strenuous efforts have been made to protect the interests of the four small dealers, even to the extent of ignoring the interests of the ordinary bottle collectors.

There are many aspects of this matter with which I am not entirely conversant, but I can say that I am certain that the legislation proposed by the member for Fremantle will do nothing to improve the situation. The position is very much more complex than he realises, and by legislation of this type he would only create other difficulties in the trade. I would strongly advise him to give some more consideration to this question; and I suggest that perhaps he might agree to postpone further consideration of this Bill until he has had the opportunity to examine some of the aspects I have mentioned.

Mr. Cornell: That was a damned good speech! Who wrote it?

On motion by Mr. J. Hegney, debate adjourned.

House adjourned at 11.2 p.m.

Legislative Council

Thursday, the 27th October, 1960

CONTENTS

The PRESIDENT took the Chair at 2.30 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

ANGLO-IRANIAN OIL COMPANY LTD.

Conditions of Establishment at Kwinana

1. The Hon. A. L. LOTON asked the Minister for Mines:

   (1) What area of land has been made available to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company Ltd. and its subsidiaries, if any, at Kwinana?

   (2) What was the value of the land at the time of the signing of the contract for the establishment of the above industry and its subsidiaries, if any?

   (3) What amount was paid by the Government by way of land resumption for the aforementioned company and its subsidiaries, if any?

   (4) What quantity of water was made available and at what price was it supplied to the aforementioned company and its subsidiaries, if any, for the year ended the 30th June, 1960?

   (5) Was this a special concession price?

   (6) What quantity of electricity was supplied to the aforementioned company and its subsidiaries, if any, for the year ended the 30th June, 1960?

   (7) Was this supplied at a special concession price?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

(1) 963 acres—as per agreement ratified by Parliament in 1952.

(2) £83,300—calculated at £86 10s. per acre.

(3) £5,074—for transfer from the Commonwealth of Australia, a condition being that the State sell the land at the same price to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company Ltd. for the purpose of a refinery site.

(4) 282,271,000 gallons at 1s. 6d. per thousand gallons, and 15,553,000 gallons at 2s. 3d. per thousand gallons.

(5) No.

(6) 21,016,950 units.

(7) No.

BUILDERS' REGISTRATION ACT

Implementation of Provisions

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

(1) In which year and subsequent years did the Builders' Registration Board carry out the provisions of subsections (3) and (4) of section 8 of the Builders' Registration Act, 1939?

(2) If the provisions of the above-mentioned subsections were carried out, in what monthly *Government Gazette* were the publications made?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

(1) The last occasion on which the list was published in the *Government Gazette* was 1944.

(2) The 2nd June, 1944.

3. *This question was postponed.*

MORLEY-EMBLETON AREA

Provision of Police Station

4. The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY asked the Minister for Mines:

(1) In view of the extensive development in the Morley - Embleton area, and the resultant increase in population, does the Government intend to provide a police station in this area?

(2) If so—

(a) when will it be established; and

(b) where will it be situated?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

(1) No thought has been given to the erection of a police station in the Morley-Embleton area, which is at present covered by the Bayswater police station. Land has been reserved at Nollamara for the erection of a police station, and it is considered that this area will, when this station is erected, be amply covered by the Bayswater and Nollamara police stations.

(2) The erection of a station at Nollamara has not yet been listed owing to other more urgent requirements.

QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE

APPRENTICE JOCKEYS

Employers' Share of Earnings

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Before you go on with other business on the notice paper, Mr. President, and if you do not mind, I would like to reply to a question that was asked of me by Mr. Strickland yesterday afternoon, when I said I would obtain the information for him if it were possible. I would like the honourable member to appreciate that a question of this nature has virtually nothing to do with the Government; it is a matter for the Turf Club. But I have obtained the following information for him:—

> Prior to the 1939-1945 war, the masters entered into private agreements with the boys' fathers and the boys, and these provided for varying percentages, some as high as 50 per cent., of the retention of the boys' earnings by the master. These private agreements were approved by the W.A.T.C. committee.
>
> In the 1940's the W.A.T.C. standardised its form for these agreements, and the Turf Club approves only of those terms now included in the indenture. They provide for the masters retaining 25 per cent. of the boys' earnings.
>
> At the time of this new agreement coming into force, the Turf Club adopted a system of special purpose accounts to safeguard the boys' earnings. In these accounts the boys' earnings are held in trust until they reach the age of twenty-one.

I would also inform Mr. Strickland that I have obtained a copy of the indenture, which he may care to see.

CLOSING DAYS OF SESSION

Standing Orders Suspension

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (Suburban—Minister for Mines) [2.37]: I move—

> That during the remainder of the session so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as is necessary to enable Bills to be passed through all stages in any one sitting, and all messages from the Legislative Assembly to be taken into consideration forthwith.

It could be justifiably said that this motion is, to say the least, a little early in the piece, because we usually ask the House to agree to such a motion when the session is nearer its end. But a number of Bills will come forward today. For instance, I understand, Mr. President, that you now have five or six, or maybe seven, messages from the Legislative Assembly.

If the House agrees to the motion, it will not only permit us to receive the messages, but it will enable my colleague

and myself to deliver the second reading speeches in connection with the Bills; and members will have the intervening five days between now and Tuesday next to consider the Bills.

I repeat that this suspension of Standing Orders will remain in force for the rest of the session; but may I assure members that if the House agrees to the motion, the power which it will give to the Ministers will be exercised with the utmost discretion; and it will not be our purpose or intention to attempt, unnecessarily, to rush legislation through; and reasonable requests for adjournments of Bills will of course be granted, as they always have been. I hope the motion will be agreed to.

THE HON. F. J. S. WISE (North) [2.40]: This motion is normally moved about this time of the year before the anticipated closing of the session, and it is one to which this House would not object. I quite agree that so far as the Ministers are concerned, at this stage it is necessary for them to have every opportunity to expedite business as it comes to hand.

I believe the Leader of the House when he says that the suspension will not be used with authority that the House will find burdensome or unfair; and I believe it will not in any way be used in a capricious sense. Therefore, I am sure we can accept this motion with the sentiment in which it has been moved and with the assurance from those opposed to the Ministers that they will do their best to facilitate the handling of business.

Question put and passed.

DAIRY CATTLE INDUSTRY COMPENSATION BILL

Third Reading

THE HON. L. A. LOGAN (Midland—Minister for Local Government) [2.41]: I move—

> That the Bill be now read a third time.

The other evening I promised Mr. Mackinnon that I would reply to his questions at the third reading of this Bill. The Bill is primarily intended for the eradication of tuberculosis, but cattle affected with actinomycosis—I do not know whether Dr. Hislop would say it that way, but it is commonly known as lumpy jaw—will be included in the scheme.

