

go by that we can really rely on the findings. This, now being done on a Commonwealth-wide basis, should give us a great deal more knowledge than we have had in the past.

I would also like to applaud the fact that although the Registrar-General has the right to say "No" to a person who requires the registration of a birth, the Bill does not take away the right from the individual to appeal, finally, to the Minister. I do think, however, that it is correct to give to the Registrar-General the right to say that he does not think a request is being made in conformity with the Act. Under the provisions of the Bill the Registrar-General has the right to refuse such a request.

The measure gives an added protection to the individual, to the child who is registered, and to the parents. I think some added changes will be envisaged in the future, and possibly some more changes as a result of research that is being undertaken. Speaking generally to the Bill, I would like to say that I give it my whole support.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. W. F. Willesee.

House adjourned at 8.53 p.m.

Legislative Assembly

Tuesday, the 7th September, 1965

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

QUESTIONS (24): ON NOTICE

AIR POLLUTION: KWINANA AND COCKBURN SOUND AREA

Sulphur Oxide: Emissions

1. Mr. GRAHAM asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health:

- (1) Is his view that sulphur oxides from Kwinana are not likely to reach ground level based on—
 - (a) surmise;
 - (b) measurement?
- (2) If the latter, will he supply figures?
- (3) How many additional tons of sulphur oxides per day will be emitted by the B.H.P. iron and steel operations?

Control by Clean Air Act

- (4) How many of the sources of emission in the Kwinana and Cockburn area come under the control of the Clean Air Act?

Industries Concerned

- (5) Will he name the Kwinana industries which do not come under the Act, and list the average daily emissions of sulphur oxides from each in tons per day, stating in each case the average heights of vents or chimneys from which sulphur oxides are emitted?

Medina: Policing of Preventive Measures

- (6) What policing of sulphur oxides reaching Medina from Kwinana is being done, and with what results?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) and (2) Neither. Safe limits for sulphur dioxides at ground level are based on a calculation, which takes into account many factors, and is recognised as technically sound.
- (3) This cannot be calculated until B.H.P. has completed its planning.
- (4) and (5) All of them. The Acts and agreements in the Kwinana area contain clauses requiring them to carry on their operations in accordance with acceptable standards.
- (6) None. There have been no complaints of sulphur oxides. Calculation indicates that maximum ground levels of sulphur dioxide in the Medina area are too small to warrant policing.

LAND AT KALAMUNDA

Revaluations: Method

2. Mr. DUNN asked the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government:

Could he advise if in the recent revaluation of land for the Kalamunda Shire—

- (a) the land zoned as rural and public open space or greenbelt was valued entirely on sales of land ex these zonings;
- (b) the values of land zoned as urban were not used in any way to establish the valuations of land zoned as rural or public open space or greenbelt?

Mr. BRAND replied:

- (a) The values as determined for the land zoned rural and public open space or greenbelt, were based on sales evidence for these respective zonings.
- (b) No.

WATER SUPPLIES AT ALBANY

Enlargement by Linking of Neighbouring Streams, etc.

3. Mr. HALL asked the Minister for Works:

Has the Government examined the possibilities of linking up King's Creek, Waychinicup Water Flow, Angove Creek, for the purpose of establishing natural reservoir and water catchment in the area, with a view to implementing a major water scheme to serve Albany and its districts?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

The Public Works Department has examined the possibility of using rivers and lakes east of Albany to supply Albany and its suburbs with water, and this investigation has included King Creek, Waychinicup River, and additional water from Angove Creek.

Other sources currently under investigation, however, appear more attractive for an expansion of Albany's water supply.

4. *This question was postponed for one week.*

ESPERANCE HARBOUR DREDGING

Completion

5. Mr. MOIR asked the Minister for Works:

- (1) Has the dredging of the Esperance Harbour been completed?

Adherence to Original Plan

- (2) Has the dredging followed the original plans; if not, will he indicate in what respect it differs from those plans and the reasons for such alteration?

Area and Depth

- (3) What is the area and depth of the turning basin?
(4) What is the depth of the berths?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) No. Completion is expected in October of this year.
(2) Yes.
(3) Area of the inner basin is 70 acres. The entrance channel and inner basin will be dredged to 32 feet below low water.
(4) 34 feet below low water.

ESPERANCE HARBOUR WHARF

Completion

6. Mr. MOIR asked the Minister for Works:

- (1) When is the Esperance wharf work expected to be completed?
(2) What is the approximate date that the wharf will be ready for operation?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) October 1965.
(2) The new harbour will be ready for commercial use in November 1965.

Connection with Rail Link

7. Mr. MOIR asked the Minister for Railways:

- (1) Has work commenced on the railway extension to the Esperance wharf?
(2) If not, what is the reason for the delay?
(3) When is the work expected to commence?
(4) When will it be completed ready for operation?

Mr. COURT replied:

- (1) No.
(2) This matter is in abeyance awaiting determination of the overall transport requirements of the area.
(3) Answered by (2).
(4) Answered by (2).

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION:
SILICOSIS CLAIMS**

Government Policy

8. Mr. MOIR asked the Minister for Labour:

On what date did the Government or the S.G.I.O. make the decision to depart from the previous

method of paying workers' compensation to claimants assessed as having a degree of disability due to silicosis, i.e., payment of compensation for the disease as such, to the present practice of only paying compensation where the incapacity to earn full wages in some occupation is proved?

Mr. O'NEIL replied:

There has been no departure from the previous method of paying workers' compensation to claimants assessed as having a degree of disability due to silicosis. Liability is assessed now on the same basis as previously; namely, as a percentage of total liability. The General Manager of the S.G.I.O. did decide to apply the provisions of clause 3 of the first schedule to the Act to new claims accepted for the first time after the 1st April, 1965. This did not affect the amount of the liability, but, in those cases where it applied, it reduced the amount of the weekly payment or suspended it completely temporarily. These claims are reviewed if the economic position of the claimant changes as a result of enforced retirement from present employment or necessity for change of employment to one of lesser remuneration, brought about by incapacity due to industrial disease.

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION:
PNEUMOCONIOSIS COMMITTEE**

Evidence of Kalgoorlie Medical Practitioners: Omission from Transcript

9. Mr. MOIR asked the Minister for Labour:

In the pneumoconiosis committee's report to the Government, the Kalgoorlie medical practitioners are listed as tendering evidence to the committee. Will he state why these submissions do not appear in the published transcript of the evidence?

Mr. O'NEIL replied:

There was no "published transcript of the evidence" of the pneumoconiosis committee, but copies were tabled in each House of Parliament. These were the private property of two members of the committee and were subsequently returned to them. If the submissions were not included, it was merely an oversight, and copies will be made available, if necessary.

