

against us we do not grizzle, even although we have heard the term, "By their squeal ye shall know them."

Mr. Court: You know what would have happened if we had left this case with the Full Court?

Mr. Hawke: You did not even appeal in the Reddish case.

Mr. Tonkin: There would have been no redistribution of seats; that would have been the practical result.

Mr. Court: What was that?

Mr. Tonkin: If you had lost the case.

Mr. Court: If we had lost it in the Supreme Court we would have gone straight on to the next court.

Mr. Watts: You would not have had confidence in the local judiciary, then. That is what he means.

The SPEAKER (Mr. Hearman): The member for Mt. Lawley.

Mr. OLDFIELD: I mentioned earlier the power which the executive considered it had and which the Chief Justice, Sir Albert Wolff, denied unequivocally that it did have. The Chief Justice, in delivering his judgment, referred to the startling proposition in regard to the prerogative of the Government that was placed before him by counsel. He also made it quite clear in the mind of everyone present in court—and his attitude was concurred in by his fellow judges—that the Governor, when he shall deem fit, shall promulgate the regulations contained in the Electoral Districts Act, 1947. Section 11 of that Act reads as follows:—

At such time as the Governor shall deem fit, the Governor, by Order in Council published in the *Government Gazette*, shall promulgate the final recommendations referred to in sections three and ten of this Act . . .

The Chief Justice, when referring to the 1955 amendment, which had the effect of expediting the three months' waiting period, stated, *inter alia*—

The amendment of 1955 plainly emphasised the need for greater expedition in the promulgation and coming into force of the recommendations of the Commissioners, and in my opinion that amendment was intended to get the recommendations into effect as early as possible. The words of the 1947 legislation referring to the machinery of the Act are mandatory: subsection 2 of section 12 "such proclamation shall be issued"; Section 11: " . . . the Governor by Order in Council . . . shall promulgate."

That clearly shows the Chief Justice, in his opinion, considered that one could not have an Act on the statute book which said that something shall be done when it shall be deemed fit. The words used in

the Act were, "shall be done" which meant that it should be done within any reasonable time forthwith.

The effect of the 1955 Act was just as he outlined. So, in the limited time available to me, I have put before the House, and have had recorded, the whole history of this situation from the day it started until the time when the Full Court decision was given and the proclamation was finally issued, and the appeal went to the High Court of Australia, and that court unanimously agreed with the finding of the State Full Court on all counts, and accordingly threw out the appeal.

So today the people of Western Australia have no doubt whatever in their minds of the guilt of the present Ministry in trying to evade the law, and failing to act on the law as it had done for a period of 18 months. I trust the House will pass the addendum I have moved to the Address-in-Reply.

Debate (on amendment to the motion) adjourned, on motion by Mr. Watts (Attorney-General).

House adjourned at 11.26 p.m.

Legislative Council

Wednesday, the 23rd August, 1961

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The PRESIDENT (The Hon. L. C. Diver) took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HOUSING COMMISSION AND DEPARTMENTAL HOMES

Reduction in Rentals in Northern Areas

1. The Hon. H. C. STRICKLAND asked the Minister for Housing:

In view of his advice on the 16th August, 1961, that Government rentals for homes at Kununurra give annual gross returns ranging from less than 1 per cent. up to 2½ per cent. on capital costs, will the Minister consider reducing all rentals for departmental and State rental homes in the north to similar percentage returns?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

No.

FOREST PRODUCE

Royalty Received and Refunded

2. The Hon. N. E. BAXTER asked the Minister for Local Government:

Further to my question on Thursday, the 17th August, regarding royalties received by the Forests Department from forest produce for the year ended the 30th June, 1960—

- (1) What was the amount of royalty refunded by the department?
- (2) Would the Minister supply details of the difference of £77,302 between the figure of £923,035 for timber royalties, etc., shown on the department's report and the total of the figures given in reply to my question?
- (3) Why is the amount of royalty received from gravel not available?

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN replied:

- (1) £24,969.
- (2) The amount of £77,302 is made up of miscellaneous rents and income from trading operations which are not royalty.
- (3) Only a small amount is involved and detailed accounting is not considered warranted. It is included in an item "sundries" the total of which, in 1959-60, was £167.

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY: EIGHTH DAY

Motion

Debate resumed from the 22nd August, on the following motion by The Hon. H. K. Watson:—

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor and Administrator in reply to the Speech he has been pleased to deliver to Parliament:—

May it please Your Excellency: We, the members of the Legislative Council of the State of Western Australia in Parliament assembled, beg to express loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank your Excellency for the Speech you have been pleased to deliver to Parliament.

THE HON. E. M. HEENAN (North-East) [4.42 p.m.]: There is one paragraph in the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech—appearing on page 5 of the printed copy—which I would like to quote. It reads as follows:—

The value of mineral production for the year 1960 was £21,825,000. Gold production totalled 853,690 fine ounces. The value of minerals other than gold and coal reached a record figure of over £6,000,000.

I have analysed those figures and they seem to work out something like this: The production of gold for last year was worth approximately £13,500,000. It would seem that the value of asbestos, pyrites, iron, copper, and other minerals amounted to around £6,000,000, and coal made up the balance of £2,325,000. So, of a total of £21,825,000, gold forms nearly three-quarters.

As a goldfields member, it is perhaps appropriate that on speaking to the Address-in-Reply I should confine my remarks mainly to matters affecting the district I represent; namely, the North-East Province, which comprises the eastern goldfields and the Murchison area. In the main, therefore, I will have something to say about our staple industry of gold. I have used the word "staple" because the people residing in towns such as Kalgoorlie, Boulder, and many other small centres on the goldfields, which today are carrying an overall population of approximately 35,000, are almost wholly dependent on the goldmining industry.

Members will recall that the goldfields as we know them had their birth in the years 1892 and 1893 when Bayley and Ford discovered gold at Coolgardie, and Paddy Hannan discovered gold at Kalgoorlie. At that time Western Australia was really a Cinderella colony with a population of only 50,000 people. However, due almost entirely to the gold discoveries and the subsequent production of gold from the

various finds, this population was increased to 200,000 people by the end of the century.

By this time, also, the population of Kalgoorlie, which in 1893 was nil, had reached a figure of 35,000, and a 400-mile railway line had been constructed from Perth to Kalgoorlie; and a pipeline, over a distance of about 350 miles, carrying 5,000,000 gallons of water daily, was built from Mundaring Weir to Kalgoorlie in 1903. That was the picture at the turn of the century. The rest of the story is fairly well known because it has continued through the lifetime of most members.

It might be worth while, however, to recall some of the highlights of that period. As a result of the gold discoveries, Western Australia was no longer the isolated and forgotten colony that it had been in the past. It is of considerable interest to recall that it was mainly the goldfields vote in 1900 that brought Western Australia into the Federation, in spite of the strong opposition from other residents of the colony. Over the ensuing years, also due directly to the goldmining industry, far distant parts of the State were opened up and the population of the State was decentralised. Over the past 65 years, wealth exceeding £300,000,000 in value has been produced by the industry; and on at least two occasions when the economy of this State was in grave difficulties, the goldmining industry helped to save the situation.

Let us look at the present position of gold as a currency. Very great changes have taken place in recent years in the world. In many ways the world of today is vastly different from the world of yesterday. Many of our preconceived notions in many fields have had to be modified or changed in the light of experience and events. For instance, in the field of foreign exchange, the dominant part which gold played over the centuries has been drastically changed. After the first world war a new race of financial theorists came into being. According to them, the use of gold to back currencies was outmoded. In place of gold, paper currency backed by a nation's wealth became the medium of exchange. We all know what the result has been; and how, in our own case, the pound note which used to be backed by gold steadily deteriorated in value over the years.

Today bank notes are no longer interchangeable for gold in the majority of the trading nations of the world. Many nations have suspended their former stipulated reserves of gold as backing for their paper currencies. This lack of convertibility is at the back of the trading difficulties of the world at the present time.

In a world of managed currencies, a central International Monetary Fund has been created, the purpose of this fund

being to provide a means of settling payments between the various nations. Basically, however, this fund is backed by the U.S.A. which will buy all the gold offered at a standard price of 35 U.S. dollars an ounce. This was the price fixed many years ago—I think around 1934.

Although the prices of other standard commodities have increased over the years to keep pace with the increases in the cost of production, the price of gold has remained stationary. It can be readily appreciated that the goldmining industry has had a never-ending struggle to keep going. It is a great tribute to all concerned that goldmining companies have so far been able to withstand the great odds which faced them.

As far as Western Australia is concerned, we are still heavily dependent on the goldmining industry, and its continued operation is vital to our well-being. What would happen if the goldmines in Kalgoorlie, Boulder, Norseman, Mt. Magnet, and other centres were forced to close down, as were the mines at Wiluna and Big Bell in recent years? What other industries would emerge to maintain the towns and keep the people employed in those portions of the State?

In Kalgoorlie and Boulder alone there are, at present, 3,300 men in employment, and their fortnightly pay amounts to £250,000. Thus a quarter of a million pounds is put into circulation every two weeks. Last year the total value of gold production in Western Australia was £13,600,000 in round figures. Over £1,000,000 worth of gold is produced every month, about one half of which is paid out directly in wages. That has been the case for years past. Of the total Australian gold output, the Western Australian production represents approximately 80 per cent. So it will be appreciated how essential to Western Australia is the goldmining industry. Its future, therefore, should be of the greatest concern to the Government and the people of this State; and we must be unceasing in our efforts to foster and retain the industry.

It may well be asked: What can we do?—because the U.S.A. is the only country which will purchase unlimited quantities of gold, even though the purchase is made at a fixed price over which we have little or no control. My answer is, in the first place, we must do all in our power to impress on the Commonwealth Government how essential it is for the future well-being of Western Australia that the goldmining industry should not only be maintained but encouraged to expand. We must also have faith in the future role of gold, and we must give encouragement to all those concerned with its production.

Over the comparatively brief life of the industry it has been demonstrated time and again how flourishing mines cut out and have to be abandoned. New ones have to be located to take the place of the old. Even the fabulous mines on the Golde-

Mile will come to an end some day. It is revealing to point out that in recent years, on an average, about 3,000,000 tons of ore are taken out of the goldmines and treated annually. That ore cannot be replaced; it is gone forever.

It will be appreciated that goldmines face a constant struggle to keep alive. They can only keep alive by exploring and developing new areas. They are constantly on the look-out for new finds. It must not be blissfully assumed that because our production is still around £13,500,000 per year, all is well in the industry and its future is assured. The plain fact is that to ensure the future of the goldmining industry as a virile and expanding industry, more sympathetic policies must be adopted by both the State and the Federal Governments.

No industry can stand still. An industry must either go ahead or it will retrogress. One way this industry can expand is if new mines and mining fields are found. No-one in his right senses believes there are no new mines to be found in Western Australia, and mines which possibly could be as rich as or richer than those of the Golden Mile.

From time to time I have spoken of the role of the prospector, as did my colleague, Mr. Hall, last night. These are the men who have discovered practically every new worth-while mine in this State. It is a fairly safe bet that unless there is a number of skilled and experienced prospectors constantly in the fields, no new mines will be located. The prospector therefore needs assistance and encouragement; because he, like any other man, has to live, and invariably he has people depending upon him. Nowadays, too, he requires modern transport and equipment the same as other primary producers. He cannot do all these things on his own with nothing to start from. However, if we really believe he is an essential unit in the industry and that the industry itself must be expanded, then we must give him some worth-while assistance.

Members will recall that last week I asked the Minister for Mines how much this State, which owes so much to the gold-mining industry, had spent last year in providing assistance to prospectors under the Government Prospectors' Assistance Scheme, and his reply was £11,402 12s. 6d. That, in my opinion, is totally inadequate and not in keeping with the importance and urgency of the problem.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: That is not the limit of prospecting that is done in the State.

The Hon. E. M. HEENAN: No.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: It is only a very tiny portion of it.

The Hon. E. M. HEENAN: I appreciate the fact that that is not the total amount. I am confining my remarks to the scheme:

I also fully realise how sympathetic the Minister has been and what a commendable interest he has shown in his portfolio.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: There you are; you are getting a bit of a boom-up now!

The Hon. E. M. HEENAN: What I want to criticise in the main is the general attitude towards this problem and to stress, as much as I am able to, how essential it is that a new approach be developed. Only the other day I read that the Wapet company had spent £17,000,000 in the last few years in searching for oil, and it has not had a penny returned. I think we can afford to spend a much higher figure in assisting those people who are prepared to go out and find mines so that the mining industry will have some continuity and expansion.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: Would not some of that £17,000,000 be Commonwealth money?