The case of the farmer who has had his herd tested is noted. This man, of couse, could have an odd case of lumpy jaw arise, even if he could avoid any further T.B. until the time when the risk became small. However, there are other farmers who have not had herds tested, who will find to their gratification—because they will be avoiding loss—that their herds are also free. They will, in effect, pay an insurance in case they have affected animals.

While, as explained earlier, the Bill is directed at this stage towards animals affected with T.B. and lumpy jaw, other troubles could arise which need immediate attention, in which case the machinery is there for necessary action to be taken. Contributions need to be compulsory if progress is to be made with the scheme. In the early stages of testing, a substantial number of animals will be condemned, and some herds could almost be decimated. This could be a tragedy for a farmer who lost most of his animals and who had made no contribution under a voluntary scheme.

It is admitted that at present the scheme for milk cattle is voluntary, but the incidence of T.B. animals in these herds is now very low. In the initial stages before the method of taxing was challenged—the scheme was compulsory; and it was during the early period when the numbers of diseased animals in milk herds were high that the improvement effected was rapid. With respect to the disposal of carcases, I understand that because of the relatively restricted zone of the milk cattle, carcases of condemned animals are forwarded to Midland Junction and handled by the one person.

In the case of dairy cattle, condemned animals will be found over much greater areas, and these presumably will be best sent to a nearby abattoir for slaughter and subsequent inspection to determine which carcases are suitable for use. Inquiries are proceeding at the present time to determine how these suitable carcases can be disposed of to the best advantage.

THE HON. G. C. MacKINNON (South-West) [2.45]: I would like to thank the Minister for the trouble to which he went in order to answer these questions and to see that the answers appeared in *Hansard*.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and returned to the Assembly with amendments.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL

Personal Explanation: Incorrect Statement

THE HON. L. A. LOGAN (Midland—Minister for Local Government) [2.46]: The other evening when moving the third reading of the Local Government Bill I mentioned certain figures which dealt with comparisons in the Committee stage between that Bill and the Bill which passed through this Chamber in 1957. I mentioned that the late Gilbert Fraser was the Minister handling the Bill. However, I must apologise to Mr. Teahan who, during the course of the illness of Mr. Fraser, handled the Bill in the House at that stage. I desire to correct that mistake.

BILLS (6)—FIRST READING

1. Totalisator Agency Board Betting Bill.
2. Betting Control Act Amendment Bill.
3. Totalisator Agency Board Betting Tax Bill.
4. Betting Investment Tax Act Amendment Bill.
5. Totalisator Duty Act Amendment Bill.
   Bills received from the Assembly; and, on motions by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines), read a first time.
6. Optometrists Act Amendment Bill.
   Bill received from the Assembly; and, on motion by The Hon. L. A. Logan (Minister for Local Government), read a first time.

OPTOMETRISTS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

THE HON. L. A. LOGAN (Midland—Minister for Local Government) [2.53]: I move—

> That the Bill be now read a second time.

The first purpose of this Bill is to tighten up control on certain people practising optometry. The principal Act defines "optometry" or "the practice of optometry" as—

> (a) the employment of methods other than methods which involve the use of drugs for the measurement of the powers of vision; and
>
> (b) the adaptation of lenses and prisms for the aid of the powers of vision.

Consequently, unless a person carries out both of these provisions, there is no need for him to become a registered optometrist. The Bill proposes to replace the word "and" in the last line of paragraph (a) with the word "or." It would then be necessary for any person carrying out either of the occupations (a) or (b) to become a registered optometrist.

The Optometrists Registration Board favours the amendment because under present conditions unqualified operators are enabled to carry out either one or the other occupation. In fact, Mr. X, carrying out occupation (a) could well occupy an adjoining room in a professional suite to Mr. Y, carrying out occupation (b). Between them they would be undertaking sight-testing and spectacles-making and, presumably, providing what would purport to be full optometrical service. This is an inference not intended in the drawing up of the parent Act, and is regarded as being contrary to the purpose and spirit of the Act.

Optometry is regarded as an ancillary medical service and, with the advent of the Medical School in Western Australia, it is considered important for optometry to be linked with other branches of medical science. It is proposed to do this by increasing the number of members of the board appointed by the Governor from seven to eight, thus forming a vacancy for a medical practitioner to be appointed to the board.

A great deal of unnecessary work is occasioned by the wording of section 16, which requires the financial statement showing receipts and expenditure—and including liabilities of the board—to be submitted to the Auditor-General. The matter has been taken up with the Auditor-General, and he is agreeable to the alteration of these words to read "income and expenditure of the Board."

The remaining provisions of the Bill relate to the removal of matters dealing with remuneration and expenses of the board, the assessment of registration fees, and the annual license fee which may be charged by the board from the jurisdiction of the Act; it being now proposed that these monetary aspects be dealt with under the rules and as prescribed by them. It is considered that by this means such remuneration, expenses, and fees may be adjusted from time to time to meet changing circumstances.

Following upon the introduction of the original Bill in another place, representations were made to the Minister for Health from several sources for the inclusion in the Bill of a further clause designed to enable a Mr. L. G. Burton, who is a spectacles-maker, and out of the ordinary run of the usual spectacles-makers, to remain in business under the provisions of the Optometrists Act. As a result of these representations, a new clause 9 has been added to the Bill.

As previously indicated, the purpose of the insertion of this clause is to protect the interests of one person only. We are all well aware of the undesirability of legislating in respect of individuals. Nevertheless, in this particular case it is considered highly desirable. This gentleman has been practising his profession in a very special manner, making spectacles to order for surgical cases.

The Hon. A. L. Loton: Did you say spectacles?

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: I said "making spectacles to order for surgical cases." I am advised that his services are being sought by Eastern States interests, and were provision not made in this legislation to enable him to carry on in this State, there is no question but that his services would be lost to the State.

Members desiring any further information on this matter will find it is readily available to them when this clause comes under debate in Committee.

On motion by The Hon. J. G. Hislop, debate adjourned.

BRANDS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

THE HON. A. R. JONES (Midland) [2.57]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

The purpose of this small Bill is to strengthen the case of establishing identity or ownership of cattle, so that in the event of cattle being stolen or straying ownership can be established. It will also assist the police in their efforts to suppress the amount of thieving which is taking place in regard to stock. It will also provide protection to owners of property on which cattle trespass; and it will be the means of establishing ownership of cattle which stray on public highways, often causing serious accident and, in some cases, death.

It will be recalled that the parent Act was amended in 1958 to reduce the age at which cattle should be branded. It is my intention to seek the co-operation of this House to have that age again reduced. The amendment proposed to subsection (3) of section 27 of the principal Act is as follows:—

(a) by substituting for the word, "eighteen" in line four of paragraph (b) the word, "nine";

(b) by substituting for the word, "twelve" in line four of paragraph (c) the word, "three."