10. and 11. *These questions were postponed.*

WORKERS' COMPENSATION: PNEUMOCONIOSIS CLAIMS

No. MP.2675

12. Mr. MOIR asked the Minister for Labour:

- (1) Referring to his reply to a question of the 2nd September as applicable to MP.2675, will he state when the provisions of clause 3 of the first schedule of the Workers' Compensation Act were applied to claimants for disability due to silicosis?
- (2) What is the reason for this change of policy by the S.G.I.O.?
- (3) Is this alteration by Government direction?

Mr. O'NEIL replied:

- (1) The provisions of clause 3 of the first schedule to the Workers' Compensation Act have been applied to new applications only, which were made on or after the 1st April, 1965. All other claimants, including claimants who have previously received compensation and have successfully reapplied with an established increase in the degree of their disablement, are being paid at full weekly rates regardless of present employment and earnings.
- (2) In March, 1965, it became obvious to the General Manager of the S.G.I.O. that many more applications were being received than had been anticipated. He became so concerned at the large drain on the financial resources that were available for the payment of future claims that he considered it was desirable to apply the provisions of clause 3 of the first schedule of the Act to future claims. Before deciding upon this action, he conferred with the secretary of the Australian Workers' Union (Mining Division) at Boulder and the secretary of the Chamber of Mines at Kalgoorlie. Both agreed that the proposed course of action was desirable to preserve funds for future claimants. By arrangement with these two gentlemen, it was agreed that the new provision should apply as from the 1st April, 1965, and would apply only to new claims lodged after that date. Clause 3 should always have applied, but by a similar arrangement made many years ago, it had been decided to defer its application as long as possible. This was really a departure from the strict provisions of the Act and was possible only while the economic effect of

ignoring clause 3 did not throw too great a strain upon the available financial resources. That the April 1965 decision was sound has been proved by the result of the account for the 12 months ended the 30th June, 1965, when premiums received were only £57,345, while claims paid totalled £313,521. The account shows a deficit of £267,176 for the year. As only a portion of the extra liability created by Act No. 96 of 1964 is included in these figures, it can be expected that the result for the year 1965-66 will be much worse financially. The reserve created to meet this liability has been reduced to £956,362 and will not withstand too many years with substantial deficits. The Government must ensure that ample funds are available in 15 or 20 years' time when miners commencing in the industry today may become disabled by industrial disease and lodge their claims with the S.G.I.O.

(3) No.

No. MP.1238

13. Mr. MOIR asked the Minister for Labour:

- (1) Adverting to his reply to a question of the 2nd September and MP.1238, on what date was this worker's claim recognised by the S.G.I.O.?
- (2) What was the extent of disablement at that time?
- (3) What amount of compensation payment did he receive?
- (4) When did these payments cease?
- (5) Did the worker return to the mining industry, if so, for how long?
- (6) If he did so return, when did he cease work in the mining industry?
- (7) What is the extent of his disability as ascertained by the medical board?

Mr. O'NEIL replied:

- (1) The 21st November, 1947, when the claim was accepted for payment of compensation from the 11th November, 1947.
- (2) The Mines Medical Officer who examined the worker on the 11th November, 1947, considered the degree of disablement to be 20 per cent.
- (3) £750.
- (4) The 8th January, 1953.

- (5) From the worker's most recent application, dated the 2nd March, 1965, it appears that he returned to the mining industry in 1952, and that he worked for sundry short periods until 1963.
- (6) In 1963.
- (7) The extent of the disability due to industrial disease, as ascertained by the medical board, is 20 per cent. The worker has been supplied with a copy of the medical board's report.

**MINES REGULATION ACT:
PERMITS UNDER SECTION 45**

Number Granted, and Conditions

14. Mr. MOIR asked the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

- (1) What number of permits have been granted under the provisions of section 45 of the Mines Regulation Act from 1960 to the present?
- (2) Will he list the mines which have been granted the permits, the number which each has been granted, and the conditions which have been attached?
- (3) Will he also state the number of permits granted under the section as amended in 1961 and the particulars relevant to such permits?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

- (1) 48 during the period the 1st January 1960 to the 3rd September, 1965 (inclusive).
- (2) Central Norseman Gold Corporation N.L. Three permits covering work in connection with the construction of the No. 19 plat off Regent shaft, its connection to the Crown Reef workings, and the removal of cable, pipes, etc., from the Regent shaft.

Great Western Consolidated N.L. One permit granted for work on a Sunday to make safe their quarries after a storm, emptying surface ore bins and transporting ore to the Copperhead plant.

Gold Mines of Kalgoorlie (Aust.) Ltd. Eleven permits to work on a Sunday granted during the developmental stage of the Mount Charlotte mine. Permits issued as follows:

To complete an investigation of the Mount Charlotte.

Three permits for three Sundays to complete work on rock stresses, sump cleaning and pentice construction.

Removal of broken waste rock from the ore pass and enable shaft sinking to be continuous.

Erection of forming for the underground crusher installation.

Completion of the starting set of the ore pass system and to transport ore from the stockpile. Align and concrete the initial steel ore pass section of the north ore pass.

Line the base of the ore pass system with rails.

Installation of the Cryderman mucker in the shaft.

Rock bolt the stope after a fall of ground.

Sons of Gwalla Ltd. Two permits. Permission was given to hoist ore on two Sundays following breakdowns in the crushing section and underground pumps.

North Kalgurli (1912) Ltd. Two permits. Both permits were in connection with the stabilizing of bad ground with slime filling. Norseman Gold Mines N.L. Two permits. Permitted to hoist ore on one Sunday to empty main ore pass, and empty ore bin following a winder mishap.

Bell Bros. Pty. Ltd. One permit for work on one Sunday following a plant breakdown in their Mundijong quarry.

Pioneer Quarries (W.A.) Pty. Ltd. One permit issued so that stockpiled crushed diorite could be re-screened on four Sundays.

Western Titanium N.L. Seven permits. Permits issued monthly following increased sales of ilmenite. Plant capacity was insufficient to meet sales commitments. Two of these permits were for periods of three months each.

Westralian Oil Ltd. One permit issued for one Sunday so that concentrate production could be maintained, which production had been affected by a breakdown to earthmoving equipment.

Western Mineral Sands Pty. Ltd. Two permits. One permit covered work on four Sundays following a breakdown to mining equipment. The second permit was granted for four Sundays so that production could be maintained during relocation of the concentrating plant.

Australian Iron and Steel Pty. Ltd. Fifteen permits. Permits issued quarterly for continuity of production during ship loading operations at Cockatoo and Koolan islands. Permits granted in anticipation of estimated work

to be undertaken on Sundays during the three-monthly period. During the period 1962-65 (inclusive) a total of 10,563 man hours were actually worked on 51 Sundays.

- (3) Fifteen—included in (2).