The Hon. E. M. HEENAN: No; I think that is the amount that Wapet spent, but I cannot say for sure because I do not have the article with me. However, whether it includes a Government subsidy or not, it is a vastly different figure from that which we are spending on our gold-mining industry.

The Federal Government's seeming lack of interest in the future of the industry is difficult for me to understand. Its policy seems to envisage the maintenance of the industry only at its present level. What is needed, in my opinion, is some allowance for mines to carry out more development with a view to expanding and prolonging the life of the industry. As I have tried to explain previously, the larger mines are up against a constant struggle for existence. They cannot stand still, but must plan and expand and try to ensure the life of the mines for years ahead; and it is in order to enable the mines to carry out this work and policy as it should be carried out that the Federal Government should grant them full assistance.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: That request was made to Mr. Holt when he was over here.

The Hon. E. M. HEENAN: More money should also be allowed to the State to develop and foster the prospecting industry. The present subsidy shows little appreciation of the vital importance of goldmining to this State apart from showing little faith in the future of gold which for centuries past has weathered all sorts of economic systems. In my opinion, with the tensions and uncertainties that confront the world today, it seems that gold still has an important role to play.

I hope, therefore, that those few remarks might do something to impress on all concerned—on ourselves for a start—how important this industry is to us; and I hope they will impress on us that we just cannot take it for granted that these places are going to exist for evermore; that

we are going to go on for years and years producing over £1,000,000 worth of gold a month; and that we are going to go on supporting communities in far portions of the State. We need interest in the industry itself; we need encouragement; and we need Governments in particular to appreciate its vital significance to Western Australia.

Before I close on the topic, I am going to pay a tribute to our Mines Department for what it has done and for what it has attempted to do with the meagre financial assistance from the Commonwealth Government. I also want to place on record that the Prospectors' Association is a worth-while body.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: What about Spencer Compton of the Historical Society?

The PRESIDENT (The Hon. L. C. Diver): Order!

The Hon. E. M. HEENAN: In recent years it has been revitalised. It speaks authoritatively for all prospectors who search for gold. I also want to pay a tribute to the management and men of the major mines for the excellent job they have done. I venture to say that our Mines Department, our School of Mines, our mine managers, and our technicians and workers cannot be bettered or surpassed in any country in the world; and they need all the assistance and encouragement we can give them.

I am glad my friend Mr. Bennetts has mentioned the name of Mr. Spencer Compton, who is a well-known geologist on the goldfields. He has been there for many years and has rendered invaluable service to many mining companies. He was also a member of the staff of the School of Mines. Over recent years he has made himself an authority on the past history of the goldfields and the gold-mining industry, and has spent untold time and energy in familiarising himself with everything appertaining to the goldfields. He is actively associated with the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society, of which he has been president. He writes articles for various papers and has done a vast amount of good in keeping the history of the goldfields alive and presenting to the public the importance of the goldmining industry.

We on the goldfields are extremely grateful to Mr. Spencer Compton and we all hold him in the highest regard. I am sure I am speaking with the approval of my goldfields colleagues and all the goldfields population in general when I say it would please everyone very much if the Government deemed it fit to recognise his service in some way.

Dr. Hislop referred to the Workers' Compensation Act, and to the rather unsatisfactory provisions which are made for the compensation of men from the industry who are stricken down with silicosis

and allied complaints. He pointed out how a number of men who left the mines years ago were suffering from silicosis, but the X-rays at the time—or the medical science of the day—were unable to detect the presence of silicosis. In the intervening years since they have left the mines many of these men have found themselves suffering from silicosis, but owing to the three-year limit specified in the Act they are ineligible for compensation payments.

I am sure we are all very proud of the fact that last year we rectified that state of affairs to the extent that it will never happen again in the future. However, we did not correct the position as it applies to those unfortunate men who, through no fault of their own, find themselves suffering from silicosis but who, because of the three-year limit, are outside of the benefits of the Act and are unable to receive compensation. I feel that we will have to face up to the position and fulfil our obligation to these men. They contracted silicosis through working in the industry, but because of the inadequacy of medical science at the time they were not told, when leaving the industry, that they had silicosis.

A number of them have died, but there are many who are still alive; and, as I said, and as I am sure most members will agree, we should try to do something for them. The position is not a simple one because it has various implications. For instance, what are we going to do for the dependants of the men who have died? How many of them are there? How much money will be involved? All those questions have to be resolved; and I feel that they can be and should be inquired into, and perhaps some thought can be given to the matter as the session progresses. One suggestion might be for the appointment of a Select Committee to go into the matter and report back to Parliament. That might be one means of accomplishing something.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: I do not think that will be necessary, because I am very busily engaged on this problem at the moment.

The Hon. E. M. HEENAN: I know the Minister is very interested in the matter and I appreciate that he is not standing still in regard to it. But Dr. Hislop has put his finger on one other very important matter, and that is the condition of men who have worked underground in the mines over the years. Strange as it may seem, some of them, after years and years of work underground, and in contact with dust, contract little or no silicosis and yet their chests get affected and their general health deteriorates. They are susceptible to colds, pneumonia, and similar bronchial troubles, but there is nothing in the Workers' Compensation Act which makes provision for these men. If they have :

degree of silica in their lungs we compensate them, but there are a number of men with silicosis who are comparatively strong and healthy and who are able to continue doing a good day's work without a great deal of harm.

On the other hand there are men who, as a result of their years in the mines, suffer considerably from bronchial troubles, and who are seriously ill and should get out of the mines. But our Act does not cover them at all; and that is one aspect of the question that Dr. Hislop put his finger on, and I hope he will persevere and try to assist us to find some solution.

I have been longer than I anticipated; and although I have a couple of other subjects to discuss, I will leave them to some other occasion. I have pleasure in supporting the motion.

THE HON. J. J. GARRIGAN (South-East) [5.25 p.m.]: I think it is only fitting that at this stage I should make some comments on the Speech which was so beautifully written and so ably presented by His Excellency on opening day. Not being a "yes" man I cannot agree that everything in that beautiful Speech is correct. His Excellency remarked in the Speech that this State has prosperous times ahead of it. I am afraid that will be a long-term policy, and in my view we should do something about taking a short cut. From present conditions in the State it looks to me as though the rich will get richer and the poor will get poorer; but I will deal with that aspect at a later stage in my short address.

Sometimes I believe—as I have said before in this House—that we say so much that means so little; therefore I will make my address as short as I possibly can, and I will direct my present remarks to the Minister for Mines. Mr. Bennetts, Mr. Cunningham, and I, as well as some other members, represent the major part of the mining industry of Western Australia, and it is my view that more assistance should be given to the prospectors. As we all know, the mining industry is ever-declining for the want of assistance. I know the State Government does what it can, but the Federal Government also should take a hand in providing assistance. Prospectors today are going out prospecting on a miserable pittance of something like £4 odd a week under the prospectors' scheme.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: How much?

The Hon. J. J. GARRIGAN: £4 odd a week under the scheme. The same thing has applied under all Governments.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: It shows how well-informed you are on the subject.

The Hon. J. J. GARRIGAN: The Minister might be a full bottle on this subject, but he will have an opportunity to reply to what I have to say at some later stage of the debate. Prospectors are expected to go out and prospect for gold on this

mere pittance. They are not prospecting in King's Park, St. George's Terrace, Hannan Street in Kalgoorlie, or Burt Street in Boulder; they are right out in the bush, away from everyone and everything, and they have to provide petrol at something like 5s. 6d. a gallon, oil at 15s. odd a gallon, and various other commodities at heavy cost to themselves, simply because they are out in the hinterland. I suggest to the Minister, and his good department, that these prospectors be given more assistance. They should be selected men and should get the basic wage at least.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Anybody would think these ills had only just occurred.

The Hon. J. J. GARRIGAN: They have occurred over the years under all Governments.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: That is right.

The Hon. J. J. GARRIGAN: I am not taking any credit away from the Minister; all I am doing is suggesting that prospectors be given more assistance, and that they be subsidised by the Government. The dairying industry is subsidised; and under the Wheat Stabilisation Board, farmers are subsidised, but who subsidises the prospectors? Nobody. They are expected to go out; and from whatever they discover, the Mines Department, which is the Government, takes a share. The prospectors themselves have to pay for what they get. But the Government gets nothing back from the Wheat Stabilisation Board or the dairying industry. The Government subsidises the big mines to the extent of hundreds of thousands of pounds, but the poor old prospector has to go out on this miserable pittance, and if he finds anything he has to pay the money back to the Government.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: The wheatgrower puts his own—

The PRESIDENT (The Hon. L. C. Diver): Order!

The Hon. J. J. GARRIGAN: Let me go on. The Minister can have his say later. I suggest in all sincerity that these men be given more support and more financial assistance. If that were done it would be for the betterment of Western Australia generally and the economy of the State. There are hundreds of men going out into the bush, without any experience, and on a miserable pittance and, as I said, if they find any gold the money they have received has to be refunded to the Government.

I would like to bring to the notice of the Minister for Mines the fact that just recently a very good friend of mine came over from Victoria. He had a lot of money, but not very much time at his disposal. He asked me to take him out into the bush some 104 miles from Kalgoorlie to inspect an old show. The shaft was in good order but there was absolutely

nothing there in the way of equipment. We approached the mining registrar, but could not even get 100 feet of ladder from the Mines Department.

I would suggest in all sincerity to the Minister that wherever there is a mining registrar's office in Western Australia, one should be able to obtain 150 feet of ladder, air compressors, and other equipment necessary for the benefit of prospectors. These facilities must be provided if we are to survive in our mining ventures, whether they be gold or any other mineral. The Government, no matter which Government is in office, should see that this equipment is available.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: I have provided at considerable cost a number of air compressors for prospectors.

The Hon. J. J. GARRIGAN: I would suggest to the Minister, and to his good department, that he give these people every assistance he can in the provision of gear, etc. These things are necessary to keep the mining industry going, whether it be gold-mining or any other.

The other day I asked the Minister a question and with your permission, Mr. President, I would like to read the question and the Minister's reply. The question was as follows:—

Is it a fact that a person receiving weekly payment from workers' compensation for an industrial disease is unable to obtain financial assistance under the Prospectors' Assistance Scheme?

The reply I received was—

Yes. I take it that when the honourable member refers to "payment from workers' compensation for an industrial disease" he means silicosis and/or tuberculosis. Of course it has always been the case that a miner suffering from silicosis or tuberculosis is paid compensation as a basis of—to use the word again—compensation for the disease from which he is suffering; and it is not considered desirable to encourage him to go back into the same industry in which he is receiving compensation, because that is no good to him. Therefore the answer must be "Yes."

Not being a "yes-man," I again beg to differ from the Minister and perhaps from his department, and also possibly from Dr. Hislop. As Dr. Hislop knows, the only reason why a man works underground is to provide a living for his family. When one works underground only two types of death are possible: one is a violent death, and the other a slow lingering death. Many of these people can see the writing on the wall; and they are able to get out of the industry with, perhaps, 25 per cent. or 30 per cent., of dust, or silicosis, or industrial disease.

The minimum amount these people can receive is £3 10s. a week, and the maximum amount is about £11 or £12. The people who are getting out of the industry are experienced miners. They are great workers, and great people. If we are to keep the mining industry going, we must speed up and increase our spending. There are only three methods of prospecting: one is by loaming with a dish and pan; the second is costeening; and the third is by shallow boring.

I would suggest that the Minister and his department give these men every possible assistance. It matters not if they are on £10 a week compensation. The important thing is that they are getting out of the industry. It is necessary for them to work in the virgin bush, and they do their best for the goldmining industry and the economy of Western Australia.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You must have gained the wrong impression from my remarks.

The Hon. J. J. GARRIGAN: That is possible. I must say that I commend Dr. Hislop for bringing up the question of workers' compensation. This subject has been thrashed out here on many occasions. I was very pleased to hear Dr. Hislop speak on behalf of the men who have been out of the industry for more than three years and up to 15 years, and who may leave a widow and dependants who are unable to obtain compensation under the Act as it stands.

Last year we introduced legislation to provide for these people. But that legislation is only operative from last year onwards. Dr. Hislop was certainly on the right track when he advocated the appointment of a Select Committee or a Royal Commission to inquire into this matter. I would be in favour of the appointment of a Select Committee with, perhaps, Dr. Hislop as one of its members together with one or two other members from each side of the House. One could represent the workers' compensation angle and one the workers' union. The committee could then meet and make a recommendation to the House.

As we all know, workers' compensation legislation is full of anomalies. Again I must commend Dr. Hislop; and I support his remarks with reference to hospitalisation. I think the hospitalisation in the cases I have already mentioned is perfectly scandalous. The cost of hospitalisation has gone up tremendously; it is impossible to obtain a decent bed for less than £3 a day. The amount allowed these workers for hospitalisation is disgraceful. For example, a neighbour and very good friend of mine was smashed up in an accident which resulted in his breaking two legs and fracturing his pelvis. He had a young wife and a family and they were left with only £250.