Subsection (3) of section 27 of the Act reads—

In this subsection, "specified area" means that part of the State comprising—

I read this to show that in different parts of the State different arrangements exist. The subsection continues—

(i) the districts of Dundas, Esperance, Westonia and Yilgarn, constituted road districts under the Road Districts Act, 1919-1951;

(ii) the South-West Division of the State as defined by section twenty-eight of the Land Act, 1933-1950; and

(iii) such parts of the districts of Lake Grace, Merredin, Narembeen and Phillips River, so constituted road districts, as do not form part of that Division.

(b) the owner shall mark with his registered brand—

his horses, in whatever part of the State they may be, before they attain the age of eighteen months;

I propose to delete the words "eighteen months" and substitute the words "nine months." The subsection continues—

(c) The owner shall mark with his registered brand or earmark—

I ask members to note particularly the words "or earmark." Continuing—

—his cattle, if they are in the specified area, before they attain the age of twelve months;

I propose to move an amendment to reduce that age to three months. Some members may consider that three months is unreasonable, but I hope to prove to them that it is not. Nevertheless if a majority will not agree to my amendment to make the age three months, they might agree to six months. This subsection continues—

if they are elsewhere than in the specified area, before they attain the age of eighteen months.

So, in effect, it means that all horses, wherever they may be in the State at the moment, are required to be branded before they reach the age of 18 months.

In the South-West Land Division and those areas in the road board districts on the east side that come within the South-West Land Division, it is not necessary to earmark or brand cattle before they are 12 months old. That is the position that exists at the moment. Some time ago two local authorities asked me to make sure that when the Local Government Bill was presented to Parliament, the part of it dealing with cattle trespass was amended so that a closer check could be kept on straying cattle, and so that those people who mismanaged their affairs in this regard to the extent that they are a danger to the general public, could be brought to book.

We well know that some individuals, with regard to the safety of the community, will not accept responsibility, and, in fact, will do their utmost to avoid it. Therefore, to ensure that such people measure up to their obligations, it is necessary to put others to inconvenience and insist on their doing things which may possibly seem irksome to them.

It has been pointed out to me that there are careless people who leave their gates open intentionally, or who will block off a road that leads to a dead end so that their cattle will stray into it; and some people are careless in allowing their stock to stray on the roads. They commit all these acts because, obviously, they will not observe their responsibilities to the general public.

There is one district in particular which comes to my mind, where one man is always doing the wrong thing; and, recently, one of his stock was allowed to stray on the road, and it was hit by a passing motorist. The result was that the wife of the man driving the car was

seriously injured and, for the rest of her life, she will not enjoy good health. Also, because the ownership of the beast could not be established, the person responsible for its straying on the road could not be identified. If that animal had been branded or earmarked, the owner could have been located immediately. Whilst those residing in the district knew to whom the beast belonged, the identity of the owner could not be established because there was no brand or earmark on the animal.

With a horse, particularly a pedigreed horse, it is possibly easier to determine the ownership of the animal because it has to be registered at a very young age, and all the points at which markings are placed on the horse are recorded on the registration papers of the animal. The owner also has the option of marking or tattooing the horse's ear; and before a horse goes to the saleyards it is usually branded at the age of 12 months.

On making inquiries, I was told it would not be a great hardship for owners to brand horses before they reached the age of 12 months, but it would be better if they were branded just prior to their being sent to the saleyards. In that part of the section where I have suggested that the words "nine months" be substituted for the words "eighteen months," I think that possibly the words "twelve months" would cover the position. With cattle, an owner has the option of using an earmark or a brand; and, in the case of blood stock, some owners use a tattoo as well. I can well recall that we debated this question the last time an amending Bill to this Act was before the House, and I was one who maintained that baby beef and young cattle should not be branded before they were sent to the market up to the age of 18 months, because of the damage that would be done to the hides and the fact that the marking might cause a setback to the animals.

However, I am now of the opinion that with an earmark, which would involve only a snip of the ear and the loss of a few drops of blood, little damage would be caused to the animal, and ownership could be clearly established. Nevertheless some may consider an animal might be too young at three months to have such earmarking done. I do not think so. Stock are handled at a very early age—unless they are reared as entires and it is no hardship to take a clip out of the ear at the same time as they are being doctored.

Some members may consider that three months is too young, and therefore I would be quite happy if the House agreed to the substitution of the words "six months" instead of "three months." Up to the age of six months, there is a good chance of establishing the ownership of the beast because it would be a suckling with the mother; and if the mother were with the beast it would not be hard to establish the identity of the owner.

The Hon. S. T. J. Thompson: I know of a young bull that caused an accident only recently.

The Hon. A. R. JONES: That is why an earmark should be placed on an animal at an early age. Once a beast passes the age of three months and weighs approximately 200 lb. or 300 lb. it is a pretty large animal; and, if it strayed upon a road, it could cause a serious accident.

The question of ownership has been and still is difficult to establish and there is a definite penalty provided in the Local Government Bill, which we hope will become law, which will help a person to claim his just dues and rights in common law. Clause 483 of the Local Government Bill, which was recently debated by members of this House, reads as follows:—

> A person who unlawfully removes or takes down a fence, rail, or slip-panel, or opens a gate, for the purpose of allowing cattle to trespass upon or escape from enclosed land, commits an offence.
>
> Penalty: One hundred pounds.

Clause 484 of that Bill states—

> (1) If the owner of cattle—
>
> (a) permits the cattle to stray;
>
> (b) permits the cattle to be at large;
>
> (c) tethers the cattle; or
>
> (d) depastures the cattle,
>
> in a street or other public place, he commits an offence.
>
> Penalty: Fifty pounds.

So a person is obliged to do his best to keep his cattle impounded within the boundaries of his property. If it can be proved that the owner of cattle has been at all lax in his duty, then under common law he can be brought to book; particularly if he can be established.

A case brought to my attention recently concerned a nine-months-old animal which caused an accident. It was so badly injured that the police had to destroy it. There was no possible chance of identifying it; and there would not have been even had the mother still been suckling it. While the people knew, in their own minds, to whom the beast belonged, ownership could not be established because there was no brand or earmark.

There is no necessity for me to labour the point any further. I have placed before members fairly clearly what I have in mind, and what is the intention of the small amending Bill. I leave it to their good judgment to debate the measure further; and those members who are interested in the cattle and horse-breeding

industries will have an opportunity to put forward their comments. I trust the Bill will pass the second reading.

On motion by The Hon. L. A. Logan (Minister for Local Government), debate adjourned.

SUPPLY BILL (No. 2), £21,500,000

First Reading

Bill received from the Assembly; and, on motion by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines), read a first time.