WORKERS' COMPENSATION: PNEUMOCONIOSIS CLAIMS

Numbers Not Receiving Payment

15. Mr. MOIR asked the Minister for Labour:

- (1) With reference to the reply to my question on the 17th August, how many claimants listed in the third category are not yet receiving payment?
- (2) What are the reasons in each case?

Mr. O'NEIL replied:

- (1) 11.
- (2) In these cases, the present earnings of the claimants are such that the provisions of clause 3 of the first schedule to the Workers' Compensation Act preclude them from receiving payments. These cases are eligible for review if their economic position changes as a result of enforced retirement from present employment or necessity for change of occupation to one of lesser remuneration, brought about by incapacity due to industrial disease.

COURTHOUSE AT FREMANTLE: HEARINGS

Delays: Effects

16. Mr. FLETCHER asked the Minister representing the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Is it correct—
 - (i) that all cases are listed to be heard each day at Fremantle Court;
 - (ii) that a 10 a.m. case may not be heard until 3 p.m.;
 - (iii) that persons concerned, having nowhere to wait, stand around outside the court in all weather awaiting turn, including the period when court is in recess for dinner?
- (2) Is it not possible that a different court decision might result if, for example, a seaman witness able to supply important evidence under cross-examination, did not have to sail with his ship at a specific time?
- (3) For a ship to defer departure for such a reason, would this not cause considerable expense to a shipping company and inconvenience to port officials?

Roster of Cases

- (4) In relation to the above, will he consider suggesting a roster of cases to prevent the waiting time and inconvenience alleged?

New Building

- (5) Is a new Fremantle courthouse planned?
- (6) If "Yes", when is building likely to commence?

Mr. COURT replied:

- (1) (i) Cases listed for a particular day are heard on that day subject to the possibility of some cases being carried over due to protracted hearings. In addition to summons cases listed for a particular day, arrest cases are necessarily called on daily.
- (ii) All summonses are listed for 10 a.m. A case may not be reached until much later in the day depending upon the number of contested cases and the time consumed in each case. The list is called through soon after 10 a.m. daily so that undefended cases and those to be adjourned may be rapidly disposed of with a minimum of inconvenience to counsel and defendants.
- (iii) There is a lack of accommodation for those attending court. The court customarily adjourns between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. for lunch and there is no apparent necessity for persons concerned to remain in the precincts of the court for that period.
- (2) The cross-examination of any witness could affect the decision of any court. If a seaman witness is available for evidence-in-chief, it would seem unlikely he would not also be available for cross-examination unless same should be greatly prolonged.
- (3) Probably, but every consideration is afforded by the court to ensure that witnesses may be heard with an absolute minimum of expense to shipping companies and inconvenience to port officials.
- (4) Rostering of cases at different hours of the day is not practicable because the time which each case will take is not known when the lists are prepared. However, every endeavour is made to ensure that cases are listed to avoid delay and inconvenience so far as it is possible to do so.

- (5) The need for a new courthouse at Fremantle is recognised, but this should be undertaken in conjunction with a new building for the Police Department.
- (6) This will depend on the amount of loan funds available from time to time for works of this kind and the priority which would be given to this and other projects.

CHARITABLE APPEALS

Collections at Polling Centres

17. Mr. GRAHAM asked the Minister representing the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Is he aware that at certain centres on polling day at the last State elections booths were set up at the entrance to polling places in order to solicit donations for a certain fund?
- (2) Without in any way decrying the merits of a public appeal for money, will he have steps taken to ensure that in future when persons are compelled by law to attend a polling place for the purpose of voting, they will not be confronted with requests for subscriptions at or near the entrance to a polling booth?

Mr. COURT replied:

- (1) One complaint was received and that was in regard to one polling place. It is understood that donations for a certain fund were solicited outside some other polling places but the Minister is unaware of the circumstances.
- (2) The matter will be discussed with the Minister administering the Street Collections (Regulation) Act.

SUPERPHOSPHATE: LAKES AREA

Deliveries from Esperance Works

18. Mr. HART asked the Minister for Industrial Development:

- (1) Is he aware that farmers in the Lake King-Holt Rock area have been advised they cannot obtain their super requirements from the Esperance works, except under special early (January-February) delivery conditions?

Inclusion in Esperance Port Zone

- (2) (a) Bearing in mind past extra costs these farmers have had to carry by being directed to obtain their super from metropolitan works;

- (b) the extra costs involved in storage of early delivery super, and double handling;
- (c) the financial loss involved by not being able to obtain bulk super direct from works to farm in March and April, the recommended period for top dressing;
- (d) the fact that all their grain now goes to Esperance, which is their recognised port;

will he negotiate with the Esperance Super Works and have this area declared in the Esperance port zone, thus allowing these farmers in the Lakes area the same considerations as others throughout that zone and throughout Western Australia?

Mr. COURT replied:

- (1) I understand that farmers in the area have been advised that they can obtain their superphosphate supplies for 1965-66 from the works at Esperance if deliveries are taken on a reasonably even basis before the end of February.

- (2) Under the agreement with the Government the superphosphate works at Esperance is obliged to supply the requirements of farmers in the Esperance area.

Following representations of the Government, the company has advised that at present, during the months of peak demand the capacity of the works is fully employed supplying the needs of the Esperance area. The company has offered to manufacture the requirements of the Lake King-Holt Rock area for the 1965-66 season. However, there is only sufficient capacity to handle the additional fertilizer at the works if delivery can be taken before the end of February.

The company has advised that it will review the situation from year to year in the light of development and demand. The Government proposes to keep the matter under review having regard for the expanding needs of the Esperance and neighbouring areas and the objectives of the Esperance Superphosphate Agreement.

I should add I am also making representations to see whether a proportion of this year's requirements could be delivered between March and May.

EMPLOYMENT FOR YOUTH IN COUNTRY AREAS

Lack of Opportunities and Social Effects

19. Mr. HALL asked the Premier:

- (1) Is he aware of the serious social problems confronting country communities as a result of lack of employment opportunities for young men and women leaving school?
- (2) If so, what remedial action does the Government intend to take to rectify the unsavoury position and prevent the drift of population to the city area?

Mr. BRAND replied:

- (1) and (2) The question of employment opportunities throughout the State, including the encouragement of development in regional areas outside the metropolitan area, is always under review. It is not a new problem.

This matter should be considered against the background of the current high demand for labour in the State. Much of this demand is for desirable decentralised projects which are far removed from the capital city and which will create additional long-term employment opportunities when the construction phase is complete.

DECENTRALISATION

Implementation: Government Plan

20. Mr. HALL asked the Minister for Industrial Development:

Has the Government any determined plan to assist in the matter of decentralisation of industries to provincial and country towns and northern development, other than export of iron ore; and, if so, what are the details of the proposed plan?