I do feel that in some instances the Minister concerned could be more sympathetic towards these people and do something to help them. So, like Dr. Hislop, I feel the sooner we appoint a Select Committee to inquire into these aspects of compensation the better.

Before I sit down I would like to deal with the very touchy problem of unemployment. As we all know, the unemployment position in Western Australia today is deplorable. I appreciate that the Government of the day cannot find jobs for people merely by waving a magic wand. I suggest, however, that the Government do something constructive. It has offered no solution at all to the problem. I have received phone calls, letters, and personal visits from people who are on the bread-line, but I am unable to promise them any solace.

About two and a half years ago the Government of the day was given a mandate by the people of this State to govern in a fair and equitable manner. Only yesterday it was necessary for me to pay a visit to the employment bureau in Wellington Street. It was pitiful to see those good people who are willing to work and yet cannot find work. From time to time we have had various red herrings drawn across the various trails; but these people have worked in the mining industry with me. I know some of them from the rural industry and some from other walks of life. They are good, genuine Australians; and surely the Government can do something constructive to help them find jobs in order that they may live in the manner to which Australians have become accustomed.

THE HON. G. E. JEFFERY (Suburban) [5.40 p.m.]: In rising to support the motion for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply, I do so with mixed feelings. I thought that the opening day had some very familiar features; features that have been present on previous occasions. The most remarkable thing was that the galleries were full. To my mind opening day is the only time the galleries are full except, perhaps, when there is something of unusual interest to one or other of the parties.

The Speech read by His Excellency emphasised the fact, to my mind, that the set-up should be changed. I know that no matter which Government is in office, His Excellency's Speech is generally prepared for him by the Government and that it contains its policy. During election time we often hear speeches read over the air prefaced by the remarks that they have been prepared by so-and-so and authorised by so-and-so; and I think the same should be done with His Excellency's opening Speech: we should be told that it has been written by the Government for His Excellency to read.

I have always had a great admiration for the honourable member who moved for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply, and my admiration has in no way lessened, because from the job he had in front of him and from the glowing picture he painted, I think he should be known as the Longstaff of the Legislative Council.

The Hon. F. D. Willmott: Do you think it was not true?

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: Some people believe his remarks to be true. However, they dealt with achievements in the future, rather than in the present. One of the achievements that come to mind is the broad-gauge railway; and I feel that one cannot claim much credit for the expenditure of Commonwealth funds on capital works.

We certainly derive great benefit from such expenditure, but it does not say much for the expansion of private enterprise in this State, particularly when we know we are dependent on the Commonwealth for funds to help us achieve anything worthwhile.

I do not intend to take very long over the State Building Supplies. I know this subject has been dealt with in great detail both here and in another place. After the transaction has been finalised and the amounts have been paid, I feel that the sale of this State instrumentality will rank with the sale of the Commonwealth shipping line by a Federal Government some 30 or 40 years ago.

In analysing the figures, we are told by some who know, that the capital value of the enterprise was in the region of £3,800,000; and I believe that to be true. We find, however, that it has been sold for a mere £2,200,000, which, to my way of thinking, is a most generous figure, particularly when we consider it is £1,600,000 less than what we believe to be the capital value. The company has been given this instrumentality on most generous terms. We have often heard, when dealing with statistics, that figures show so much per head of population in relation to our national debt, etc. I think it would be fair to say that in the sale of this instrumentality to the Hawker Siddeley Group Ltd. every man, woman, and child in this State has made a donation of £2 to the funds of this company.

I am not disagreeing with the principle of the sale. When the Government came into office it told the public that it proposed to sell these enterprises; and that cannot be disputed. But the Government also has a responsibility to the people of Western Australia to sell these Government instrumentalities—if they are to be sold—at their real worth.

There are many people in the community who have rendered some service to the State over a number of years and who, I am certain, would have been glad

of the opportunity to borrow capital to further expand their businesses. Had these people been offered the same terms and conditions as were given to the Hawker Siddeley Group, they would have flocked to the Treasury or to the Rural and Industries Bank, seeking financial accommodation. We have heard a great deal about the desire to bring outside capital to the State, but I feel that had the Hawker Siddeley Building Supplies Pty. Ltd.—as it is now known—wanted to operate in the timber industry in this State, it could have bought into one of the existing timber companies; and one of the existing companies could have been given the opportunity to purchase the State Building Supplies.

It is great to hear all this talk about prosperity. I suppose the man in a job does not take much notice of it; but it means something vastly different to the man who is without a job. It is all right to say, "There is only 2.3 per cent. of the population unemployed in this day and age of 1961." I believe that any man who is physically fit and able to do a day's work should be able to obtain work. Many of the unemployed are unemployable; and, no doubt, they are always the first to be dismissed. However, I know many decent people who cannot get work in their vocations because of circumstances prevailing.

I am well aware that our State Government is not entirely to blame for the circumstances which now exist, but that they have been brought about because of Federal policy. I think the credit squeeze was applied in the first week in November; and at the end of one month it was apparent what it was going to do to business. The Prime Minister came to this State last month and shook hands with the East Perth coach; and last Saturday East Perth was defeated. It is the effect of the economic policy of the Federal Government that is making the going so difficult for the State Government.

The Hon. F. D. Willmott: They tell me you were pleased.

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: I was quite happy that he did, because I am not a supporter of East Perth. I only hope that the Prime Minister will come over next October and again shake hands, and then Swan Districts will win the grand final. Proof of the so-called prosperity of Australia is to be found in what to some people has become the acme of truth—*The West Australian* newspaper. I do not believe everything I read in *The West Australian* by any stretch of imagination. When I find sufficient time I read other journals, too. This is what that paper had to say—

Manufacturers expect employment to be about 2 per cent. higher in September than in May, according to a Trade Department survey released today.

We find that this is how that assessment was arrived at—

About 850 manufacturers in 44 different industries in all States were interviewed, most of them in the first two weeks of June.

The survey showed that a decrease in employment during the May-September period of 3 per cent was expected in nearly half the industries surveyed.

In three industries—two of them textile industries—the expected falls exceeded 10 per cent.

It is idle to talk about prosperity without taking into consideration the figures of the Trade Department, which are a fairly good assessment of the situation. We are glib or smug about the percentage of unemployed because of political bias. By the end of September I suggest we will have to reassess our thinking. We will know then that our ideas of prosperity are wrong. Instead of having 4 per cent. unemployed, we will be back to the position where no job will be available for the unemployed man who wants to work.

Whatever their politics, some people have feasted upon unemployment as a weapon against their opponents. As a representative of an industrial electorate, and from my own experience years ago as a young man—although I am not an old man now—I know it is a terrific blow to a home when the breadwinner is out of work. In an age of inflation the full effects of unemployment are felt much more quickly than they were years ago.

Some months ago—about three—we had in this State the Commonwealth Technical Training Week, about which I had mixed feelings. There was one humorous aspect: the president of one local governing authority, in opening the Commonwealth Technical Training Week, made a magnificent speech. I thought his secretary wrote it, but he said this was not the case. However, when he sat down one of the members of the Education Department said, "We shall now play the recorded speech made by the Duke of Edinburgh opening the same week in England," and this speech was the same as that of the president, word for word. It was the best example of plagiarism I have ever heard. I was pleased to be associated with the Commonwealth Technical Training Week. I believe, too, in the expansion of Western Australia as a manufacturing State and of Australia as a manufacturing nation.

In this connection the plight of those who are apprenticed should be taken into account. A lot is said on behalf of the pensioner—and I agree entirely with that—but I believe the person who receives the worst deal is the person who becomes apprenticed to a trade. One of the things that was hammered during the Commonwealth Technical Training Week was the

demand for an increased standard of education in technical subjects on the part of boys taking on trade apprenticeships.

I agree that a higher standard of education means an improvement, in the long run, for the nation. However, let us look at the wages paid to apprentices. Sacrifices may be made by parents on behalf of children who go to universities, but when one considers the wages an apprentice receives, one realises his parents are making an equal sacrifice even though an apprenticeship is less glamorous.

When I obtained the figures I was amazed at the different wages received by three types of people in the community. A first-year apprentice receives 33½ per cent. of the basic wage, or £5 0s. 2d. per week. This is at the age of 16. In his second year, at 17, he receives 45 per cent. of the basic wage, or £6 15s. 3d. In his third year at 18, he receives 65 per cent. of the basic wage, or £9 15s. 4d. In his fourth year, at 19, he receives 85 per cent. of the basic wage or £12 15s. 5d. In his fifth and final year he receives the basic wage plus £1, making a total of £16 0s. 6d.

A junior clerk in the State Civil Service—and the figures I have obtained from the Civil Service are the latest available—at 16 years of age receives £9 7s. 1d. as compared with £5 0s. 2d. received by a first-year apprentice. I am using relative age groups as an apprentice starts his apprenticeship at the age of 16 years. At 17 years of age a junior clerk receives £10 18s. 2d. as against £6 15s. 3d. A third year junior clerk receives £12 18s. as against £9 15s. 4d. A fourth year junior clerk receives £15 7s. 1d. as against £12 15s. 5d. A fifth year junior clerk receives £17 3s. 2d. as against £16 0s. 6d.

The Hon. J. G. Hislop: What is the total of the wages over the period?

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: I will come to that later. I also obtained the figures for a junior female typiste. At 16 years of age she receives £8 7s. 7d. At the age of 17 she receives £9 6s. 0d.; at 18 she receives £10 9s. 4d.; at 19 she receives £11 10s. 5d.; and at 20 she gets £12 12s. 8d. At the end of five years' work a junior clerk in the public service has received £3,426; a junior female typiste, £2,728; and an apprentice, £2,617 6s. 8d. From those figures it can be seen that a junior male clerk has received approximately £800 more than an apprentice; and a female typiste £110 more.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Where does it go from there?

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: I will come to that in a moment. A junior typiste would take about 12 months—some say less—to become a proficient typiste. However, an apprentice takes five years to learn his trade; and I would suggest that the difference in wages does not bear comparison. When he reaches 21 years of age, a male clerk in the Civil Service receives

£18 8s. 1d.; and at 22 he gets £19 2s. 3d. A female typiste in the Civil Service at 21 years receives £13 8s. 9d.; and at 22 she gets £14 4s. 1d.

With an apprentice it depends whether he does inside work or not. If he does inside work it means that he gets his holidays in the same way as the employees in the other categories I have mentioned. However, if he does outside work he gets some money in lieu of holidays.

The Hon. R. C. Mattiske: That is wrong. He gets 10 statutory holidays.

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: The outside man gets a sum of money in lieu of the holidays provided in his particular award.

The Hon. R. C. Mattiske: You are talking about annual holidays.

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: I think every honourable member except Mr. Mattiske realises the point I am trying to make. The boy who graduates in the Civil Service becomes entitled to long service leave and receives his pay every fortnight, unless he commits some misdemeanour for which he is dismissed from the service. That is not the position of a boy who is apprenticed in the building trade, which everybody knows is in complete chaos. Builders of high repute in this State—builders of 20 or 30 years' standing—are reluctantly facing the situation. They cannot tender for work because of subcontracting, and they are doing away with the day-labour system.

Because of this, journeymen in the building trade have to work on Saturday, Sunday, or both, in order to obtain a living. Many builders who prefer the system of 20 or 30 years ago are going over to subcontracting because they cannot bid against the people who tender for subcontract work. The position of a boy in the building trades is very uncertain indeed.

In these days a person can lose one day's work between jobs. Sometimes it is two or three weeks that he loses; and it can be one month. If a person loses a month's work, it means he loses approximately 30s. per week over the year in his pay packet and receives a wage less than that of a tradesman; and, in effect, from the economic point of view he becomes a semi-skilled worker.

Something should be done about the apprenticeship system which is in operation today. We know that the parents of these boys have to make a sacrifice—and it is their responsibility—but it behoves this Government and every member of Parliament to do what is possible to improve the lot of apprentices in the community if this nation is to be strong and experience manufacturing expansion. We will have to make jobs more attractive for apprentices, particularly in the building trades. Conditions are better in the engineering trades. Conditions for apprentices should

be brought into line with those of male juniors in the Civil Service, as I think all members will agree that the Civil Service can be taken as a yardstick.