PAPER MILL AGREEMENT BILL

Second Reading

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (Suburban—Minister for Mines) [3.14]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

The purpose of this Bill is for an Act to ratify an agreement between Australian Paper Manufacturers Ltd., and the State. Under the terms of the agreement, the State will co-operate with the company in the establishment of an industrial mill at a cost of not less than £2,500,000. The mill is to produce initially 15,000 tons, or thereabouts, of paper and paperboard a year.

The State looks upon this as a very important agreement entered into after extensive negotiations with the company. The idea of turning our natural resources and forest wastes to account is not a new one, because it is well over 30 years now since it became known through experimentation that it was possible to produce a type of paper from karri and jarrah. The possession of this knowledge over such an extensive period, however, gives emphasis to the importance of the firm agreement at last reached between the State and one of the leaders in this particular field. Hopes ran high in 1958 when the company became interested in a site in Western Australia. It soon became obvious, however, that early negotiations promised not more than the purchase of land itself under a long-term future expansion idea. That was the position which existed as late as July, 1959, and persisted for some time during the early stages of this Government's negotiations. The indications then were that the best prospect which could be hoped for was for action in 10 years' time.

The successful culmination of the negotiations in the agreement now reached is a great step forward. The company has defined its plans along lines substantially larger than earlier thought. The State has achieved a definite fixed contract basis, and action is to follow much quicker than earlier had been thought possible.

What is most important is that the project fits neatly into the State's major projects pattern and programme. As indicated earlier, the first experiments on pulping eucalypts was carried out here over 30 years ago. The man responsible was Mr. I. H. Boas, later to become chief of the Division of Forest Products of the C.S.I.R.O.

Pulping of Australian hardwoods by paper and board industries has been found a commercial proposition in Victoria and Tasmania. Satisfactory papers have been produced from marri and karri with an addition of soft-wood pulp. The Division of Forest Products has found the fibre length of both of these timbers to be satisfactory for this purpose. This is an industry which has always evoked considerable interest in this State, but up until now nothing of a concrete nature has eventuated.

Despite the activities of the present Conservator of Forests and the officers of his department in their endeavours to obtain a paper pulp mill in this State over the past six or seven years, it had not been possible to clinch a deal. The Chairman of the Industries Advisory Committee was requested by the Government to make an approach to A.P.M. while he was in Melbourne last year. The Government wanted it known that it was clearly interested in discussing a definite proposition.

The Minister and the advisory committee interviewed the managing director of A.P.M., Mr. J. G. Wilson, when passing through Perth on his return from South Africa. The company continued to show indifference, not wanting to be committed to specific contractual obligations to go into business here. With its land secured, the company intended to await the development of the West Australian economy.

There was no guarantee, however, that we would get the industry. During the course of later discussions, it transpired that if the company could be assured of obtaining loan advances of a substantial nature to enable establishment to proceed with only a mimimum of normal share capital being committed for that purpose, serious consideration would be given to the Government's proposals. The advance would need to be sufficient to cover the early period of production which was expected to be uneconomic. It was from this point of agreement that the negotiations proceeded to their successful conclusion.

The wide scope of the negotiations which followed, made it imperative to seek the co-ordination of the heads of many departments. The departments vitally affected by this deal include the Forests Department, the Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Department, the Railways Commission, the State

Electricity Commission, the Town Planning Department, the Treasury, and the Fremantle Harbour Trust. The heads of all of these authorities entered into discussions, were consulted, and were kept informed of all aspects affecting their respective spheres; and their advice was sought when necessary in the drawing up of the agreement.

Though under the terms of the agreement the company is obliged to establish and put into commercial production on the mill site an industrial mill at a capital cost of not less than £2,500,000, the project envisaged is estimated to cost £3,750,000.

Generally, the State's commitment is to make advances to the company by way of loan to the extent of two-thirds of the cost of the mill, or £2,500,000, whichever is the lesser amount. All loan moneys will be fully secured by mortgage and will bring in interest at 5 per cent. to the Treasury.

The rate of advance is limited to £300,000 per year, unless it suits the Government to advance at a higher rate under circumstances where the company establishes at a rate greater than £450,000 in any one year, in accordance with clause 3 (e) of the schedule.

An accurate estimate of the mill cost cannot be made until plans are completed, but the company has advised that it will be in excess of £2,500,000. Present indications are that no moneys will be advanced in 1961 or 1962. It is probable that assuming advances on the loan commence in 1963, the Government will not make its final loan contribution to the company until 1971.

The company indicates that there will be a loss on production during the early years after the mill commences operation. The commencement of repayment of long-term debentures about 10 years after the Government has completed its loan advances is not unusual in similar circumstances.

Annual loan repayments, not including interest, would be at the rate of approximately £150,000 per annum—according to the total loan—for 15 years commencing on the 31st December, 1980. Incidentally, however, the company may repay at a faster rate in multiples of £10,000.

Certain repayments of loan borrowings, namely, those of Cockburn Cement and Albany Fertilisers, will become available during the period of the construction of the mill. It is expected that these, together with loans from other sources, will provide the necessary moneys to finance the project without prejudicing the normal loan funds programme for schools, hospitals, water supplies, and other works.

The Hon. H. K. Watson: Will finance be provided by way of guaranteed advances from outside sources?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: The moneys are to be loaned to the company out of commitments that the Government expects to be available to it from Cockburn Sound, Albany Fertilisers, and other sources.

Should construction of the mill proceed at a greater financial rate than £450,000 in one year—of which amount of £450,000 the State would advance two-thirds, i.e., £300,000—the State will be liable to temporary interest commitments if it does not desire to match the higher rate of progress by an increase of the annual rate of loan money advances.

This is by way of encouragement to the company to establish itself in business more quickly. In fact, the Government is willing to subsidise the interest on the amount by which the project proceeds in excess of £450,000 in any financial year without having to accept a legal liability for a faster rate of advances by loans.

It has been pointed out to me that the amount of interest subsidy involved would be relatively small because it would represent the amount, if any, by which the company's bank overdraft interest rate exceeded 5 per cent. per annum. This commitment ceases when the advances by the Government equal £2,500,000 or two-thirds of the amount expended by the company, whichever is the lesser amount.

The company's water requirements are not excessive. Officers of the Metropolitan Water Supply Department expect no trouble in supplying. In fact, it is expected that the major supply of water will come from underground sources on the company's own property. There is a provision that bores must not exceed 500 feet in depth.

Apart from its own underground supplies, the company will pay for all water supplied at the rate ruling from time to time for excess water for industrial purposes under the terms of the Metropolitan Water Supply Act. There is an agreement that the company will recirculate cooling water on the mill site as far as is practicable.