Mr. COURT replied:

Decentralisation is a policy of the Government and the most widespread decentralised development in the State's history is currently being undertaken.

Industry cannot be directed to particular towns and regions but every opportunity is taken to encourage decentralised industry having regard for local needs, raw materials, and other appropriate factors.

For this purpose special facilities are available in the Department of Industrial Development and are freely used to assist local people and organisations in country and northern towns to negotiate in conjunction with market, technical, economic, and financial studies.

AVON LOCATIONS: INKPEN ESTATE

Timber Available: Wundowie Charcoal Iron and Steel Interest

21. Mr. GAYFER asked the Minister for Industrial Development:

- (1) Is the Wundowie Charcoal and Iron Industry interested in the timber on Avon Locations 27701, 27702, 27703 (being portions of what is known as the "Inkpen Estate")?
- (2) How many loads of interest to the industry are remaining on these areas?

Release for Agriculture Purposes

- (3) When is it expected this land will be cut over and available for the Lands Department to release for agricultural purposes?

Mr. COURT replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Approximately 19,000.
- (3) This is the subject of current discussions.

BOATS IN COASTAL WATERS

Losses and Types.

22. Mr. CROMMELIN asked the Minister for Works:

- (1) In each of the years ended the 30th June, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, and 1965 how many —
 - (a) licensed crayfishing boats;
 - (b) licensed fishing boats;
 - (c) private boats over 20 feet;
 - (d) private boats 16-20 feet;
 - (e) private boats 12-16 feet were lost at sea off the coast between

Geraldton and Carnarvon;
Geraldton and Yanchep;
Yanchep and Fremantle;
Fremantle and Mandurah;
Mandurah and Bunbury;
Bunbury and Busselton;
off Albany and off Denmark?

Rescues: Number

- (2) How many boats in each category and for each section were rescued from the sea over the same periods?

Loss of Life

- (3) What loss of life has resulted from these accidents and from what size boats did tragedies occur and where?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

(1) (a) and (b) —

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	Total
Geraldton - Carnarvon	9	7	6	6	3	31
Geraldton-Yanchep	12	10	9	8	9	48
Yanchep-Fremantle	4	1	3	2	3	13
Fremantle - Mandurah	.....	1	2	.....	.....	3
Mandurah-Bunbury	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bunbury-Busselton	1	.....	.....	1	1	3
Off Albany	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Off Denmark	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Circumstances Unknown	4	4	2	1	1	12
	30	23	22	18	18	111

(c), (d) and (e) No record. Difficulties and costs involved preclude this type of information being obtained.

(2) The number of boats rescued from the sea is unknown.

(3) —

Year ended 30th June	Loss of Life	Size of boat in feet	Location
1961	2	70	2 miles from mouth of Moore River.
	2	26	14 miles south Escape Island
1962	6	28	5 miles off City Beach.
	2	30	Position unknown.
	1	21	Position unknown.
1963	3	49	South of South Passage.
1964	1	30	10 miles south Murchison.
	3	33	Position unknown.
	1	24	Near mouth of Moore River.
1965	2	18	Beagle Rocks.
	1	32	Lancelin.

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(2) As per attached.

FINANCE ADVANCE UNDER GUARANTEE DURING 1964-65

Name	Industry	Amount £	Area
A.P.M.	Paper Mill	361,239	Spearwood
J. & M. Chodakowski, trading as North Star Steam Laundry and Dry Cleaners	Steam Laundry and Dry Cleaners	1,500	Pt. Hedland
R. W. Collins & Sons	Engineering	1,000	Katanning
A. S. & J. E. Croft	Engineering	2,941	Cadoux
David Gray & Co. Ltd.	Domestic and Agricultural Chemicals	10,000	West Perth
D. & J. Moore, trading as Eight Millimetre Productions	Film Production	1,000	Perth
Pederick & Co.	Engineering	15,000	Wagin
K. A. Pownall, trading as Associated Surveys	Photogrammatic Mapping	3,900	Perth
Rural Cement Products Pty. Ltd.	Concrete Paving Slabs, Kerbing and Fence Posts	3,000	Cunderdin
C. D. & D. Sinclair, trading as St. Clair Potteries	Pottery	1,000	Claremont
S. Van Dal & Co. Pty. Ltd.	Specialised Hospital Equipment	13,000	Perth
Wallace Engineering	Engineering	5,500	Albany
Westralian Plywoods Pty. Ltd.	Particle Board	100,000	Welshpool
Wilmar Shoe Co. Pty. Ltd.	Women's and Children's Footwear	8,300	Osborne Park
Total		£525,380	

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Financial Assistance from Government

23. Mr. HALL asked the Minister for Industrial Development:

(1) What amount of finance has been made available by the Department of Industrial Development to assist in the setting up of industry in this State, for the year 1964-65?

Industries Assisted: Details

(2) What are the names of the industries or projects that received financial assistance and what amounts were granted to respective industries and where are they situated?

Mr. COURT replied:

(1) Finance made available by Department of Industrial Development —

	£
(a) By Government Guarantee	525,380
(b) From Loan Funds	34,096

£559,476

FROM LOAN FUNDS

E. L. & J. M. Adams	Motor Body Building	6,000	Pemberton
John Cochran Pty. Ltd.	Clothing	10,000	Cannington
Cavanagh Solvent Processes Ltd.	Solvent Process Research	5,000	Perth
Frank Davidson & Co.	Shorts and Pyjama Manufacture	4,000	Morley Park
Great Southern Abattoirs Ltd.	Abattoirs	346	Narrogin
F. & R. Tough	Precision Engineering	2,350	Belmont
S. Van Dal & Co. Pty. Ltd.	Specialised Hospital Equipment	3,000	Perth
Wypro Wire Products	Wire Products	3,400	Welshpool

£34,096

HOUSING COMMISSION LAND AT
WOODLANDS*Building Lots*

24. Mr. O'NEIL (Minister for Housing): I would like to make a personal explanation regarding a question I answered on Wednesday, the 1st September, relevant to the Housing Commission's Woodlands holding. I indicated that approximately 35 acres had been excised for various purposes including subdivisional roads. On checking, I find that the area of subdivisional roads had not been included in the 35 acres and I now wish to advise that the total area was, in fact, 48 acres and not 35 as previously mentioned. The number of blocks available remains the same as before.

Subdivisional Plan: Tabling

Mr. TOMS: Arising from that further answer by the Minister, I would like to ask: Will he lay on the Table of the House the subdivisional plan of that particular area?

Mr. O'NEIL: Yes. I have a copy of the subdivisional plan for the area and I will table it.

The plan was tabled.