I am not decrying the salaries received by civil servants. They get them because somebody said they were entitled to them. But I am saying that the apprentice to a trade today is the poor man of industry; he is the forgotten man. The training received in Western Australia could be considered outstanding. It could be compared with any in the world, and so far as Australia is concerned, I think the Western Australian system is easily the best. That is my private opinion, and I have had a close look at it. I think the system in Western Australia is one that would be hard to improve. The technical division of the Education Department is abreast of the latest techniques. During the time I have been in Parliament there have been many changes in techniques; and if I went back to my trade there are many things I would learn. I think the local technical division of the Education Department is well up in modern know-how.

I do not wish to take up a great deal of members' time. When Ben Chifley died he bequeathed a great heritage to the Labor Party. I think I inherited his throat. There are a couple of things that disturb me. I am concerned at the removal of the radio session *Highlights of Parliament*. I think it was rather naive of the Premier to say that it had served its purpose. The programme *Highlights of Parliament* was one of those healthy, democratic outlets, and was profitable to any Government. Government members were allowed to discuss their parliamentary activities for about eight minutes, and the Opposition was allowed, I think, seven minutes. From conversations I have had with people in country areas, this programme meant a great deal more to them than it did, perhaps, to city dwellers.

There are two sides to every argument. I have never been afraid to put forward my views, and I believe my opponent should have equal rights. If I think I am right, then I am convinced I will beat my opponent in any argument; and he no doubt feels the same. I consider it is a tragedy that the Government allowed this programme to disappear from the Australian Broadcasting Commission. If I had the best policy in Australia, I think I would want to expound it at every opportunity.

I do not propose to say a great deal about the Press. I have my own views, and the opinion I hold at present is the same as I have held for a long time with regard to the slanting of the news. I wish we of the Labor Party had the same amount of space devoted to us for our achievements as is given to Government activities. I envy the Government. My opinion of the Press can be summed up as being similar

to that recently expressed by Walter Lehmann, a Sydney journalist: "I find that the rules governing the conduct of members in this House prevent my being able to adequately express myself on this subject."

I take objection to the recent write-up in a sub-editorial concerning the naming of Gilfraser Road in Fremantle. During the years that I knew Mr. Gilbert Fraser I had the same regard for him as I know every other member of this Chamber had. We all had a terrific esteem for the man, and I think he achieved success with the Local Government portfolio. Although he did not live to see the passing of the Local Government Bill, he did do much of the spade work. He did a great deal for the Bill, and I consider that the name of Gilfraser Road is a fitting gesture to him. I feel sad that the Press of Western Australia, with its complete immunity from all things, and in placing itself above all things in this State, did not see eye to eye with those who wished to give the road the name Gilfraser Road. I think it was an attempt to pervert the Minister's judgment, because it was, after all, a ministerial decision. I hope, despite what *The West Australian* newspaper says, that the name Gilfraser Road will be decided upon, because Mr. Gilbert Fraser was a mighty citizen and a very fine member of this Chamber, and it is well fitting that a road should be named after him.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: I agree with that.

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: The Address-in-Reply always seems to me to be a bit like Jacob's coat.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: I think you mean Joseph's coat.

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: I turn now to what I know will happen in the near future in this place or in another place. I refer to the old traffic regulation whereby motorists must give way to traffic approaching on their right. In theory, the new regulation may be sound, but in practice it is a failure. There will soon be only two kinds of motorists on the road—the quick and the dead. Anybody who has any illusions about my statement should drive along Parliament Place and turn right into Havelock Street and attempt to cross Hay Street about 5 p.m.

I turn now to the matter of dumping rubbish on the side of the road. I think we should quadruple the penalties imposed on those persons who do this.

A member: Hear, hear!

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: I am in full sympathy with local authorities, when one finds a heap of rubbish dumped overnight on the side of the road. It may be an old bedstead, or a tin bucket; or there may be garden weeds, and shrubs that

have not taken. It is rather like sweeping the dirt under the corner of the carpet. Nothing looks worse than to see this rubbish dumped along our main highways; and local government authorities are faced with the task of disposing of it. Nothing could give a worse impression to tourists or visitors.

With regard to local government, a very good thing happened in my electorate during the past year. I refer to the amalgamation of the Swan and Guildford councils. I think the Minister will agree with me that it was a very pleasant occasion. Both parties used a lot of common-sense and an amicable arrangement was arrived at. With the expanding costs of local government, we must look to the future. I know there is quite often a parochial attitude, but amalgamation of local authorities is a must, and I hope it will continue.

I was disturbed to read that some people in Victoria Park wish to break away from the Perth City Council. They may have good reasons for wishing to do so, but I think it would be a tragedy. I do not possess the wisdom of King Solomon, but the Minister would do well to give that ward a minimum increase of three representatives.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: That subject is coming up.

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: I think it would cure a lot of the ills if Victoria Park were given those three representatives.

It appears that the Government is going to provide a high school at Ashfield, and an argument has been going on over the site. The site chosen by the Government in the first place is the most suitable. The other site suggested is vested in the State Housing Commission, and it does not compare with the first site chosen. I think the original choice should be adhered to.

All Governments have been faced with the problem I am now about to mention; namely, the extension of the sewerage system in the metropolitan area. I know it is an unattractive duty of the Public Works Department; and it involves the highest expenditure of capital and gives the least return. But I do remind the Government that this is 1961. In the last couple of years a lot of funds have been gobbled up in the establishment of the new treatment works. I suggest we should use all the funds we can lay our hands on to provide amenities in areas which need them. We should push on with the extension of sewerage connections. I know it gives a return on capital expenditure of only about 1 per cent.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: It forms a substantial part of your water rate bill.

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: I quite agree. But it is hygienically necessary, and a health booster. We should extend sewerage to as many homes as possible.

The Government should give attention to providing another bridge. I am grateful that the bridge at South Guildford over the Helena River, and the bridge in the vicinity of Bayswater have been widened. But I consider that another bridge, somewhere in the vicinity of the site envisaged for Whatley Park, should be provided for the northern reaches of the river. It would relieve the strain on what have become main roads, caused by the lack of river crossings.

I am pleased at the provision of new lighting on main highways. This is a tribute to the State Electricity Commission. It is very good for night driving, and full marks should be given to those responsible for the installation.

I think the Swan River Conservation Board is achieving its objective. Funds will be needed to carry out a lot of the work envisaged. The Swan River is a thing of beauty, and the board is making great strides.

In 1928 the Collier Labor Government gave to its wage-earning employees long service leave by Government administrative action. The regulations which govern long service leave do not have to be presented to this House. Recently there was a case where the S.E.C. was before the Industrial Court. The decision went against the commission—I think it was in 1960. Certain conditions existed for a long time, but a new clause 14 has now been printed which covers any dispute over long service leave between an employee and a Government department. The clause says—

14. (1) There shall be a Long Service Leave Appeal Committee consisting of the Public Service Commissioner, the Secretary for Labour, and the Industrial and Staff Superintendent of the W.A. Government Railways Commission.

If I were a Government employee, I would consider it a complete waste of time: it is merely an appeal from Caesar to Caesar. I am in favour of the machinery used in the Long Service Leave Act of 1958, which gives long service leave to private employees. The board of reference under the Act comprises the chairman appointed by the Arbitration Court; a representative of the Employers' Federation of Western Australia; and a representative of the West Australian Trade Unions Industrial Council. I think the Government should have a look at this. Without further ado, I support the motion for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply.

Sitting suspended from 6.15 till 7.30 p.m.

THE HON. S. T. J. THOMPSON (South) [7.30 p.m.]: In the Speech delivered by His Excellency, some reference was made to the fact that all claims under the war service land settlement scheme had been satisfied in this State; and His Excellency mentioned that 1,007 applicants had been placed on the land. This means quite a large number of new farms because only a small proportion of these people would settle on old properties. The impact on production from these new farms is going to be very great in the years to come. His Excellency went on to say—

The reconstruction programme initiated in the south project areas is nearing completion and should ensure adequate carrying capacity on these properties.

I am not going to question the production that has been achieved by some of these farmers. What some of them have done is truly amazing, and I congratulate them. In my opinion, what they have done compares more than favourably with what has been achieved in some of the old established districts. But it is premature to say that the carrying capacity of these properties is adequate. Before we can decide that, we must know what the settlers' commitments are both in the way of rent and final valuation. Up to the present we have not been able to establish those figures.

This is very discouraging to the men who have been on these properties for, in some cases, ten years. Many of them are battling against great odds. The early settlers were placed on properties far too soon, but that was not the responsibility of the authorities. The R.S.L. pressed for these men to be placed on properties and, to be quite frank, they were placed on farms that were not ready for settlement. As a result of much hard work, and some assistance, the majority of the settlers now have their properties fairly well established.

I pay a tribute to the present Minister for the work he has done during his brief term of office. He was responsible for the reconstruction programme which was mentioned in the Speech; and that programme has played no small part in bringing these properties up to their present capacity. But I feel it is high time that the State and Federal Governments got together on this matter and decided what portion of the cost is to be allotted to these properties. It is imperative that the settlers should have that information as soon as possible: it has been delayed for far too long. I think the only way that we can deal with the matter now is for the two Governments concerned to reach an early decision and arrive at the final valuations both in regard to rental and in regard to option of properties.

Last night I heard one honourable member say that wool prices might fall. It was evident last season to those of us who

are concerned with wool that prices had already fallen. There is an old saying that Australia rides on the sheep's back; and it is still very true as was instanced last year by the effect of the low price of wool on the economy of Australia.

In my opinion, there is only one difference in the position today from what applied many years ago: there are many more people now scrambling for a ride than there were 30 or 40 years ago. But we are still dependent on the price of wool.

The Hon. H. C. Strickland: Does not the wheatgrower ride on the consumer's stomach?

The Hon. S. T. J. THOMPSON: That brings me to a point that has created a lot of debate in the country areas recently: the promotion of wool sales. An announcement was made in the newspaper that the growers had agreed to an increase in levy of 5s. per bale for wool during the current season. I have contacted quite a few growers, and I have yet to find many of them who are in agreement with that proposition. Our organisation evidently did come to that agreement, but we feel that as wool is of such value to the economy of Australia, it is only right that the community as a whole should bear some of the cost of its promotion, and that the growers should not be responsible for the whole of the cost.

Getting back to the deeds of our Government in the past two years, it is certainly gratifying to travel through one's province and see the rapid progress that has been made in the provision of additional school facilities. In practically every district one goes to one sees either new school buildings or extensions to existing ones. As a result, the country children are receiving facilities nearly equal to those of the children in the metropolitan area; and the provision of additional high schools is making it possible for our children to obtain a higher education without having to travel too far from their home district.

I wish to touch on the subject of agricultural colleges; and the one in Narrogin is the one about which I know most. This college is inundated each year with applications by students for admission; and in view of that fact I am wondering whether the department has given any thought to establishing another college in that area. Because of the way the applications are coming in for the Narrogin School of Agriculture, it seems to me that another college could be readily filled.

The Hon. A. R. Jones: We want one first.

The Hon. S. T. J. THOMPSON: The honourable member can speak for himself. I wish now to deal with some of the legislation that was passed last year. Legislation dealing with betting was passed by Parliament; and if we can rely on the

information that has been published in the Press in the last few months, the T.A.B. has been responsible for a marked falling off in the gambling habits of a lot of our citizens. Despite that, the other day I noticed a report to the effect that the T.A.B. had made a profit. If this organisation can persuade people not to continue gambling, I feel the passing of the legislation has been well justified; and I hope the trend will continue. It must be of great significance to those homes where the gambling habit has been stopped.

I cannot say that I am quite as happy about the Licensing Act and the extension of the hotel trading hours. In the country districts it has always been difficult to get a function started before nine o'clock, but now it is almost impossible to get one started before ten o'clock. I have had complaints from one organisation: it has asked that we revert to nine o'clock closing. That request has come to me from one of the branches of the Country Women's Association.

The Hon. F. D. Willmott: You must come from a very thirsty district.

The Hon. S. T. J. THOMPSON: Very much so.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: I know several who would appreciate an alteration.

The Hon. S. T. J. THOMPSON: I cannot let this opportunity pass without mentioning the waterside trouble here and its impact on the producers in general. The main impact in my area meant that quite a few wool cheques were held up for a considerable time. This was quite serious for the people concerned as the majority work on overdraft, and this meant that they had to pay interest for the extra six weeks. It is quite upsetting to a man to find that after his wool is sold there is a strike and his wool cheque has been held up.

In my opinion, there is only one way to deal with the trouble that we have on the waterfront at present. Last year we had a series of 24-hour strikes on the waterside. They mostly took place mid-week, and towards the end of the week the chaps would go back to work. Unlike the farmers, these people are in the position of working overtime and getting penalty rates for the weekend; and that applied after the strikes. There was an amazing build-up of work which meant overtime work by the union men concerned.

In a case like that there should be a pool of surplus labour set up. I think there would be quite a lot of men who would be willing to fill in and work that overtime.