The company will pay for all costs of effluent disposal. In the case of effluent referred to as "excess effluent," the total charges shall not exceed, in the case of paper mill excess effluent, half the price of water; and, in the case of pulp mill excess effluent, the full price of water supplied under the agreement. This is considered quite reasonable.

It has been established that the effluent from a paper mill is not hygienically troublesome. Metropolitan Water Supply Department officers have investigated this aspect specifically in the Eastern States.

Every precaution will be taken to assure that the disposal of the company's effluent by irrigation will not create a nuisance, and investigations have indicated that this can be achieved. Should the paper

mill expand and the effluent become too much for the 400 acres, there exists in the agreement a safeguard for disposal of the excess effluent by the Metropolitan Water Supply Department.

Government planning provides for the provision of a sewerage treatment works east of Woodman Point, with an out-fall discharge extending into deep water well off that point. This fits in very well with the discharge of any excess effluent from the A.P.M. works under the terms of the agreement.

Should it be desirable to establish a small pulp mill at Spearwood, such a project would not prejudice the prospects of a pulp mill in the south-west. The size of a Spearwood pulp mill and the effluent therefrom is limited by the agreement. It would be a relatively small pulp mill and not likely to be erected for some little time after the completion of the paper mill.

Such a pulp mill would deal with the thinnings, mill ends, offcuts, and forest wastes from areas within economic range, but would not utilise marketable timber. The Government looks forward to the erection at a later date of a major pulp project in the forest areas in the south-west.

Not only will the ratification of this agreement provide a substantial new industry for this State, but it will have an even greater significance because the whole project represents a major step in the achievement of a fully integrated paper industry here.

The new mill is being planned to produce paper and paperboard worth between £1,500,000 and £2,000,000 per annum. It is estimated that this production, when converted into the finished articles, such as cartons, bags, etc., could well be valued upwards of £10,000,000.

The availability of the surplus production of the mill should be a stimulus to the manufacturers of articles utilising these materials. Such firms as A. & G. Anson at O'Connor, which has a high potential as a user of products of the type that would be produced at the Spearwood paper mill, could be an encouragement to the early establishment of that mill.

The building of the mill will employ 300 men over a period of four years, and between 150 and 200 men will be needed in its initial operations.

This industry has advanced from being almost wholly a craft industry to one calling for a high degree of scientific and technological control. The skill requirements of labour are those calling for operators of large and highly complicated machinery. There will be scope for technically trained men; and, as with other modern methods of production, an increasing demand for scientists and engineers on the research side. It consequently follows that the establishment of this industry will open up many new careers for young Western Australians.

Australian Paper Manufacturers Ltd. is the largest and most successful Australian company in the paper pulp and board industry. There is every likelihood that this move will lead to the establishment in the south-west of a paper pulp mill which will provide for more economic use of our forest materials.

The Government has succeeded in enticing a company of very high standing to establish its enterprise in our midst in the very near future. A high commitment is involved, but without this undertaking, it is safe to say that this State would have to continue to wait in hope for an indefinite period—at least for as long as ten years—before achieving this objective.

On motion by The Hon. H. C. Strickland, debate adjourned.

TOTALISATOR AGENCY BOARD BETTING BILL

Second Reading

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (Suburban—Minister for Mines) [3.30]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

Following this Bill are four others which, one could say, are complementary to it. When the messages by which these Bills were transmitted to the House were received, I asked that the Bills be dealt with at a later stage of the sitting in order that I could get the Bills into proper sequence. The Totalisator Agency Board Betting Bill is the first of the five; and, as I proceed, it will be necessary for me to ask the Legislative Council to take the other four, not in the order that they were received from the Legislative Assembly, but in the order that I shall ask that they be dealt with.

As is no doubt well known, the Government has had under consideration for some time the legislation required to replace the existing licensed premises bookmakers with an off-course totalisator system as recommended by the Royal Commissioner on betting, Sir George Ligertwood.

The two main difficulties which faced the Government in considering the change-over were—

1. The absence in this State of an on-course totalisator on which to place the somewhat large volume of betting on races conducted outside of the State.

2. The risk of being unable to successfully launch an off-course totalisator scheme on a gradual basis, particularly in the early stages when the dividends declared by the totalisator could be so easily influenced by the considerably higher amount of money held by licensed premises bookmakers in areas outside of the totalisator regions.

As to how both these problems can be effectively overcome will become apparent as the Bill is dealt with in greater detail. When the board, to be known as the totalisator agency board, is established it will take over from the Betting Control Board which will cease to exist.

It is intended to gradually introduce the totalisator scheme in the metropolitan area and then consider extending it to the main country areas. As a region is declared by proclamation to be a totalisator region the present Betting Control Act will cease to apply to that region. The present Betting Control Act will however continue to apply to areas other than regions covered by the totalisator scheme.

It is envisaged that some areas within the State, particularly the somewhat remote areas, will always be covered by licensed premises bookmakers under the Betting Control Act. With this in mind, it is proposed to extend the Betting Control Act, 1954-59, as a permanent Act after amending it to dovetail in with the Bill to cover the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Act, 1960.

The Bill provides that the board shall be a body corporate under the name of the totalisator agency board, and that it shall be constituted as a public authority. In accordance with clause 8, the board is to consist of seven members comprising a chairman appointed on the nomination of the Minister, three nominees of the W.A. Turf Club and three nominees of the W.A. Trotting Association, with power to appoint deputies.

Following an amendment in the Assembly, the Bill now provides that of the three nominees of both the club and the association, one of each must be at first nominated by the country racing and trotting clubs respectively. The term of office of member is to be one of three years.

The Bill provides for the establishment of tote offices and agencies, and makes provision for all expenses in connection therewith, together with any other expenses of the board, to be met out of loans raised by the board pending the board being in a position to meet such expenses in full from its own funds.

The W.A.T.C. and the W.A.T.A. are each to make an immediate loan of £25,000 to the board, such loans to be unsecured and free of interest. The Bill now provides for these loans to be repaid at the end of 10 years or earlier if agreement is reached between the Turf Club, the Trotting Association, and the board; and if the Treasurer approves.

The board, with the approval of the Treasurer, can borrow moneys, and the Treasurer can guarantee such borrowings but not the loans made by the club and the association. It has been estimated that in time, the moneys required in connection with capital and establishment charges could reach £300,000.

The amount of the capital required, and thus the guarantees to be given, will very much depend upon the extent to which the totalisator system is mechanised and whether the board rents its various agencies or acquires outright its own land and buildings. The total of the guarantees to be given by the Treasurer is, however, not likely to exceed £250,000, and could well be less.

