I do say that Mr Tozer is right in bringing the matter up.

The Hon. D. K. DAns: I support your last remark wholeheartedly.

Question put and passed.

House adjourned at 9.06 p.m.

Legislative Assembly

Tuesday, the 3rd September, 1974

The SPEAKER (Mr Hutchinson) took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

PAY-ROLL TAX ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Assent

Message from the Governor received and read notifying assent to the Bill.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Report

MR YOUNG (Scarborough) [4.35 p.m.]: I present to the House the 10th report of the Public Accounts Committee. I move—

That the report be received.

Question put and passed.

MR YOUNG (Scarborough) [4.36 p.m.]: I move—

That the report be printed.

I would like to explain the working of the Public Accounts Committee in the period of the Twenty-seventh Parliament of this State. Report No. 1 of the Public Accounts