The Hon. F. R. H. Lavery: You are not suggesting the 1917 conditions again?

The Hon. S. T. J. THOMPSON: Yes.

The Hon. F. R. H. Lavery: I will read to you the speech that was made last time.

The Hon. S. T. J. THOMPSON: The honourable member can speak presently; I am having a go now. In the industry with which I am associated in the country areas, we do not get any overtime at the weekends if it is necessary for us to catch up on any backlog of work. Any extra expenses incurred for doing such work have to be paid out of our own pockets. It would be very nice if we could go on strike during the week so as to work at weekends on penalty rates. I point out, too, that the strike to which I have already referred was merely one between two unions.

On reviewing the progress of the war service land settlement scheme in this State, one realises the remarkable development that has taken place, and it is extremely gratifying to note the number of applicants for each block of land that is offered for sale. However, there is one aspect of this scheme which I deplore; namely, that there are many young Western Australians at the moment who have not the capital to start developing a farm. The present development bank does not advance sufficient capital to enable the average young man to make a start. Another unfortunate aspect is that we have such a rush of applicants from the Eastern States seeking the blocks that are on offer that it makes it more difficult for our young Western Australians to become established on the land in these days.

Nevertheless, the war service land settlement scheme is definitely a good thing for our State. I would suggest, however, that the development of the scheme should progress hand in hand with the establishment of industries. Land settlement alone can never attract the population that we need to enable us to retain possession of this country. Our present Government, in regard to land settlement in particular, has performed an extremely fine job during its term of office.

To be of benefit to us, any industries to be established here must be the kind, as I have suggested, that do not require to be subsidised. That factor, of necessity, makes it difficult to attract to the State the right type of industry with the necessary capital. Briefly, Mr. President, that concludes what I have to say on the Address-in-Reply, and I support the motion.

THE HON. F. R. H. LAVERY (West) [8.28 p.m.]: Although the Speech made by His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor is a very fine one so far as the Government is concerned, I am not very happy about many of the statements contained in it, and I venture to say that the Lieutenant-Governor himself was not

particularly happy with some of its contents when he was reading it; because I was sitting in this Chamber at the time and I never took my eyes off him during the whole time he was reading the Speech from the first line to the last. Therefore, on several occasions I saw a smile appear on his face whilst he was reading the Speech, because I am quite sure that he did not believe all that he was reading; and, for my part, I do not believe all that it contains, either.

As a political speech, and as a fore-runner for the forthcoming elections, it is a very fine document, and perhaps it is a better one than that prepared by my leader for the opening of the final session of Parliament whilst he was in office. Therefore, I give the Government full credit for the issuing of a fine pre-election pamphlet. When one analyses it one can find many suppositions in it. If one cares to select any portion of the Speech, according to one's own political view—and with due respect to the thoughts of any other member in this Chamber I am stating my political view—one can refer, for example, to the words appearing in line 4, page 7, which have reference to the take-over of the State Building Supplies by the Hawker Siddeley Group Ltd. That portion of the Speech reads—

It is hoped that the transfer of this concern—

What a mouthful! That is exactly what it was. I am not criticising the Hawker Siddeley Group in any way whatsoever, and I am not trying to get on the band-wagon, as it were, with the Hawker Siddeley Group so that I can get a cheap stick of timber from this company. I am merely referring to the deal that is mentioned on page 7 of the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech, when His Excellency went on to say—

—to a successful industrial group will open up new timber trade opportunities and will be the means of encouraging the Hawker Siddeley Group to develop further industrial interests in Western Australia.

I commend the Government for trying to bring further industries to this State, but no investigation that could possibly be made could dissuade me from believing that this deal is not a satisfactory one. I am not suggesting that there is anything sinister about it, but, in my view, it is unsatisfactory so far as the taxpayers of this State are concerned.

I believe with all my heart that the amount of money which this company is to pay to the Government over the period allowed will be reduced so much by the interest the Government has to pay on the moneys that are outstanding for the State Building Supplies that, taking the long view, if the Government receives £1,500,000 instead of the £2,200,000, it will

be doing very well. When the amendment to the Address-in-Reply was before the House I asked some questions of the Minister, but unfortunately he had already made a reply when I asked the questions.

However, this deal with the Hawker Siddeley Group does leave a nasty taste in the mouths of many people, including some very big men engaged in the timber industry. In particular it leaves a nasty taste in the mouths of many people because of the proposition that nearly 1,000,000 sleepers will be required in the near future for the proposed railway line from Kwinana to Kalgoorlie. The profit that will be made on the sale of those sleepers will meet a very big percentage of the interest that has to be paid on the deposit made by the Hawker Siddeley Group for the purchase of the State Building Supplies. I am not objecting to that, but I am objecting to the price that was set by the Government. As I said at the time, full credit should be given to the representative of the Hawker Siddeley Group who negotiated the sale of the State Building Supplies with the Government for obtaining such a bargain for his company from the Government of Western Australia.

As the Lieutenant-Governor said, it is hoped that the transfer of this concern to a successful industrial group will open up new timber trade opportunities in this State. I am certainly hopeful that that will occur, but I am doubtful whether, in the long run, Western Australia will benefit from the sale. The inclusion of the Banksiadale railway mill in this transaction is much the same as in the days of old in this State when one bought a pound of tea and, for a number of coupons contained in the packets, one could get a tea towel.

In buying the State Building Supplies the Hawker Siddeley Group obtained not only a very fine up-to-date timber mill, but also a wonderful stand of timber—in fact, one of the greatest in the world—which had previously been under the control of the Railways Department, but which is now under the control of this company.

I have been unable to peruse a copy of the agreement of sale as tabled in another place because so many other members are desirous of perusing it, but I am given to understand that it is possible, under the terms of the agreement, for this group to make a large profit out of the sleepers which will be supplied to the Railways Department.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Why does not the honourable member look at the copy of the agreement on the Table of this House?

The Hon. F. R. H. LAVERY: I thank the Minister for his information; I did not know it had been laid on the Table of this House. However, the fact that the

Railways Department would have been able to purchase its sleepers at a better price from the Banksiadale mill, had it still been under the control of the State Building Supplies and not under the control of this group, is something that will have to be watched in the future. I well remember Mr. Strickland, when he was the Minister for Railways, having trouble over the purchase of sleepers and the price asked for them when there was plenty of competition in the timber industry. So I am wondering what will happen in the future now there is no competition.

I do not want to be completely pessimistic whilst delivering this speech, but I am also greatly concerned about the arrangements the Government has entered into for the appointment of Captain Williams to investigate the operations of the State Shipping Service. Captain Williams is chairman of the Australian National Shipping Companies and, as I have said, he is to be appointed to inquire into which operations of the State Shipping Service are best suited for its needs.

In this instance I am offering a warning to the Government. Captain Williams may be regarded as being a very highly technical officer and the one most suitable to conduct this investigation, but I am fearful that under the system adopted by this Government in the last two years, Captain Williams will present his recommendations, following which the Government will fall for the three card trick; because I am sure his recommendations will be along the lines that more road transport should be used along the Western Australian coast.

I am not attempting to show any disrespect so far as his capabilities are concerned, but Captain Williams is associated with a number of transport companies operating throughout the Commonwealth of Australia. When he does make his report I hope the Government will take into consideration the recommendations, but will give serious thought to any recommendation he may make that our coast line should be serviced only by road transport.

The other evening Mr. Baxter raised a matter in regard to which he has my whole-hearted support; and I feel sure that people who are tourist-minded will support his statement, also. I remember that a couple of years ago Mrs. Hutchinson spoke on the same question; that is the gouging out of the ground alongside our main road between Perth and York. Perth and Northam and along those roads stretching from Perth to the north of our State.

It is true that we have an abundance of road-making material readily available for the construction of roads, and therefore the cost is kept down to a minimum if a bulldozer is able to go right alongside the road and gouge out from, say, 500 to 6,000

yards of gravel. However, the result does not present a very pretty picture for those people who drive into the country accompanied by visitors from the Eastern States and other countries. All they see whilst driving along is the ground ripped up and great open spaces from which gravel has been gouged. For a few additional pounds the Main Roads Department, or any other department concerned, especially when it has these earth-moving machines on the spot, could use graders to level off the ground and leave it in a presentable condition. If this were done the wildflowers or the seeds that are blown from there would be spread, thus enabling a fresh crop of wildflowers to bloom in the next season.

Therefore, Mr. Baxter should be commended for bringing this matter forward; and I suggest to the Main Roads Department that, in view of the money it has at its disposal, the extra amount of money that would be required to level off the ground alongside these main roads and to leave them in a decent condition would be money well spent.

The new road from Welshpool to Lesmurdie is beautifully constructed, and near the summit of Lesmurdie Hill a fine lookout is provided alongside the road. But what do we see on the side of the road on the way up the hill? There are great pits which have been gouged out by bulldozers. If these pits were filled, within a few years nature would provide the remedy and the area filled in would be covered with vegetation.

I have given notice of some questions which I shall ask tomorrow. I did hope to have the replies before I made my contribution to the Address-in-Reply, but the Minister intends to reply to the debate tomorrow and I have to speak this evening.

One of the questions relates to the additions to the Subiaco sewage treatment works. I have in mind the large amount of money spent, and the great number of men employed on the new sewage treatment works, and the continuation of similar work at the present time to relieve the unemployment situation. Surely if the previous Government and the present Government were able to spend huge sums on that type of work employing a large number of men, the same amount could be spent today in providing sewerage extensions. That would be a means of providing employment for the unskilled labour in this State who now experience difficulty in finding employment. Many people in the Fremantle district would like to see the provision of a deep sewerage system. If this work could be implemented by the Government, many of the unskilled workers who are unemployed could be given employment.

I also gave notice of a question concerning the Melville Shire Council, and the provision of a safe bathing area and a

take-off and landing base for water skiers on the Canning River adjacent to Beryl Place, Mt. Pleasant. I am aware that the shire council is attempting to find a suitable landing base. A proposal has been put forward for the building of a bridge over the Canning River on the Mt. Pleasant side of the river, but some people are concerned about the exact site.

Another question relates to the line of the proposed railway from Jarrahdale to Naval Base for the transport of bauxite. A number of property-owners in the Naval Base district have been concerned about the surveyors entering their properties in the course of making surveys of the route. These landowners did not come under the previous land resumptions that were made for this purpose. I have phrased the question in such a way as to indicate to the Minister that I am not trying to be political.

Finally, I have given notice of a question in regard to child welfare and the children's court. A story has been going around the Fremantle district—I spoke to the Minister in charge of the Fremantle Prison about this matter—that the children's courts are sending some under-age female offenders to Fremantle gaol, because there is nowhere else to send them. I do not know whether that is correct. I hope that when the Minister replies he will tell me that this statement is incorrect.

A lady I know in Fremantle is about to retire from public life. Before she does I want to place on record the thanks of the aged and sick people in the Fremantle area for the very fine service she has rendered to them, in the position of almoner of the Fremantle Hospital. I am referring to Sister Fletcher who is the wife of Mr. Fletcher, M.L.A. When he entered Parliament it was thought that Sister Fletcher would give up her position. She attempted to do so and the Fremantle Hospital authorities called for applications for the position. No satisfactory applications were received and Sister Fletcher was requested by the hospital authorities to carry on. My reason for bringing this matter forward is that this lady has rendered outstanding service to the community.

A complaint was made by Mr. Syd Thompson in this Chamber about some people who are accepting overtime work and payment therefor. I might point out that Sister Fletcher has spent four or five hours each evening, after cooking meals at home, in attending to the sick people in the district. Such unselfish service to the community should be recognised. Unfortunately some people make political capital out of the fact that the wife of an employed man is working. Sometimes there are extraordinary circumstances, as in the case of Sister Fletcher. I am sorry

to learn that a member in another place castigated Mr. Fletcher because his wife was working.

Being a true Western Australian, I was greatly interested in a recent report in *The West Australian*. It relates to a trade drive by a local committee, and is as follows:—

W.A. Launches Trade Drive

A local campaign has been launched to place emphasis on West Australian goods.

It is a part of the Made-in-Australia campaign being held throughout the Commonwealth by the Associated Chamber of Manufactures.

The State Government will supplement the special drive started by the W.A. Chamber of Manufactures.

The Made-in-Australia campaign was commended but W.A.'s concern was to emphasise local goods, Industrial Minister Court said yesterday.

The W.A. Chamber was preparing a manufacturers' directory of all commodities made by its members, he said.

Long-term benefits would be governed not only by the efficiency of the campaign, but by the quality, price, presentation and servicing of the local goods.

It gives me great pleasure to support a promotion campaign such as that. I wish the Minister for Industrial Development the very best in his efforts.