The Bill makes provision for the making of bets with and through the board and for the payment of dividends, all of which are to be at the respective totalisator odds. Where the bets made on local gallops and trots are transmitted to the on-course totalisator, such bets will form part of the pool moneys on which the dividends are declared. Where not so transmitted, the bets will simply be held by the board and paid at totalisator odds.

Until such time as a totalisator pool is established in connection with Eastern States racing, all bets on such racing will be held by the board and paid at odds declared by the respective Eastern States totalisators. Winning dividends will be payable on the day of the race after each race. The Bill requires that 15 per cent. be deducted by way of commission from bets received by the board and transmitted to an on-course totalisator.

An amendment to the Totalisator Duty Act, 1905-58, is being sought to increase the statutory deduction from money invested direct on the on-course totalisator from 13½ to 15 per cent. This additional 1½ per cent. from the on-course investment is to be paid to the board. The board will be required to pay a turnover tax of 5 per cent. to the Treasurer under a new Bill being introduced in connection with the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Tax Act, 1960. The board is to set aside 1¼ per cent. of its turnover for the purpose of repaying any moneys borrowed in accordance with the Act.

The Bill requires the board, after meeting all outgoings including turnover tax and appropriating the 1¼ per cent., to pay the balance then remaining to the W.A.T.C. and the W.A.T.A. The Turf Club is to receive that part of the surplus which the proportion of 75 per cent. of the Eastern States betting turnover plus the betting turnover on the local gallops bears to the total betting turnover. The Turf Club is to retain 80 per cent. of the amount so received by it, and distribute the remaining 20 per cent. between the various racing clubs on the basis of stakes paid in the previous racing year.

The Trotting Association is to receive that part of the surplus which the proportion of 25 per cent. of the Eastern States betting turnover plus the betting turnover on local trots bears to the total betting turnover. The association shall share 85

per cent. of this amount with the other metropolitan trotting club—Fremantle—on the basis of stakes paid, and distribute the remaining 15 per cent. amongst the country trotting clubs on the basis of stakes paid during the previous trotting year.

Under the Bill the board has the first right to take over premises registered under the Betting Control Act. The board is required to exercise its right within 42 days of the area being declared a totalisator region, and the Minister has power to exempt any person from this provision where thought justified.

Another provision in the Bill has the effect of cancelling registered premises and licenses to carry on business as a bookmaker under the Betting Control Act once an area is proclaimed a totalisator region. The unexpired portion of the annual license fee will be refunded to licensed premises bookmakers. The Bill provides that bets through the board can be made—

(a) in cash;

(b) by letter or telegram accompanied with the cash or against a credit already established; and

(c) by telephone against a cash deposit previously made.

In regard to credit betting against a deposit, winning bets made will be credited on the day of the race in support of the deposit account. The minimum bet is not to be less than 2s. 6d., but, by regulation, will most likely be fixed at 5s. in order to fit in with the standard totalisator unit both here and in the Eastern States. The Bill covers offences in relation to—

(a) the conduct of totalisator agencies;

(b) unauthorised persons acting as totalisator agents; and

(c) agents or servants of racing clubs accepting off-course totalisator investments.

Betting with minors and intoxicated persons is prohibited. It is an offence in a totalisator region to act as a bookmaker or for a person to bet with a bookmaker at any time or at any place other than with an on-course bookmaker registered under the Betting Control Act, 1954. Loitering and "nit-keeping" also constitute offences. In the main the penalties are somewhat severe, and the securing of a conviction for illegal betting has been made easier than was the case before off-course betting was legalised.

The pattern in regard to offences and penalties is consistent with the recommendations of the Royal Commissioner, Sir George Ligertwood; and the provisions in the Bill are very similar to those of the South Australian Gaming and Wagering Act.

The Bill authorises the board, with the approval of the Governor, to make regulations for the operation of the Act in regard to—

(a) the admission of persons to totalisator agencies;

(b) any additional powers required by the board;

(c) the establishment, maintenance, conduct, and operation of the totalisator agencies, including the lodging and receipt of bets and the transmission and holding of such bets; and

(d) the payment of dividends.

Bets made through or with the board will be covered as follows:—

(a) Country racing and trotting within the State: Betting will close down in sufficient time—say one hour—before the scheduled starting time of the race to enable all of the betting to be collated and transmitted to the on-course totalisator.

(b) Metropolitan racing and trotting: Early betting will close between 45 and 60 minutes of the scheduled starting time, and all of such betting will be transmitted to the appropriate on-course totalisator.

Betting in smaller amounts will be permitted up to the near starting time. This later betting will be held by the board similar to a manner in which an off-course bookmaker holds his money.

The pay-out for a win, however, will be according to the dividend declared by the appropriate on-course totalisator and not at starting price as now paid by licensed premises bookmakers.

Telephone contact will be maintained between the board and its agencies and the on-course totalisator so that should the later investment by punters be out of balance with the earlier betting transmitted to the on-course totalisator to such an extent as to introduce an element of risk, portion of the later betting can likewise be put through the on-course totalisator.

Sitting suspended from 3.45 to 4.4 p.m.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: To continue with the statement regarding bets made through or with the board—

(c) Eastern States racing and trotting: Until the totalisator scheme completely replaces licensed premises bookmakers in the metropolitan area, it has not been deemed practicable to conduct a local off-course totalisator pool on Eastern States races.

It is clear that as four to five agencies only will be opened each month for the first six to 12 months after the board is properly set up, the bulk of the investment on Eastern States racing will be in the hands of licensed premises bookmakers, operating outside of the declared totalisator regions. Under such a condition a local tote pool, holding only a small portion of the total investment on Eastern States racing, would be very susceptible to manipulation by interested parties outside of the totalisator regions.

By careful selection and investment, the dividends on winning horses could be reduced to figures so much below the dividends declared by the appropriate on-course totalisators in the Eastern States, that the public would lose confidence in the local pool tote system to such an extent that it would be destined to failure from the beginning.

For this reason, it is intended that for the first six months, and for longer if found necessary, the board will hold bets received on Eastern States racing, and pay out according to the dividends declared by the appropriate on-course totalisators in the Eastern States. Whilst no off-course totalisator pool system for Eastern States racing has been fully developed as yet, at the present time three different schemes are under consideration, and the records prepared by the board in its first six months of actual operation, should enable it to select one which is fair and equitable, and simple and easy to administer.

In the meantime, if the weight of money for a particular horse in any event is such as to introduce too great an element of risk, portion of such money could be laid off with the appropriate on-course Eastern States totalisator. The Bill gives the board, subject to the approval of the Governor, the necessary authority to make regulations for the purpose of regulating the receipt and payment of bets in the manner already indicated, and for the conduct of totalisator pools.

Racing authorities will not participate in the revenue derived from off-course licensed premises, once the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Act, 1960, becomes law and is proclaimed.