QUESTIONS (3): WITHOUT
NOTICERAILWAY CROSSING AT MARKET
STREET, GUILDFORD*Flashing Lights: Provision*

1. Mr. BRADY asked the Minister for Railways:

(1) Is the Minister aware that a bad accident took place at the Market Street railway crossing at Guildford yesterday afternoon resulting in a car being badly damaged and a woman passenger being removed to hospital?

(2) Is the Minister aware that the Railway Department's attention has been drawn several times to this dangerous crossing with a request for flashing lights to be installed?

Files: Tabling

- (3) Will the Minister place on the Table of the House all files relative to the department's endeavours to make the crossing safe for vehicular and pedestrian traffic?

Mr. COURT replied:

- (1) to (3) In answer to the member for Swan, I have only just returned from the Eastern States, and when I received the written copy of the questions I did not have time to get the information. I will have inquiries made and will let the member for Swan know as soon as I can. I would point out that the question of flashing lights and other crossing protection is attended to by a committee which handles this matter throughout the State and not only by the railways.

LOTTERIES CONDUCTED BY
CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS*Rules: Alteration*

2. Mr. CROMMELIN asked the Minister for Police:

(1) Can the Minister advise the House of any recent alterations to the rules insisted on by the Lotteries Commission for the conduct of day lotteries permitted in aid of church and other approved charitable organisations?

Forms: Tabling

- (2) Would he lay on the Table of the House copies of application forms and any other relevant forms associated with day lotteries?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

- (1) and (2) There have been some amendments made to the requirements of organisations which conduct lotteries inasmuch as the draw must be performed in the presence of a justice of the peace, or some other official of standing. This is more or less to certify that the draw is in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Lotteries Commission. I will arrange to table the relevant papers.

BOAT SAFETY REGULATIONS*Gazetted*

3. Mr. CROMMELIN asked the Minister for Works:

As builders and owners of boats under 14 feet are showing concern at possible restrictions on their use at sea, could the Minister indicate if and when regulations covering the use of these craft are likely to be gazetted?

- Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

It is appreciated that an early decision is necessary so that owners of boats, and those who sell boats, and builders of boats, should know what is in the mind of the Government in regard to regulations designed to assist in the safety of those who go to sea in such vessels. I expect a decision in regard to regulations, including the particular one to which the member for Claremont has referred, to be made next week when a full Press coverage will be given. The Press coverage will include a number of regulations which will implement many of the Royal Commissioner's recommendations.

STATE TENDER BOARD BILL*Introduction and First Reading*

Bill introduced, on motion by Mr. Brand (Treasurer), and read a first time.

BILLS (2): THIRD READING

1. Police Act Amendment Bill.

Bill read a third time, on motion by Mr. Craig (Minister for Police), and transmitted to the Council.

2. Coal Mines Regulation Act Amendment Bill.

Bill read a third time, on motion by Mr. Bovell (Minister for Lands), and passed.

BILLS (2): REPORT

1. Architects Act Amendment Bill.

2. Coal Mine Workers (Pensions) Act Amendment Bill.

Reports of Committees adopted.

HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE ACT AMENDMENT BILL*Second Reading*

Mr. O'NEIL (East Melville—Minister for Housing) [5.5 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

The purposes of the amendments proposed in this Bill are—

Firstly: To counter the limitation of the operation of the Act brought about by rising land values, by excluding the value of the land in determining the amount of the loans which may be guaranteed under the Act.

Secondly: To enable loans on houses, other than new houses, to be guaranteed under the Act by the Treasurer on the recommendation of the Minister if and when it is considered that finance available for loans on new houses is more than adequate to meet the demand. In some circumstances, the over-committal of the building industry could have an inflationary effect on construction costs.

Thirdly: To clarify a present doubt as to whether, on the sale of a house purchased with guaranteed funds, the guarantee or indemnity can continue with the new purchaser.

At present, the percentage of the value to be guaranteed under the Act is governed by the aggregate value of the house and land. Rising land values have the effect that moderately-priced houses cannot be financed with guaranteed loans to the extent which the Act intended. The purchaser of the better-type home in many cases cannot now be assisted because the higher land value increases the aggregate value of the house and land to an amount beyond the maximum allowed by the Act.

Currently, a guaranteed loan of up to 95 per cent. of the value of a new house may be made where the value does not exceed £3,000. By definition, the value of a "new house" includes the value of the land. It can be seen that when the land value is deducted from this amount of £3,000, the balance remaining could be insufficient to finance the construction of a house.

Similar conditions apply in regard to higher-priced homes, so that the aggregate value of house and land renders the Act ineffective in many cases. For example, at present a house costing £4,500 to be built on land valued at £1,500 could be financed by a guaranteed loan of up to 80 per cent. of the total—that is, £6,000—namely, £4,800. If the land value increased to £1,600, a loan could not be guaranteed at all as the aggregate value would then be £6,100 and the Act imposes a limit of £6,000.

To overcome these difficulties, the Bill proposes that the value to be taken into account for determining eligibility for a guaranteed loan will be the value of the house only.

Applying the proposals to the example last quoted, a purchaser, or owner, could be assisted with a guaranteed loan to the same maximum as provided in the Act at

present—that is, £4,800—if the house to be constructed does not exceed £5,000 in value. The same principle is to be applied in the other categories under which loans may be guaranteed.

The Bill also provides that where the Treasurer, on the recommendation of the Minister, is satisfied that sufficient funds are available adequately to finance new homes, he may declare that, during a specified period, a stated proportion of guaranteed funds be utilised for the purchase of other than new houses.

At some future date, there may be a need to attract funds for the purchase of previously-occupied houses to avoid the building industry becoming over-committed and thus creating a tendency to inflate prices.

Before a declaration to this effect would be considered, careful examination of the position would be made to ensure that funds were available to finance all new houses required, and that the releasing of guaranteed funds for the purchase of existing houses would not have any adverse effect on the building industry. I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Hawke (Leader of the Opposition).

HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Message: Appropriations

Message from the Governor received and read recommending appropriations for the purposes of the Bill.

TUBERCULOSIS (COMMONWEALTH AND STATE ARRANGEMENT) BILL

Receipt and First Reading

Bill received from the Council; and, on motion by Mr. Ross Hutchinson (Minister for Works), read a first time.

JETTIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

MR. ROSS HUTCHINSON (Cottesloe—Minister for Works) [5.13 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This small Bill sets out to amend the Jetties Act, and its purpose is to enable the Minister in charge of the department to issue licenses to build jetties upon such terms and conditions as he considers fit for any particular type of jetty. As the Act stands at the moment, the conditions under which a license may be granted must be in accordance with the terms under regulations already made, and which have been made for some time past. If such conditions are not already provided for, then a new regulation is required. For some considerable time this has proved

to be a fairly satisfactory means of conducting affairs in regard to the building of jetties and the conforming of those jetties to regulations which had been prescribed.