I must point out, however, that under the Hawke Government a trade promotion council was formed. It undertook a project similar to this one, and it carried on for a considerable time—between two and a half and three years—with considerable benefit to this State. One resident in the Nollamara district was able to win a new home out of the competition which was conducted. That committee comprised businessmen and women in this State. They rendered a tremendous amount of valuable service to the State in the promotion of W.A. manufactured goods.

When a change of Government took place, a very curt note was sent to the chairman of this committee saying that from then onwards the committee would be disbanded. There was not even a vote of thanks extended by the incoming Government to these businessmen and women, of all political parties, who formed the committee. This was a non-political organisation. If the present promotion campaign being undertaken by the Government is successful I hope the Minister for Industrial Development will ensure that the people responsible for the campaign will receive a vote of thanks.

I now refer to the final extensions to Parliament House. I have been told by a member of the House Committee that

now is the time for members to have their say in regard to these additions. A question was asked on the opening day of Parliament as to when certain facilities would be provided, and you, Mr. President, gave a reply. I have been given to understand that the toilet room in the new building is not provided with hot water. In these modern days even cottages are provided with a hot water system! We should remember that the staff of Parliament do soil their hands, because they have to use ink and handle dusty books and papers, and a hot water system should be provided in their toilet room. I hope the House Committee will make a proper decision when this matter is considered.

I refer to *The Civil Service Journal* of June, 1961, which criticises the proposal to convert the old R. & I. Bank building into the new Public Trust Office. The report sets out some of the facilities required by the officers of the Public Trust Office, and we in this Parliament also require many of them. The following is stated on page 6—

(1) The premises need renovating and painting throughout. Except on the ground floor, new ceilings should be installed. The second floor as a whole is in a very sub-standard condition.

(2) New and brighter floor coverings should be provided and the flooring itself re-conditioned where necessary. It is very uneven at present.

(3) Lighting should be brought up to accepted modern standards.

(4) Provision should be made for regulation fire escapes.

(5) Chilled drinking-water units should be installed on all floors.

(6) An amenities and lunch room should be provided, together with all appropriate facilities.

(7) Proper external drainage at the rear of the building should be provided—also, a covered way to the men's toilets and raised footways over drainage gutters.

(8) All toilets should be brought up to modern standards. Hot water should be provided for washing. In addition to normal hygiene reasons, hot water is essential for some officers who are required to handle dirty clothing and other articles.

Although our staff do not have to handle dirty clothing, they have to handle dirty paper and ink. If it is good enough for the trust officers to have a hot water service, then it is good enough for the staff in Parliament House to have the same.

Some members in another place experienced disappointment in the allocation of rooms in the new part of the building. For

the next 12 to 18 months, members of this House will experience some difficulties in regard to accommodation. I accept that decision gracefully. I hope that when rooms are finally allocated there will be at least one common-room provided for the use of all members. This Parliament has a reputation for the free fraternising of members of all political parties. Here they all mix freely in the one room, but in other Parliaments in Australia the members of the respective parties are accommodated in separate rooms. In my 10 years as a member of this House I have been pleased to see members of all political parties mix so freely together. I hope this position will not be disturbed.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: We are all jolly good fellows.

The Hon. F. R. H. LAVERY: I am not always. But I do hope that you, Sir, will use your good offices to see that something like that is done.

I desire now to make a few remarks concerning the Press. These matters do not concern me personally, but I am very disappointed in connection with two reports of incidents which have lately appeared in the Press. They are very important so far as the reading public is concerned. It does not seem that today our Press has the high standard of, shall we say, decorum which it had some years ago. The first incident I wish to refer to is the unfortunate murder of a girl in Cottesloe. The girl's fiance was asked a question in court which he was quite entitled to be asked, and he replied in the affirmative. But this question and answer was published in the Press. I am referring, of course, to the question whether he had been living with the girl. The Press published that with great glaring headlines, which was a complete disgrace. Everywhere that man goes everyone will know about it.

The second case is a more glaring one. In Bentley two young girls were accosted and a young man was arrested. He has not been found guilty yet, but in the report which appeared in the paper it was stated that the arrested man was driving a van belonging to a certain carpet company. I happen to know some of the members of that company, which is run by a widow. The young men who drive these vans now have to bear the stigma of suspicion. This is just not fair. This young man who has been arrested may, or may not, be guilty. I am not concerned about that at the moment. The fact remains that the Press had no right to publish the name of the firm whose van the arrested man had been driving.

I know I have been a little caustic tonight, but I want to close on a different note altogether. Following my illness last

year, I went for a short sea trip to Singapore, Hong Kong, and Japan. I was received very warmly at the opening of the Congress in Manila on the 17th of January this year. I have to convey to you, Sir, the respects of the President of that Congress of the Philippines, and also those of President Garcia. I also have to convey these respects to members of this Chamber. I was treated right royally, and a special chair was put on the floor of the Congress for me. According to the records I was the first West Australian who has been actually present at the opening of Congress. The secretary of the C.P.A. in Hong Kong also sends his greetings to members of the Legislative Council here in Western Australia. With those remarks I support the motion.

THE HON. J. M. THOMSON (South) [8.19 p.m.]: I assure the House that I will not delay it unduly as my remarks will be very short, and confined mainly to the report of the Royal Commission on the Builders' Registration Act, which was tabled yesterday afternoon. I wish to take this opportunity of congratulating the members of that Royal Commission, namely, Mr. Baxter, Mr. MacKinnon, and Mr. Davies, for their splendid effort. I think we all agree that a review of this Act has been long overdue.

I have had a very limited opportunity to peruse the report, but it does recommend to the Government the elimination of the "B"-class classification, thus bringing all builders under the one classification. I have always strongly supported this idea because I maintain that we should never place any restriction whatever in the way of those people who desire to alter their status from that of a tradesman to that of a master tradesman. It will mean that all builders will have the same opportunities.

It has been reported that people who desire to have work carried out consider that a "B"-class builder is not of a sufficiently high standard to be engaged; and therefore the work is given to an "A"-class builder. I consider this is unfair, because if the people knew the true position they would give the work to a "B"-class builder, who is amply qualified to do the work because of his experience. The evidence revealed that examinations have set a desirable standard of academic and technical training for those wishing to enter the building industry.

Another recommendation contained in the report is that the Act should be revised to extend its application to the country districts, and I think this is most desirable. Of course, this will present difficulties as far as the administration side of it is concerned. It has been suggested that the local authorities could be asked to take charge of the administration, but that would create other difficulties. When we face up to the situation and

realise the necessity of extending the application of the Act to the builders throughout the State, we will also have to overcome the difficulty as far as the administration is concerned. The use of local authorities in this connection would be quite all right if the local authorities had the services of building surveyors or inspectors, but I can name many shire councils in this State which have only a secretary and an assistant secretary, and they would not be qualified to supervise the work of builders, particularly the most important stage of the work—the foundations and the early part. When dealing with this matter we will have to find ways and means of financing the cost of administering the Act when we extend it to the country areas.

One of the most important qualifications of a builder is his ability to tender for work. If a builder does not have the right method of tendering, he will obviously either have to go out of business, or he will produce work of an inferior quality to make up for his mistakes in tendering. When framing the clauses dealing with registration, I hope that sufficient detailed consideration will be given to this very important point.

I am quite satisfied that the Royal Commission obtained the most competent expressions of opinion it was possible to obtain. Altogether 24 witnesses appeared; and again I say that the commission should be strongly commended for its activities in placing this report before Parliament to demonstrate in what ways the Act should be amended so that it will be of the greatest benefit to builders and those people requiring the services of these tradesmen.

As I have said, I do see the difficulty which will be experienced in regard to the administration costs when the provisions of the Act are extended to the country areas. I feel that the members of local authorities have already sufficient to do without having this responsibility placed upon them. I consider it is necessary for competent persons to be appointed to carry out the work in the country, the same as has been done in the metropolitan area by the Builders' Registration Board. The evidence has proved that the existence of this board is necessary, because from time to time it has rendered valuable service to builders and those requiring the services of builders and inspectors.

I do not wish to say anything on other matters, because the opportunity to do so will present itself as various Bills are placed before the House. But I seriously hope that the Government will take cognisance of the report to which I have referred and will, as is recommended, introduce appropriate legislation which will be of benefit to all concerned.

THE HON. L. A. LOGAN (Midland—Minister for Local Government) [8.29 p.m.]: There is not a great deal which I wish to say in support of the motion for the presentation of our address of loyalty to His Excellency.

Although one of the members for the Metropolitan Province expressed himself most humbly in appreciation of the honour accorded him of initiating the debate, all members will agree, I am sure, that Mr. Watson's speech honoured the occasion most adequately.

Being one who is well known as an enthusiast for any good cause sponsored by him, the honourable member's whole-hearted commendation of the Government's handling of State affairs since the Chamber rose late last year, is deserving of the sincere thanks of all who hold the welfare of the State in high regard.

The success which has attended the change-over from day labour to private contract work in the Government's building enterprises followed close on the heels of the construction at the Narrows of a fine piece of structural engineering by private contractors for the previous Government.

Engineering contracts have since been let for the construction of the diversion dam on the Ord River, and building contracts for the erection of the township at Kununurra. The Main Roads Department has let several contracts for the construction of bridges in the country; and, as we are all aware, the hot-mix being applied to many of our roads is being carried out by private enterprise. I think this is one matter that has been worrying Mr. Jones for some considerable time. Therefore he will be pleased to know that quite a number of bridges have been constructed by private contract, some of them being in his own province, and that hot-mix, which is applied by a private company, is being used by the Main Roads Department for the sealing of many miles of our roads.

I mention these few important works of the many now being done by public tender for the Government at substantial benefit, I believe, to the Treasury and also to the people of the State as a whole because of the competitive tendering which is available these days. The old-established regime, under which the Government endeavoured to carry highly expensive works organisations for carrying out these works, has to an extent been abandoned and replaced by an entirely new and beneficial arrangement of getting more, relatively, for our money.

Turning now to the development of primary and secondary industries, it is noticeable that His Excellency devoted a considerable portion of his Speech on opening day to the great industrial advances made so far, and in prospect. It is

of intense interest, especially to members representing country areas, to see the development of the State reaching the present stage of progress which enables us to witness the rapid growth of secondary industry in its endeavours to wrest leadership in production from the primary pursuits. Unquestionably, we in this State are enjoying a period of marked progress in both spheres, which is a healthy sign and one directed towards a better balancing of the country's economy.

Land settlement and pastoral developments extending over wide areas of the State from the south-west and the Esperance plains, and encompassing the Tone River project, the war service land settlement reconstruction programme, and on to Eneabba, then through to Liveringa and the great Ord project, are potent factors in the record production of fruit, grain, wool, and meat. The rural areas are beginning to feel really beneficial results from the great progress made with the comprehensive water supply scheme, the expansion of many country water supplies, the provision of electric power to farms, reconstruction of all-weather roads and bridges, the upgrading of educational facilities requiring the erection of substantial high schools, and also the provision of excellent hospital accommodation and facilities, to which may well be added many harbour improvement works.

Were it not for the current increased amount of loan funds being made available, there is no doubt that many of these vital services would be lagging far behind the ever-increasing needs of the rural population; and it is of interest here to note that Perth is the only Australian capital city the population of which has not risen since 1947 as a percentage of State population. This is most interesting in view of the great strides made in secondary industry, and promises well for the stability of our economy.

The figures are as follows: The population of Perth represented 54.2 per cent. of the State's total population in 1947, and the estimate in 1960, taken over a greatly increased population was 54.1 per cent. From these figures we can see that this Government, as well as previous Governments, has endeavoured, as far as possible, to put decentralisation into practice. An entirely different picture exists in the Eastern States. The City of Sydney in 1947 represented 49.7 per cent. of the State's population and that figure had risen to 54.8 per cent. in 1960. Melbourne was 59.7 per cent. and that advanced to 63.3 per cent.; Brisbane was 36.3 per cent. in 1947 and 39.5 per cent. in 1960. Even Adelaide showed an increase from 59.2 per cent. to 61 per cent.; and last, but not least, Hobart increased its city population to 32 per cent. of the State's population in 1960, whereas in 1947 the population of Hobart represented only 29.8 per cent.

While this rosy picture of the State's balanced economy and economic stability may not be attributed entirely to the efforts of the present Government during the last two years, there is no doubt that the encouragement given recently to the development of rural areas, with emphasis being placed on a balanced economy and a balanced distribution of population, reflects in no uncertain manner great achievements by the present Government in carrying out its policies.