It is generally agreed that the success of the off-course tote system will substantially turn on—

(1) the turnover;

(2) the margin between bets received, and bets paid, and

(3) the cost of administering the scheme.

The present off-course betting turnover in the metropolitan area is about £12,100,000. The totalisator scheme will not accommodate the bigger bettor, and particularly the big credit bettor, in the same manner as such a bettor is now catered for by the licensed premises bookmakers. Notwithstanding a loss in this direction, it appears reasonable to assume that as punters will have similar scope to bet, and facilities as at present, including race broadcasts and payment of winning bets after each race, the turnover should not be less than the forecast of £6,500,000 per annum.

Where the bets are placed on an on-course totalisator the commission to be received by the totalisator agency board is 15 per cent. Experience has shown that due to fractions and unclaimed dividends, the total margin increases by about 1.25 per cent. which in this case would increase such margin to 16.25 per cent. Where bets are held by the board and paid at totalisator odds, it is reasonable to assume that the gross margin would approximate the standard commission deducted by the on-course totalisator covering the particular event concerned. On Eastern States betting, with fractions and unclaimed dividends, this would approximate 13.25 per cent.; and on local racing and trotting, 16.25 per cent.

I would now refer to the cost of the scheme. In New Zealand the totalisator commission is 17.35 per cent. which, with fractions and unclaimed dividends, increases to about 18.6 per cent. The Government takes 9.35 per cent., which leaves 9.25 per cent. for all other purposes. The net surplus distributed by the New Zealand Totalisator Agency Board is now about 3 per cent. of the turnover.

In Victoria the commission is to be 12 per cent. which, with fractions and unclaimed dividends, should give a gross margin of 13.25 per cent. The Victorian Government is to receive 4 per cent. of the turnover, which, like New Zealand, leaves a margin of 9.25 per cent. for all other purposes.

In this State, when all off-course betting is covered by an on-course totalisator, or an off-course tote pool, the commission of 15 per cent., with fractions and unclaimed dividends, should result in a gross margin of 16.25 per cent. As the Government is to receive 5 per cent. turnover tax this will leave a margin of 11.25 per cent. for all other purposes—2 per cent. more than in New Zealand and Victoria. It is clear that in New Zealand about 6.25 per cent. of the turnover covers the administration expense and a small amount for capital charges.

Figures submitted by the licensed premises bookmakers to the Royal Commissioner on betting, indicate that after taking out 2 per cent. turnover tax and .5 per cent. stamp duty, the average cost of conducting licensed bookmakers' premises is 4.71 per

cent. of the turnover. These figures indicate that 7.25 per cent. on turnover should be sufficient to meet capital and establishment charges, and administration expenses of the totalisator agency board in this State.

If this figure is achieved, after paying 5 per cent. turnover tax to the Treasurer, the board should have a surplus of 4 per cent. on turnover to be paid out to the various racing bodies to assist in the improvement of the racing industry throughout the State. It is expected that during the first 12 months of its operation the totalisator agency board will establish between 45 and 60 agencies in the metropolitan area. The turnover in the metropolitan area, as already indicated, is expected to be £6,500,000. When the totalisator agency board covers such of the country areas as can be done so economically, it is expected that the turnover will increase to about £11,500,000.

On motion by The Hon. H. C. Strickland, debate adjourned.

BETTING CONTROL ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (Suburban—Minister for Mines) [4.11]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This is the second of the Bills to which I referred when introducing the previous measure. The life of the Betting Control Act, 1954-59, as it now stands, is limited to the 31st December, 1960. This Bill proposes to extend the Betting Control Act as a permanent Act on the passing of the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Act, 1960, and to amend the former Act to fit in with the latter.

It is necessary to amend the long title of the Act by including after the word "Bookmakers" in line 5, the words "or the Totalisator Agency Board" so that the betting investment tax paid by the off-course punter in totalisator regions is allocated along with the betting investment tax collected by licensed premises bookmakers.

The Bill seeks to amend section 4 of the principal Act by substituting the totalisator agency board for the Betting Control Board. As previously mentioned, on the passing of the Bill in connection with the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Act, 1960, the totalisator agency board will take over from the Betting Control Board.

The amendment sought to section 5 is for the purpose of requiring licensed premises bookmakers to pay winning bets, both win and place, at totalisator odds the same as the totalisator agency board. At the present time, licensed premises bookmakers pay winning bets for a win at the declared starting price obtained by averaging the last price laid by the on-course bookmakers, and winning place bets only at totalisator odds.

This means that off-course punters, whether within a totalisator region or a licensed premises area, will be paid on the same basis. It is sought to repeal section 6 dealing with the constitution of the Betting Control Board. An amendment to section 7 is sought by substituting for the word "The" in line 1, the words "For the purposes of this Act, the". The intention here is to make it clear that the appointment of officers under the Public Service Act, 1904, is to apply to purposes under the Betting Control Act only. The repeal of section 8 is sought as it is no longer required. The Bill seeks to amend section 16 so that the full amount of the bookmakers betting tax—turnover-tax—on the passing of the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Act, 1960, is received in full by the Treasurer for the use of Her Majesty. There will be no division with the racing authorities as they will be receiving the surplus from the operations of the totalisator agency board.

The amendments to section 16A are sought so that the totalisator agency board shall be required to collect the same rates of betting investment tax as are licensed premises bookmakers, and pay the full amounts received to the Commissioner of Stamps without any distribution to the racing authorities. This requires the repeal of sections 16B and 16C. The amendment sought to subsection (1) of section 23 is for the purpose of making lawful bets made under the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Act, 1960.

The Bill proposes to amend section 27 so that premises can only be used for betting when such betting takes place with licensed premises bookmakers under the Betting Control Act or with the totalisator agency board. In regard to section 35 of the Betting Control Act the proposals are—

1. The repeal of the section which at present limits the life of the Act to the 31st December, 1960.

2. The re-enacting of section 35 so that apart from—

   (a) section 14 in relation to on-course bookmakers' turnover;

   (b) section 15 in relation to the returns to be furnished by on-course bookmakers;

   (c) section 16A in regard to the collection from punters of the off-course betting investment tax by the totalisator agency board; and

   (d) section 35 itself,

the provisions of the Betting Control Act, 1954-59, shall not apply to any part of the State when it is proclaimed as a totalisator region other than to a

licensed on-course bookmaker whether the racecourse on which such person operates is inside or outside a proclaimed totalisator region.

On motion by The Hon. W. F. Willesee, debate adjourned.

TOTALISATOR DUTY ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (Suburban—Minister for Mines) [4.19]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

The main purpose of this Bill is to increase the totalisator commission, often referred to as the statutory deduction, from 13½ per cent. to 15 per cent. The Totalisator Agency Board Betting Bill, recently introduced, provides for a commission of 15 per cent. to be deducted by the board from bets received by it and communicated to an on-course totalisator.