Due to the great and varied advances made in industry and mining, and to the great progress in engineering techniques, jetties are more frequently required and more readily constructed than was formerly the case. Consequently, licenses to construct such jetties are much more frequently sought and the terms and conditions applicable to these licenses vary with the circumstances in each case. This makes it difficult to prescribe conditions in advance. Examples of some of the types of jetties for which permits are required will illustrate the difficulties encountered. Some of these examples are as follows:—

1. An application by Australian Iron and Steel Limited to construct a wharf from Koolan Island.
2. Proposals by Mt. Goldsworthy Mining Associates and by Hamersley Iron Ore Pty. Limited to construct wharves in and around Port Hedland for the purpose of shipping their iron ore.
3. Applications by companies conducting whaling operations for licenses to construct jetties adjacent to their factories.
4. A request from the Public Works Department for a jetty license for the United States Navy for the Very Low Frequency Communications Project at the North West Cape.

Thus it may be seen that when application is made for a license, some conditions which are novel and peculiar to that application alone cannot be inserted, as no relevant regulations have been made. The reason that such a regulation does not exist is that it is impossible, as I intimated earlier, for the department to foresee or envisage all conditions which may be required from time to time in the future and so make provision for them in the regulations under the Act.

Furthermore, when a license is requested it is required somewhat urgently or without undue waste of time. It would be impracticable and cumbersome to commence making regulations after the request for the license is made. The original idea of having the regulation prepared was to offset the provision of a license for the construction of a jetty. The fact that this work has not been readily facilitated has given rise to this present amendment.

To overcome the problems that have been enumerated, this Bill sets out to provide that the Minister in charge of the Harbour and Light Department may prescribe the conditions under which any license is issued. This will enable the

granting of permits to be made more expeditiously than the Act allows at present. Because of the great amount of developmental work going on in the State at the moment, it is felt that this amendment is most necessary, and I commend it to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Sewell.

BREAD ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed, from the 2nd September, on the following motion by Mr. O'Neil (Minister for Labour):—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

MR. TOMS (Bayswater) [5.19 p.m.]: On Thursday, when the Minister introduced this Bill to the House, he gave four reasons why it was necessary. I commend him on the lucid explanation he gave for each amendment, and I want to touch briefly on the various items dealt with. He said, firstly, that the purpose of the Bill was to allow flexibility in defining the ingredients of Vienna bread. I think we will all agree that since the Act was first passed various types of fat content have been introduced, and the Bill provides for a specific fat content and also for certain things to be permitted.

On this I agree with the ex-member for Fremantle, in that, whilst I think we are going a little too far in having government by regulation, possibly there are times when a little flexibility can be allowed. Apparently this is one of these occasions; because, from time to time, with the advance of science, there are other forms of ingredients for the baking of bread, and the Minister, by the introduction of this amendment, will allow flexibility in bread baking.

The second point raised by the Minister concerned the size or weight of the new Vienna loaf. The present Vienna loaf is produced in two sizes; namely, the $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. loaf and the 1lb. loaf. Whilst the new provision seeks to provide for the baking of a $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Vienna loaf, the Minister has indicated that at present a Vienna roll is baked which weighs approximately the same as the $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Vienna loaf. My concern on this point is that a single pensioner, who may have been in the habit of buying a $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Vienna loaf with the idea of making it last two days—and perhaps such a pensioner does not like the Vienna roll—will be compelled, with the proposed amendment, to buy a $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Vienna loaf, which may have to last him three days. If, after three days, it is anything like the bread I have tasted when it is three days old, I would suggest that, without going near the fire, it would resemble toasted sandwiches. Therefore, if the amendment in the Bill is agreed

to as it stands, we could possibly penalise those people who are on fixed incomes by compelling them to buy a $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Vienna loaf which would have to last them an extra day.

Another provision seeks to make it obligatory on the parties concerned to notify the Chief Inspector of Factories of any variation in baking hours or holidays in a particular district. I think this is a reasonable amendment, because we could have the spectacle of a factories and shops inspector, who is entirely ignorant that authority has been given for a variation in baking hours, entering a bakery and threatening to take action against the baker for working outside prescribed hours when there is no need for such threat to be made.

There is only one weakness in the Bill that I can see, and at this stage I would indicate that I intend, when the House goes into Committee, to move an amendment to remedy it. Almost since the commencement of baking in this State there has been a fairly happy relationship between all parties in the baking trade. In the relevant amendment in the Bill the two major parties have been mentioned—namely, the Factories and Shops Department and the Master Bakers' Association—but no provision is made for the union to be notified of any variation in baking hours or in holidays. Whilst the Minister may say that this refers principally to the country because the metropolitan area is already well covered, I feel that relations could become a little strained if the amendment, as printed, is passed; and this could easily be obviated with the insertion of a few words in the proposed clause.

In the metropolitan area there is the Master Bakers' Association, which is a registered organisation; and in the country there is the Country Bakers' Association, which is not registered. I therefore think that the Minister should have a further look at this clause. In Committee, I hope to move an amendment to clause 6 on page 4 of the Bill, to insert, after the word "may" in line 6, the words, "after consultation with the industrial union of workers operating in such district or place."

The amendment will not come as a shock to the Minister, and I hope he will agree to it when I move it in Committee. In conclusion, I can only reiterate the words of the Minister when he said that the Bill was presented in such a way that no honourable member could be left in doubt on the intent of the various amendments. Therefore I am prepared to support the second reading.

MR. O'NEIL (East Melville—Minister for Labour) [5.25 p.m.]: I thank the member for Bayswater for his reception of the Bill, and I can see he has appreciated some of the difficulties I found

when the ultimate decision was made to make the ingredients of a Vienna loaf subject to regulation. It is true that changing times have brought changes in the ingredients used in the baking of bread; and although it was my original idea simply to amend the definition of Vienna bread in the Act, I found it almost impossible.

A considerable amount of correspondence has passed between the Bread Research Institute of Australia, the W.A. Government Chemical Laboratories, the Master Bakers' Association, and all other interested parties, until finally, almost in desperation—if I may use the word "desperation"—the Parliamentary Draftsman recommended that the definition of Vienna bread should be prescribed by regulation. Here I would point out that the current definition will not come into effect until such time as the Government Laboratories are satisfied that the ingredients to be used in the new Vienna loaf are, in fact, in accordance with requirements.

It is most interesting to read some of the correspondence which has passed between the parties in this matter, even on the question of the amount of non-fat milk solids which are used in the manufacture of bread. In regard to this there was a determination that 4 per cent. of non-fat milk solids should be used. However, when the bread was baked with this particular content it was found that it did not have the crispness in the crust which is required, and so the amount of non-fat milk solids had to be reduced to 2 per cent.