Whilst speaking of the people living in the rural areas, whom we have long regarded as the backbone of the State, I wish to pay tribute to those who, in the past 12 months, have shown great fortitude and courage when beset by flood and bush fire. In the history of the State I do not suppose our people have ever had to suffer from the effects of three bad bush fires, two cyclones, and a flood within a period of three months; and it reflects great credit on the people concerned that there was no loss of life during any of those catastrophes. I should say that the people concerned have rehabilitated themselves very well in a very short space of time.

I thought members listened with particular interest to the outline of the impact which will be felt in Australia as a result of Britain's intentions regarding the European Common Market; we are grateful to the honourable member concerned for his contribution to the debate. Dr. Hislop emphasised, in particular, Australia's position in relation to the markets of South-East Asia and Japan, an aspect which has since received some considerable publicity in the daily Press, which has featured Japanese reaction to Britain's proposals to enter the European Common Market.

I think at this stage it would be appropriate to give some figures regarding Western Australia's share of the export market to the United Kingdom, the Common Market countries, and other parts of the world. I have not got the 1960-1961 figures; the ones I have are for 1959-1960. Our exports from Western Australia of grain, wool, petroleum, meat, crayfish tails, timber, apples, whale oil, and other products to the United Kingdom amounted to £34,500,000, to the Common Market countries, £16,600,000, to Japan £10,800,000, to other Asian countries £26,800,000, the United States £9,300,000, and to the rest of the world £17,600,000, giving a total export of £115,600,000. From those figures we can see that our exports to the United Kingdom represented 29.8 per cent. of our total exports. That should emphasise to producers of those particular commodities, and in fact the producers of all primary products the necessity of making sure that we get some kind of deal if Britain finally decides to join the European Common Market.

It may be that we will be able to find other markets; it may even be that Britain will be able to join the European Common Market with some safeguard for our trade; but if we have to find a market for 29 per cent. of our exports it will be a pretty tall order, and until we can find a market for those goods it may be a difficult period for us.

The Hon. R. Thompson: How do our exports compare with our imports? Have we a favourable trade balance?

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: I was just coming to that. Our imports for the same period represented £12,100,000 from the United Kingdom; £3,400,000 from the Common Market countries; £1,200,000 from Japan; £23,400,000 from other Asian countries; £2,400,000 from the United States; and £3,700,000 from the rest of the world, giving us a total import of £46,200,000. That was an excess of exports over imports of £69,400,000; and if the rest of the Australian States were able to trade on the same basis as we have done there would be no need to worry about the economic stability of Australia, and I am certain there would be no necessity for a credit squeeze.

The Hon. H. C. Strickland: Then we had better secede.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: There may be some arguments in favour of that, too, remembering the arguments that Mr. Watson put up in 1927, or thereabouts. The chart I have shows the necessity for this State in particular to make sure that whatever negotiations take place our producers have a say in them.

When making reference to the planning of the switch road, the honourable member asked whether the plan published in the daily paper of the 17th February of this year was the final plan for the switch road. The published plan had with it some comments from the Commissioner of Main Roads to emphasise that it was only a preliminary plan because everything has yet to be worked out in detail. The commissioner stated that an American firm of consulting engineers was being brought to advise on the project, and he went on to say that the engineers were engaged in examining the proposals for city highways. I recall that Dr. Hislop commented in 1959 on the alternative of Milligan Street for the proposed George Street route. The proposal was examined very thoroughly by all authorities concerned in the planning, but it was not favoured.

At this stage I shall read one or two extracts from a report by Mr. Leisch, who was the chief highway engineer of the American consulting firm of De Leuw, Cather & Company. He had this to say—

The Western Switch Road logically should have first construction priority, utilizing stage construction. The Western Switch Road is found to be

favourably located. Tunnel construction on the Western Switch Road should be avoided.

Further on he says—

The approach taken by the Department in following the broad recommendations of the Stephenson report "Plan for the Metropolitan Region—Perth and Fremantle", 1955 Report by Gordon Stephenson, and in setting a clearly defined and well balanced transportation plan for the future, is commendable. With this plan—if properly executed over the years by gradual and continual stage construction in accordance with requirements—it is reasonable to assume that traffic congestion can be largely prevented from developing. This puts Perth in the enviable position of coping with traffic problems before and as they develop rather than in the difficult position of trying to catch up with the problem while motorists continue to pay for congestion, as is usually the case in other metropolitan areas.

He also had this to say—

In considering the whole of the transportation plan, the Western Switch Road, forming the western segment of the inner-loop highway, should have first construction priority. The Western Switch Road is found to be favourably located; a more westerly location would present problems in overcoming more difficult terrain and would cause a lowering of design standards; a more easterly location would be less favourably situated with regard to land development and would aggravate the interchange problem involving interconnecting roadways and ramps.

I understand he is one of the best known highway engineers in America, and I would not like to argue the point with him. If Milligan Street had been accepted as the western switch road line, the city block would have been cut off at that road. By going further west to George Street we have extended the perimeter of the city block by that much; and I would venture to say that by doing so we will prevent a lot of congestion in the city area.

The Hon. H. C. Strickland: It could have grown on the other side.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: A city does not grow on two sides of a switch road. I think we will find that most of the inner city will develop on the eastern side of the western switch road and not on the other side of it.

The Hon. H. C. Strickland: They must go somewhere.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: If we had taken all that area within the city block we would have reduced it considerably. I will now refer to the comments of Mr. Ron

Thompson concerning the condition of the Fremantle Prison. It is acknowledged that the conditions, including overcrowding, are not conducive to the rehabilitation of prisoners; and, as was pointed out in Press notices recently, the blame for lack of modern prisons containing adequate work space and recreation grounds can be quite impartially laid at the door of all previous Administrations.

It is pointed out, however, that due to greater use being made of Pardelup and Barton's Mill outstations, the number of prisoners in Fremantle gaol has been considerably reduced. In April, 1958, under the previous Government, the highest muster of prisoners was 473. On the 15th of this month, the number was down by 72 to 401.

In addition, preliminary planning is already under way to provide for a modern rehabilitation and training centre for prisoners on a site selected at Serpentine; and furthermore, legislation is being considered to enable the introduction of a parole system which could be most effective in relieving the overcrowding of gaols. I think it might be fairly said that a start has been made to improve the State's prison system. The only thing that is likely to delay that project is the question of loan funds.

I listened with interest to the honourable member's remarks regarding development of the area east of the Robb Jetty meat works, and would point out that any reply to the specific points raised by him might be prefaced by a reminder of the stage which has been reached in metropolitan planning. After a period of six years, since publication of the regional plan, many adjustments in detail to Professor Stephenson's original proposals have been found necessary. The Metropolitan Region Planning Authority, as provided for in the Metropolitan Region Town Planning Scheme Act, is re-examining the plan with the object of establishing it as the statutory planning scheme for the region. Contrary to the suggestion by the honourable member, there is no "muddle and fuddle" so far as the planning authority is concerned. The work is being carried out methodically and in close collaboration with the local councils and the district planning committees constituted under the Act.

The task is a complex one and cannot be done precipitately, but re-examination of a number of aspects of the regional plan has been completed. In the meantime, the interim development order defining the proposed reservations and specifying the nature of land-use control which is applicable has been freely available at all local council offices in the metropolitan area, in the Lands Department, and in the Town Planning Department. If all purchasers of land were to take the normal prudent step of referring

to the interim development order before buying property, many difficulties of the kind indicated by the honourable member would not arise.

I might add that if some of our land agents were a bit more specific in their advertising, and in the information they passed on to prospective buyers, not so many people would be caught. Some of our land agents are not entirely blameless for the sales that have taken place in areas where they had no right to sell under the conditions they did.

The Hon. H. C. Strickland: Was any action taken against them?

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: What action can be taken against them?

The Hon. H. C. Strickland: They are registered.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: They do not tell a straightout lie; they do it in such a way as to enable them to get away with it.

The planning authority is not empowered to resume land at this stage. If development permission is refused on the grounds of reservation for public purposes under the interim development order, a procedure is prescribed under the Act leading to the owner being able to exercise his right to require the authority to purchase the land.

So far as the authority is concerned, owners are promptly advised of decisions when applications are duly made under the interim development order; and, in the case of refusal, they are advised of the procedure necessary to finalise settlement. Where acquisition is undertaken, negotiations and settlement are carried out by the Public Works Department. The actual time involved in reaching finality depends on how quickly agreement can be reached on price, and whether there are any complications in the owner's title. Very often there are complications which delay proceedings. At the moment all resumptions are handled by the land resumptions section of the Public Works Department.

The 109 acres of land referred to by the honourable member forms part of a proposed open space reservation, so shown in the interim development order, and intended as a buffer between the noxious industries in the vicinity of Robb Jetty and other land to the east of the ridge. It incorporates the lake lying between the ridge and Hamilton Road. Two factors have led to the need for revision of the boundaries and extension of the open space. Firstly, extensive market garden development has taken place along the Hamilton Road frontage since the proposed open space was originally defined. Secondly, the intended future extension of urban development on the eastern side of the ridge has added emphasis to the need both to preserve the ridge as a protection

against noxious industries, and to provide for recreational open space for future residential population.

The Metropolitan Region Planning Authority will be fully examining the open space proposal at its next meeting, following consultation with the district planning committee and the Cockburn Shire Council. It involves a major decision setting the pattern of future land use in the locality, and committing substantial public money to the acquisition of land.

An application by the owners for permission to quarry a limited area east of the ridge was submitted on the 30th June 1961. This has been examined by departmental officers in consultation with the shire council, and is expected to be determined by the authority in relation to the wider question of open space mentioned above. If this, or any subsequent application concerning the subject land, is refused, the owners have the right to claim compensation. Two of the partners have been told of their right to claim compensation or require the authority to acquire the land.

A further proposal in conjunction with adjoining owners to cut down the ridge by some 40 or 50 feet in height has been discussed verbally with the owners and their representatives, but no application for permission to undertake this work has been submitted to the authority in spite of requests by the department to the owners' representatives, and their solicitors.

With regard to the property at Eas Rockingham, to which the honourable member also referred, approval to subdivide was given before the Stephenson Plan was prepared. This appears to be a case in which the owner may have not made adequate inquiries about the terms of the interim development order before purchasing. Procedure is laid down for purchase if development permission is refused; and, in fact, the authority has acquired a number of blocks in the locality referred to.

Turning to Mr. Baxter's speech, I recall his having something to say regarding the payment of royalties on forest wastes. The firewood on Crown lands and State forest used by Wundowie is sought eagerly by other industries and firewood-getters, but is reserved for Wundowie's use. The firewood royalty of 1s. per ton is only nominal one, and amounted in the past year to only £1,370 on the 27,401 tons obtained from Forests Department source.

The chairman of the board of management of Wundowie has advised that the board is quite satisfied with its arrangements with the Forests Department, both as regards areas to be operated on royalties, and acknowledges that it receives valuable help from the Forests Department in protecting its wood reserve from fire and theft. Most of the firewood taken to Wundowie is actually coming from private land, under contract with the

owners. The State forest areas available to Wundowie are virtually all on the Mundaring Weir catchment area, and will remain under forest for protection of the water supplies.

We are indebted to Mr. Baxter for once again drawing the attention of members to the disability suffered by farmers in the removal of gravel from farming properties for Government works. Country members, in particular, will have a full appreciation of the damage that has been done in the past; but I believe that, due to the amount of publicity given to this matter, the departments concerned are now giving far greater attention to the clearing up of sites.

I understand that the Main Roads Department procedure at the present time is to remove the fertile land when it appears as an over-burden over the gravel deposit, and later to replace it for cultivation. Nevertheless, a great deal of damage has been done in the past, and it is difficult to see in what manner that damage can be undone. On the other hand, it is cheering for farmers to know that some cognisance has been taken of their complaints.

Turning to the particular point raised by the honourable member regarding the law in these matters, I feel there is a good deal of misunderstanding on the powers of local authorities in regard to gravel supplies, and I am afraid that some of the local authorities themselves misunderstand the position.

Under the Land Act, the Government is empowered to create reserves, among other things, for gravel. It may retain those reserves under its own control or may vest them in a local authority, or place them under the control of that local authority. Those reserves may be severed from Crown lands; and that is the only real source under which the Lands Department is able to provide reserves. Reserves can also be resumed for gravel purposes on behalf of the local authorities, or on behalf of the Government itself; and when that is done, the person from whom the land is taken is given adequate compensation.

Where forestry reserves are set up under the Land Act, the produce of the forest is placed under the control of the Conservator of Forests and of the Minister for Forests. It is an obligation under the Forests Act for the Conservator of Forests to ensure that forestry produce, including gravel, is not taken from the reserve unless a royalty or license fee is charged. The Forests Department imposes a royalty on every yard of gravel taken for road-making purposes, but does not make that charge in respect of gravel which is used to construct or repair roads in or abutting the forest.