It is therefore proposed that the amount of commission be the same for on-course totalisator betting as for off-course totalisator betting. I have to be careful about off course and on course when reading these notes.

The Hon. E. M. Davies: Don't get off the track.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: So long as I don't get off course; that is the main thing.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: You will have to stick to horses.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I intend to stick to the Bill. The last increase in totalisator commission was in 1930 when it was increased by 1 per cent.—from 12½ per cent. to 13½ per cent. The on-course totalisator turnover has been assessed at £2,500,000. Thus the Bill proposes to increase the total pool deductions from £337,500 to £375,000 per annum, an increase of £37,500.

The Bill provides for the additional 1½ per cent. to be paid to the Commissioner of Stamps by way of duty but, as provided in clause 27 of the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Bill, collections on this account are to be paid to the totalisator agency board. This 1½ per cent. of the gross on-course totalisator takings will eventually form part of the funds to be distributed by the board to the various racing and trotting bodies to assist in improving the racing industry in this State. In the meantime, the extra commission, calculated at £37,500 per annum, will assist the totalisator agency board in meeting its preliminary and capital expenses.

On motion by The Hon. H. C. Strickland, debate adjourned.

BETTING INVESTMENT TAX ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (Suburban—Minister for Mines) [4.26]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

The purpose of this Bill is merely to extend the provisions of the Act to cover the operations of the totalisator agency board with respect to investment tax so that an off-course bettor wagering within an area covered by the totalisator agency board will pay the same rates of investment tax as a bettor wagering in an area covered by licensed premises bookmakers under the Betting Control Act. The betting investment tax rates are—

(a) for bets up to an including one pound—threepence per wager;

(b) for bets in excess of one pound—sixpence per wager.

On motion by The Hon. F. R. H. Lavery, debate adjourned.

TOTALISATOR AGENCY BOARD BETTING TAX BILL

Second Reading

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (Suburban—Minister for Mines) [4.28]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

The Totalisator Agency Board Betting Bill, already introduced, makes provision for the board to pay tax on the whole of its turnover at the rate imposed by the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Tax Act, 1960. The purpose of this Bill is to fix the amount of such tax at 5 per cent.

At the present time the turnover tax paid by licensed premises bookmakers averages slightly in excess of 3 per cent. On a turnover of £12,000,000 per annum, now handled by licensed premises bookmakers in the metropolitan area, the return from this source would be in the vicinity of £365,000 per annum, of which approximately £20,000 would be paid over to the various racing bodies, leaving the sum of £345,000 available to Consolidated Revenue.

When the licensed premises bookmakers in the metropolitan area are replaced by the totalisator scheme, it is expected that the betting turnover in that area will drop from £12,000,000 to approximately £6,500,000 per annum. As the turnover tax to be paid by the totalisator agency board is to be 5 per cent., the return to Consolidated Revenue will approximate £325,000 per annum in comparison with £345,000 now received from licensed premises in the metropolitan area.

It is anticipated, however, that mainly due to a shift in credit betting, the turnover of licensed premises bookmakers outside the metropolitan area will increase slightly and thus the total amount paid to Consolidated Revenue from the turnover tax should not vary greatly from the amount received under the existing system.

When the totalisator scheme covers the whole of the State, it is anticipated that the totalisator agency board will pay a total turnover tax of £575,000 per annum on an estimated turnover of £11,500,000. This compares with the amount of £525,000 now received from licensed premises bookmakers, of which approximately £495,000 goes to Consolidated Revenue.

Although the return from the turnover tax is expected to be greater than at present, this gain, together with that from the payment to Consolidated Revenue of the full proceeds of the investment tax, will be offset by the non-receipt in the future of bookmakers' registration fees and stamp duty on off-course betting transactions.

In the final analysis it is expected that when the totalisator scheme embraces the whole State, the return to Consolidated Revenue should be approximately the same as it is under the present system.

On motion by The Hon. W. F. Willesee, debate adjourned.

SUPPLY BILL (No. 2), £21,500,000

Second Reading

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (Suburban—Minister for Mines) [4.33]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This is the usual situation in which we find ourselves at this time of the year. This Bill affords members, as all Supply Bills do, the opportunity to traverse subjects of an unlimited nature. I only hope that this Bill will receive, shall I say, a more even and smooth passage than did the previous Supply Bill which I introduced earlier in the session. However, that is entirely up to members, particularly the Leader of the Opposition. In saying that, I am not encouraging him to do anything else but support this Bill.

As the title indicates, and as members are aware, this is the second Supply Bill introduced this session. I would like to repeat for the information of new members that this Bill provides members with an opportunity to have a good deal to say on various matters, particularly those of a parochial nature concerning affairs in the districts they represent.

The introduction of the second Supply measure becomes a necessity because the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure, and the Loan Fund Estimates have not, as yet, been agreed to in another place. The first Supply Bill which was passed made available to the Government the sum of £23,500,000, of which £17,000,000 was for expenditure through the Consolidated Revenue Fund; £4,500,000 for General Loan Fund expenditure; and £2,000,000 as an advance to the Treasurer. Of the moneys then made available, £16,703,287 has been expended through the Consolidated Revenue Fund, and £3,021,321 through the General Loan Fund. Revenue collected during the three months ended the 30th September last amounted to £14,252,857, which has left a deficit of £2,450,430 in the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

The purpose of this Bill is to seek further Supply to the extent of £21,500,000. An amount of £17,000,000 is required in respect of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, and £4,500,000 in respect of the General Loan Fund. Additional Supply now being sought is required to enable the services of the State to be carried on until the Estimates have been passed by Parliament.

I have here a copy of the Consolidated Revenue Fund Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure, and copies are available to any members wishing to obtain them. I am advised that the Estimates for the General Loan Fund will be available this month.

I do not think I need say anything further on this measure, having formally introduced the Bill. I would like, however, to be permitted—because the scope on the Supply Bill is so wide—to refer back to the previous five Bills which I introduced in regard to betting. One of the reasons for asking for the suspension of Standing Orders was in order that the second reading speeches on those Bills could be introduced this afternoon and members would have until Tuesday to study them.

We have done very well this session, and I am grateful for the general co-operation members have shown to my colleague, Mr. Logan, and myself. However, we still have some way to go; and we are hopeful, to say the least, that the business of the House will be completed by the end of November.

With this in mind, I hope that when these Bills come before the House next Tuesday—although I realise that members may require routine adjournments; and, as I said previously, there will be no objection to such adjournments from me—we shall be able to deal with them as expeditiously as possible.

On motion by The Hon. E. M. Davies, debate adjourned.

House adjourned at 4.40 p.m.