I did anticipate some query on the effect the new proposed size of the Vienna loaf would have on people who are on low and moderate incomes, and particularly pensioners. Therefore I gave the matter very careful consideration before I finally agreed to the proposal to substitute the $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. Vienna loaf for the 1 lb. and $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Vienna loaves. I would point out to the House that the current 8 oz. Vienna loaf costs 10d. as against 10½d. for the 1 lb loaf of ordinary bread. So it can be seen that Vienna bread, strictly speaking, is a luxury.

Mr. Davies: What is the price of the sliced loaf?

Mr. O'NEIL: At present the price of the 8 oz. Vienna loaf is 10d., and the 16 oz. Vienna loaf is 1s. 6d. The proposed 12 oz. Vienna loaf should be 1s. 2d. I have gone so far as to make some rapid calculations on the cost of bread per oz., and I can assure members that they will get value for their money when buying bread under the new scheme.

I would also mention that the larger Vienna loaf was not popular, so I asked the master makers to conduct a survey for me on the number of loaves that were baked. I did have some samples of the

various loaves. A survey was made at a small bakery in Palmyra where the daily bake consisted of only 10 small No. 1 loaves and only one large No. 2 loaf; that is, the 16 oz. loaf. A survey was also made of two medium-sized bakeries; and in one of these 400 small loaves were baked, and in the other 430 were produced. In the first medium-sized bakery 20 to 25 large loaves were baked, and the second bakery produced 40 or 43 loaves. A survey was also made of a large bakery and the one selected produced 552 small loaves as against 120 large loaves. There is little demand for the large loaf, for the reason which I have stated: that the small Vienna loaf is very close to the Vienna roll. It is regarded as preferable that those two sizes be deleted, and one intermediate size be introduced to replace them.

I agree with the member for Bayswater that there has been a great deal of co-operation in the industry. I appreciate his advice as to the amendment which he proposes to move. It might be a little early for me at this stage to become antagonistic, but I would like to indicate to him that I cannot agree to it. Section 14 of the Bread Act applies to areas outside the currently-prescribed areas where the Act now applies; namely, the metropolitan area, and within a 6-mile radius of the Kalgoorlie Town Hall. If we were to read the provisions which are sought to be inserted into section 14, we would see that they are—if I might use the term—stolen from the same provisions which apply at the moment to the metropolitan area.

I understand the honourable member desires that consultations be held with the industrial union of workers concerned, but that is not necessary. As a matter of fact, it could be embarrassing in the long run. It is noted that this particular amendment in the Bill provides for the variation by the Minister in the hours of baking in country districts, in the same way as he is now empowered to make variations in respect of the metropolitan area. It is more important for this provision to be applied in country areas, so as to allow for a correction of anomalies in cases where bakers without employees are not covered by the award, and where such bakeries are in districts which adjoin others in which variations can be made, in the terms of the award, by an agreement or by a decision of a board of reference.

The honourable member is desirous that no change in baking hours shall take place without consultations with the industrial union of workers, but these consultations already take place where there are employees engaged in a bakehouse. In order to cater for the situation of the self-employed baker, who does not employ labour, it is necessary for the Minister to have power to vary the hours to suit that particular baker in certain emergencies.

Mr. Toms: The amendment will not take the power away from the Minister, because after consultation with the union he will still have the power.

Mr. O'NEIL: I agree that all the honourable member is asking for is consultation with the union concerned, but I am inclined to believe that this procedure could delay proceedings. Furthermore, the industrial union of workers would not be concerned in the case of a baker who does not employ labour; in other words, where there is a baker who employs labour and who is subject to the registered award, consultations now take place, and any variation is arrived at by agreement; but if there is failure to agree the matter is referred to a board of reference which then makes a decision.

Mr. Toms: You would still have to notify the Chief Inspector of Factories; so why not notify the union also?

Mr. O'NEIL: In cases where no employees of the industrial union of workers are engaged, notifying the union is not necessary. I thank the honourable member for the amount of study which he has given to the Bill, and for his complimentary remarks. I commend the Bill to the House.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee

The Chairman of Committees (Mr. W. A. Manning) in the Chair; Mr. O'Neil (Minister for Labour) in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 to 5 put and passed.

Clause 6: Section 14 amended—

Mr. TOMS: As I indicated during the second reading, I desire to move an amendment. I think the Minister has been rather harsh in deciding to leave the union out of this. There is no reason to conclude that the union will adopt stand-over tactics if the amendment which I have proposed is inserted. We have an industrial award providing for notification to be given to the union of variations in and additions to the work that takes place in bakehouses. Now it is proposed to extend the power of the Minister to cover the country. If the Chief Inspector of Factories is to be notified of what goes on—I have no quarrel with that provision—then the least that can be done is to provide for the union concerned also to be notified. The fact that there are instances of self-employed bakers makes no difference, because the amendment concerns only the notification of the union. I move an amendment—

Page 4, line 6—Insert after the word "may" the words "after consultation with the industrial union of workers operating in such district or place."

The relationship between all the parties concerned has been very good, and this amendment is another move to preserve that relationship.

Mr. O'NEIL: At present I do not propose to agree to the amendment. The provision which is proposed to be inserted in section 14 is already included specifically in sections 12 (6) (c) and 13 (2) (b) which apply to the control of the industry in the metropolitan area. In neither of those sections is there a requirement that the industrial union of workers concerned shall be consulted before action is taken.

I have already pointed out that it is far more important for the provision in this clause to be applied in country areas, for the reason that there are many bakeries which do not employ labour. There was an occasion last year where a self-employed baker in the Northampton area, was required to bake according to the provisions of this Act, whereas another baker in a nearby district, who employed labour, was given permission to bake at different hours. The baker at Northampton was placed at a disadvantage, because the other baker was given permission to bake at different times, and as a result was able to deliver bread to some of the customers of the Northampton baker.

There could be instances in country districts where no bakeries employ labour, and therefore it would not be possible to have consultations with the union concerned. For those reasons, I oppose the amendment, but I give the honourable member the undertaking that I will have a further look at it. If it is found that the amendment is harmless, then consideration can be given to its inclusion in another place.

Amendment put and negated.

Clause put and passed.

Clause 7 put and passed.

Title put and passed.

Report

Bill reported, without amendment, and the report adopted.

HEALTH ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed, from the 31st August, on the following motion by Mr. Ross Hutchinson (Minister for Works):—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

MR. TOMS (Bayswater) [5.43 p.m.]: When this Bill was presented to the House it appeared that the move came from the City of Perth and other local authorities which were connected to the metropolitan water scheme, and desired wider powers to be given in connection with sewerage. The main point raised in support of the

Bill is the attempt to get rid of the pan service. I am sure all honourable members will agree that is a very worthy object.