So far as the private land is concerned, local authorities are given power, by section 281 of the Local Government Act,

to enter into land other than land specifically exempted—the exemptions applying principally to gardens, vineyards, orchards, plantations, parks, recreation grounds, etc.—and to take from that land any gravel they require for carrying out the construction or repair of any road within one mile of that land. Compensation is payable to the owner of the land for the gravel taken, with the exception of that used in constructing or repairing the road which abuts the property from which it is taken.

The Hon. N. E. Baxter: That is not in the Local Government Act now. It was in the old Road Districts Act.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: The provision is still there. In this latter case no compensation is payable because, presumably, it is considered that the improvement to the road more than compensates for the value of the gravel taken.

Where a local authority wishes to use the gravel to repair or construct roads more than one mile from the land from which the gravel is taken, it cannot enter into that land and take the gravel without first obtaining the consent of the owner. It could, of course, resume the land under the Public Works Act, and could then enter and take the gravel; but until resumption takes place, it has no right whatever to enter private land to take gravel for use more than a mile from that land, unless the owner gives his consent.

Whenever the council enters land to take gravel, it is obliged to compensate the owner in full for any damage he suffers; and also, as already mentioned, for any gravel it has used other than on the road abutting the land from which it is taken.

Where the council causes a pit to be made in the land, it is necessary for it to cause the pit to be filled and fenced, or the sides sloped down if the owner demands that this shall be done. The position, therefore, is that a council may enter a forestry reserve and take gravel only with the license of the Forests Department. In the case of a gravel reserve, the control of which is vested in the Crown, it may enter that reserve to take gravel only with the consent of the Minister for Lands.

Where the reserve is vested in the local authority it can, of course, take gravel without reference to anybody. In the case of private land, however, it is authorised to enter and take gravel only if that gravel is to be used within one mile. In many cases the deposits of gravel are small and resumption action is not justified.

The local authority, therefore, should continue to be empowered to enter the land and take the gravel for use within one mile; but, of course—as it must at the present time do—it is bound to agree

with the owner as to the terms of entry and the right of royalty, etc., in cases where the gravel is to be used more than one mile away.

So far as leaving the land in an unsightly condition is concerned, the council is bound, when entering land, to ensure that buildings, fences, etc., are not disturbed; and, if it is necessary to provide an opening, the council can be compelled by the owner of the land to install a proper swing gate; or, if they agree on it, to install a motor traffic pass. As already mentioned, the council is bound to fence or slope the gravel pit after its activities have been completed.

The expense of running trucks to cart gravel is fairly considerable; and therefore if there is good gravel available on private land at a short distance, and the only public reserves of gravel are a considerable distance away, it would be unfair for the local authorities to be deprived of the right to take the gravel from the private land.

The Commissioner of Main Roads is endowed with the same powers as a local authority in respect of taking gravel; and likewise he cannot enter into land to take gravel for use more than one mile away, unless the owner agrees that he may do so.

The Minister for Works, under the Public Works Act, has power to enter land and remove gravel for road construction purposes on the same terms and conditions as a road board was authorised to do under the Road Districts Act, and as a council is now authorised to do under the Local Government Act, this power being conferred by section 86(5).

I was somewhat surprised when Mrs. Hutchison revived the dog issue. I believe all members had ample opportunity last session to expound on this subject; and if my memory serves me rightly, most members availed themselves of the opportunity in one way or another.

The first point raised by the honourable member is one relating to a matter which does not rightly come within the province of my portfolio; namely, the qualification of witnesses to statutory declarations. Mrs. Hutchison took exception to a qualified schoolteacher, still presumably a minor and under the guardianship of parents, being a qualified witness to a statutory declaration, thus placing the parents in the position of requesting the child to act as a witness. I can see nothing incongruous in this; on the contrary, I am sure most dutiful children would be only too happy to comply.

On the technical side, also, there is the possibility that a particularly well-educated child who was qualified as a schoolteacher would be at least equally as intelligent as an average parent. The answer lies on the legal side, however; and I do believe it is desirable that a witness to a statutory declaration should

hold some recognised position of standing in the community, and undoubtedly schoolteachers come into this category.

I can see nothing wrong with the provision whatsoever. I believe that in actual practice the obtaining of a declaration in respect of a sterilised dog, by which the owner may register the animal at a fee of 5s. instead of £1, is generally acceptable as a very good principle. Surely if one is able to obtain registration for 5s. instead of £1, it is not too much trouble to have somebody in authority witness a signature!

If a statutory declaration were not required, everyone would come along and say that their dog had been sterilised. There must be some guarantee. All the witness has to do is to witness the signing of the actual signature. He has to verify nothing else—just the signature on the document. In return for a reduction from £1 to 5s., I do not think this is putting a person to too much trouble.

The trenchant criticism of the honourable member, who complained that the charging of natives in the South-West Land Division the same as whites for the registration of a dog was the meanest thing done by this Government, could well be brushed aside as being completely unrealistic. It is a well-known fact that the natives in the South-West Land Division no longer belong to the tribal group. They work generally as often as they desire to, which is not very often, and are paid as much money as they wish to work for; and I am quite sure that the annual registration fee of £1 is neither here nor there in their budgeting. I might add that I have not had one word of complaint from any organisation or any local authority in regard to this matter.

The Hon. R. F. Hutchison: We know your attitude.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: The point covered by Mr. Jones, when he brought to the notice of the House the continued prevalence of motor-vehicle exhaust fumes in the city streets, and the inconvenience of the fumes to motorists held up at the traffic lights, have been referred to the appropriate authorities.

The honourable member instanced, in particular, the fumes emanating from heavy transport, such as passenger buses. As we are all well aware, the Metropolitan Passenger Transport Trust has been operating over a comparatively short period and is responsible, at the moment, for about 400 vehicles, many of which were taken over, no doubt, in mediocre mechanical condition.

The trust is building up a most efficient maintenance workshop and endeavouring to equip it with the latest devices procurable in this country. When a vehicle goes in for maintenance, the engine is bench tested with electronic devices, and one of these is the only plant of its kind in the

State. When bench-testing, overhauling for power, and so forth have been completed, the engine should be in good condition for installation in the vehicle.

However, it is put through a further test by a device which tells just how much smoke is coming from the outlets. The device is a B. P. Hartridge smoke meter, the photo-electric cell of which provides a reading of greyness against a white scale. The extent to which the white scale is darkened gives a positive reading which is very accurate, provides a quick check on visual errors, and removes the human element.

This is the only apparatus approved by the Air Pollution Panel of the British Motor Industry Research Organisation, and has been in operation here for the past few months. As members would be aware, the gas of the black smoke is due to mal-adjustment or failure of the fuel injection equipment. It would not be practicable, of course, to put all vehicles off the road. They must take their turn, those needing other mechanical attention urgently being given preference.

I am satisfied that the M.T.T. is doing everything to ensure that the fuel injectors of its buses are working efficiently when they leave the shop. However, should any member of this Chamber, or of the public generally, see any particular vehicle which is obviously offending in the manner mentioned by the honourable member, I can assure him that the M.T.T. would be only too pleased to have the matter reported and the vehicle identified by its registration number.

The Hon. J. G. Hislop: They are much better than they were.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Every time a motor comes in it is put through this adjusting machine.

The Hon. H. C. Strickland: Are the fumes injurious only when they are smoke-coloured?

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: They are not injurious at all. Incidentally, there is very good evidence to show that the exhaust fumes from diesel engines, though admittedly the cause of some inconvenience, are in no way dangerous to health. The Metropolitan Transport Trust has several booklets in this regard which it would be pleased to make available to any member concerned.

One of these, produced by the chief engineer of the New South Wales Department of Government Transport (Mr. S. J. Young) bears out the views I have expressed regarding danger to the public health. Mr. Young, by the way, is a Bachelor of Science, a Bachelor of Engineering, and a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering, and he has come to the conclusion that there is no danger—as I have said—from diesel engine exhaust fumes.

The Hon. J. G. Hislop: A report was given to this House some years ago.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: I feel it may be confidently said that any fears held by Mr. Jones as to health are quite unfounded. Mr. Jones also brought up the subject of squealing brakes. In this regard, some credit must be given to the Metropolitan Transport Trust because it has declared war on every bus with brakes that squeal. However, with 400 buses it is going to take some time to remedy this problem.

The Hon. F. R. H. Lavery: After 10 years of trying, the breaks on some buses still squeal.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: The Metropolitan Transport Trust is trying out a new system to eliminate these squeals, but it will take a period of time before the job is completed.

Mr. Jeffery mentioned the naming of Gilfraser Road. I do not know who has been responsible for the objections raised against this naming, but I can certainly assure the honourable member that there is no objection on my part. I followed Mr. Fraser as Minister for Local Government and I appreciate the work that he did. I can see no reason why his name should not be used in connection with this road to serve as a reminder that he represented that area, and that he was a Minister of the Crown.

Mr. Jeffery and Mr. Teahan also mentioned the amalgamation of local authorities. I made a statement in Kalgoorlie about the amalgamation and revision of boundaries. However, one of the small local authorities has taken me to task for it since, because that local authority did not want to be disturbed.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: They would eat you.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: However, I did note at Kalgoorlie that there was a desire among some local authorities for three local authorities to be made into two. I think possibly that is a sound idea. As Mr. Jeffery said, we have recently seen the amalgamation of local authorities in the Swan and Guildford districts—that was an amalgamation of a road board and a council. Not long afterwards we saw the amalgamation of the Wagin Road Board and the Wagin Council. Both of those amalgamations are working very well.

The Hon. S. T. J. Thompson: Very successfully.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: As I said before, I believe the time has come when the whole of Western Australia should be re-examined with regard to the boundaries of local government.

The Hon. F. R. H. Lavery: That is what the late Bert Fraser tried to do.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: I made that statement at the opening of the conference to which I referred. Local government in this State originated in 1871; and at that time there were 18 road boards and eight councils. Since that time, we have gone on by taking a bit from here and a bit from there, with the result that we now have 145 local authorities altogether. However, very little of that was done with forward planning.

The Hon. H. C. Strickland: You also had an extension of new areas.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Yes; new areas have been opened up, particularly as a result of war service land settlement.

The Hon. H. C. Strickland: Since 1871 there has been an expansion of the north-west, for instance.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Bremer Bay, which is in the Gnowangerup Shire Council area, is 120 miles away from Gnowangerup.

The Hon. R. F. Hutchison: There is a restricted franchise.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: It is much better than it was, and it is what the local authorities asked for. Mr. Syd Thompson made mention of the wool levy. I agree with him that there is not a great number of farmers who are enamoured of paying the extra 5s.; but I would ask him to look at the newspapers, to watch TV, or to listen to the radio to see what goes on in regard to advertising and the promotion of goods such as tobacco, or some unmentionables which often carry a fullpage advertisement. That is all promotion.

I say this: If a farmer can increase the value of his wool by 1d. per lb. it means an increased return of 20 per cent., because 1d. per lb. on a 300 lb. bale of wool is 25s. That is a good return for the expenditure of 1d. I think farmers will have to appreciate that simply growing the wool, shearing the sheep, and letting someone else take control without doing anything about promotion is not sufficient. They must interest the person who is going to buy the wool for the consumer; and there is no way to do that other than by promotion, which cannot be done without money.

The Hon. H. C. Strickland: You cannot buy it without money, either.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Mr. Lavery made mention of young girls serving a prison sentence in Fremantle gaol. Speaking from memory, I think only five girls have been in the Fremantle Prison over the last 10 years; and the youngest of those was 15.

The Hon. F. R. H. Lavery: I am pleased to hear it.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Both the department and I would like to see the establishment of a remand school rather

than another institution like Riverbank. We would like a place where we can segregate the girls, as is done in Mt. Lawley. I think it would be of advantage to have a remand school where the girls could receive treatment from a psychologist. Requests have been received lately from women's organisations for the establishment of a place for girls similar to Riverbank. That is the last resort. If we can get them into homes—with some psychiatric treatment before they get there—I think it is much better. Family life is far better than institutional life, and the response is better. The day of the institution is out, so far as I am concerned.

The Hon. F. R. H. Lavery: I am very pleased to hear you say that.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: If we could employ some better method, I would be in favour of it. I would like to close with the thought that there is one spirit which unites us, irrespective of the creed to which we owe our allegiance, and that is the manner in which we subscribe to the expression of our common loyalty to His Excellency.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines).

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE: SPECIAL

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (Suburban—Minister for Mines): I move—

That the House, at its rising, adjourn until 2.30 p.m. tomorrow (Thursday).

Question put and passed.

House adjourned at 9.16 p.m.

Legislative Assembly

Wednesday, the 23rd August, 1961

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