I would point out, however, that this will only occur in cases where the property-owners can be connected to the sewerage system, but be find instances of properties within four miles of the G.P.O., Perth, not being connected to the sewerage system, because there are no connections. In the majority of cases a pan removal system is provided, but the local authorities concerned have for some time been insisting on the installation of septic tanks, and they should be assisted in some way.

This brings to my mind the position in the district in which I am interested where, at one time, there were in excess of 700 pan removal services a week; but now, through orders being given to various property-owners, that number is down to about 100. It is the desire of the local authorities to get rid of this number just as soon as possible, but I would have liked the Bill to include power for the connection of septic tanks as well.

The provision regarding the connection to a sewer is all right because the local authority can raise loans and recoup the money from pensioners and poorer people by having caveats lodged against their property for the amount. If the provision concerning septic tanks were included, the same conditions would apply. As I have said, the measure does not contain this provision, but it is still a step forward. I hope the Minister will take note of my remarks with a view to seeing whether something can be done along the lines I have suggested.

Another rather alarming feature of the legislation is that although it gives a local authority power to connect drains and connect a house to the sewer, it does not give power to the local authority to erect a new toilet block if the old toilet block is not in a fit condition to be connected. This also applies to laundry and bathroom facilities which have to be connected.

I would ask the Minister to take cognisance of my remarks to see if something cannot be done along the lines I have suggested. The Bill, although small, will enable the local authority to dispense with the unpleasantness of the pan system in the metropolitan area. As I have said, I hope the Minister will convey my remarks to the department in order that a further extension might be made.

MR. ROSS HUTCHINSON (Cottesloe—Minister for Works) [5.48 p.m.]: I would like to thank the honourable member for his support of the Bill, which did not pretend to go beyond the terms of the amendment explained, that being, of course, to ensure that a house can be connected to a sewer, the cost remaining a charge upon the land concerned.

I will secure from *Hansard* a copy of the honourable member's speech in order that his remarks regarding the widening of this power to include the connection of septic tanks and other matters he raised might be studied to see whether the suggestions are feasible. However, as he so rightly pointed out, his suggestions have no relationship to the present Bill, which I commend to the House.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

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

MINES REGULATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed, from the 31st August, on the following motion by Mr. Bovell (Minister for Lands):—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

MR. MOIR (Boulder-Eyre) [5.51 p.m.]: Although the Minister in his remarks placed great stress on the fact that this Bill will impose a higher penalty for breaches of regulation 51, no mention was made of the fact that it will also increase the penalty for breaches of quite a large number of regulations where a specific sum is not set down. A perusal of the regulations—of which there are 250 odd—will disclose that most of them contain no specific penalty. However, I am in accord with the provisions of the Bill.

The offences mentioned by the Minister are, of course, very serious ones, and the precautions taken are very wise. It can readily be understood that we should not allow indiscriminate firing to take place at all times in a mine. It is not a great many years ago—it is certainly within my recollection—that quite a lot of indiscriminate firing of charges took place. Sometimes there were up to 20 and 30 at a time.

There is always the danger of people in a mine travelling about and coming in the vicinity of these charges close enough to be very seriously injured or to lose their lives. There is also the danger of the resultant dust following an explosion. The miners in the area can inhale the very dangerous silica dust and the dangerous fumes which result from the blasting. Therefore it is always a matter that must be regarded seriously.

The particular regulation is fairly elastic. It allows departures from the rigid set times by those in authority after certain safety measures have been taken. Therefore the rules are not hard and fast; but, of course, commonsense must apply. For instance, firing could be allowed to take

place any time between midnight and 7 a.m. during which time very few workers would be in the mine.

It has been mentioned that the Australian Workers Union (Mining Division) has always co-operated with the management and the Mines Department inspectors in the carrying out of not only this regulation, but all the other regulations too. I have had personal experience of this. Some workers when they have been detected in a breach of the regulations have approached the union to see what could be done to break down the charges against them. To my knowledge all union officials have refused to do anything like that. They have told the offender concerned, "The regulations are made for your protection and we are not going to do anything to try to absolve you or save you from the consequences of your action." We know, of course, that such actions could be detrimental not only to the offender, but also to other who are working in the mine.

It has been stated that employers are sometimes allowed to escape the consequences of their actions. Fortunately this very rarely occurs. When it does occur it shakes the confidence of those who are prepared to ensure the law is carried out by their members. However, as I have said, this has not occurred on very many occasions. In the main these regulations are carried out very well. It is just that, like all laws, they are at times, if not broken, perhaps bent a little. While such bending might not have very serious consequences under some laws, it certainly can under mining laws.

With those few remarks I commend the Bill and signify my support of it.

MR. BOVELL (Vasse—Minister for Lands) [5.59 p.m.]: I thank the member for Boulder-Eyre for his remarks. He referred to the fact that the penalties would apply not only to the provisions in the Act but also to the accompanying regulations; and I think that is desirable.

The purpose of this Bill is, of course, to ensure greater safety for mineworkers, and therefore it is a commendable piece of legislation. I am, naturally, guided by the Minister for Mines, whom I represent in this House. On reading the speeches of those who contributed to the debate in another place I found that The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs supported the measure as being a desirable one in the interests of mineworkers. I commend the Bill to the House.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

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

METROPOLITAN REGION TOWN PLANNING SCHEME ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed, from the 2nd September, on the following motion by Mr. Lewis (Minister for Education):—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

MR. TOMS (Bayswater) [6.2 p.m.]: This short amending Bill seeks to do two things. First of all it endeavours to correct an error that was made when the Act was passed, inasmuch as for some unknown reason one of the principal parties concerned—the City of Perth—was omitted from the Act. That particular body will be included in the legislation by this amending Bill.

I do not know how the City of Perth, being the number one council in the State, would view the situation if it found itself omitted from such a scheme as is being dealt with here. However, it has had a reprieve and is able to prepare its particular town planning scheme. The Bill also seeks to extend the time for the placing of the town planning schemes before the regional town planning development authority.

The original legislation came into operation on the 30th October, 1963, and it gave the local authorities within the scheme until the 30th October, 1964, to comply with the requirements of the Act. The City of Perth having been omitted, it is now proposed, as it is almost October, 1965, to extend the time until October, 1966.

I will have questions on the notice paper tomorrow, because I am interested to know the number of local authorities that have complied with the Act to date—those that are in the scheme, of course—and those that have not yet complied; because they will, no doubt, receive the benefit of the extension of time until October, 1966. It is necessary for the authority to have all the details of the town planning schemes of the various local governing bodies so that it can develop its own particular patterns.

Those are the two principles involved. The Bill is a small one and it is, as many measures have been so far this session, non-contentious. I have pleasure in supporting the Bill at this stage.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

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

House adjourned at 6.7 p.m.