services which apply over the whole of Western Australia, ranging from the south, where we find the noisy scrub bird to the Kimberleys, where we find Johnson River crocodiles.

Mr. Jamieson: But there are no royalties on those creatures.

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON: There are the services, and the fee prescribed is a fee for those services. It is certainly not a tax, and I am surprised that the Leader of the Opposition thinks it is one.

Mr. Jamieson: You said it was, and you said you will be putting the money into revenue.

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON: That does not mean it is a tax. It is a fee for services. I understand what the member for Pilbara has said and I echo his sentiments, but I do not want to traverse any distance unnecessarily. I have here a book by Roland Burrows, K.C. entitled *Words And Phrases Judicially Defined.* I thought it would be appropriate to find a definition of "tax" in the book. It contains a number of definitions, but I am picking out the one which I think is appropriate. Other members might pick out the ones they consider appropriate.

Mr. Jamieson: Look at the definition in relation to royalties.

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON: It does not mention royalties, but something much better. On page 259 this definition of "tax" is given—

> Australia.—"A compulsory contribution, or an impost, may be none the less a tax, though not so called; the distinguishing feature of a tax being in fact that it is a compulsory contribution, imposed by the sovereign authority on, and required from, the general body of subjects or citizens, as distinguished from isolated levies on individuals." *Leake v. Commissioner of Taxation.*

Mr. Jamieson: If one does not own land one does not pay the tax; and if one does not shoot kangaroos one does not pay the tax.

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON: I submit that this Bill is properly before the House. I trust that the debate on the second reading can be continued.

Question (dissent from Deputy Speaker's ruling) put and a division taken with the following result:—

Ayes—15

Mr. Bateman	Mr. Lapham
Mr. Bertram	Mr. McIver
Mr. Bickerton	Mr. Norton
Mr. Brady	Mr. Taylor
Mr. Burke	Mr. Toms
Mr. Fletcher	Mr. Tonkin
Mr. Harman	Mr. Davies
Mr. Jamieson	*(Teller)*

Noes—18

Sir David Brand	Mr. Mitchell
Mr. Cash	Mr. Naider
Mr. Dunn	Mr. O'Connor
Mr. Gayfer	Mr. O'Neil
Mr. Grayden	Mr. Ridge
Dr. Henn	Mr. Runciman
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Rushton
Mr. McPharlin	Mr. Young
Mr. Mensaros	Mr. I. W. Manning *(Teller)*

Pairs

Ayes	Noes
Mr. Hall	Mr. Burt
Mr. May	Mr. Court
Mr. Jones	Mr. Bovell
Mr. Graham	Mr. Lewis
Mr. H. D. Evans	Mr. Williams
Mr. T. D. Evans	Mr. Craig
Mr. Sewell	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Moir	Mr. Kitney

Question thus negatived.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. I. W. Manning.

Point of Order

Mr. BICKERTON: On a point of order, would you give me a ruling please, Mr. Deputy Speaker? In view of the fact that the member for Belmont had the floor before he raised the matter of the disagreement concerning whether or not the Bill was properly before the House, will he have the call when the debate on the Bill is resumed?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for Belmont rose on a point of order, and not to speak to the second reading of the debate.

House adjourned at 10.2 p.m.

Legislative Council

Tuesday, the 28th October, 1969

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

BILLS (6): ASSENT

Message from the Governor received and read notifying assent to the following Bills:—

1. Inspection of Machinery Act Amendment Bill (No. 2).
2. Plant Diseases Act Amendment Bill (No. 2).
3. Timber Industry Regulation Act Amendment Bill.
4. The Perpetual Executors Trustees and Agency Company (W.A.) Limited Act Amendment Bill.
5. The West Australian Trustee Executor and Agency Company Limited Act Amendment Bill (No. 2).
6. Suitors' Fund Act Amendment Bill.

SWAN RIVER

Reclamation at Alfred Cove: Petition

THE HON. F. R. H. LAVERY (South Metropolitan) [4.32 p.m.]: I present a petition from the residents of the City of Melville expressing opposition to further reclamation of the Swan River. This petition contains 1,146 signatures and bears the certificate of the Clerk as required by Standing Orders. I move—

That the petition be read and ordered to lay upon the Table of the House.

Question put and passed.

THE HON. F. R. H. LAVERY (South Metropolitan) [4.33 p.m.]: The petition reads as follows:—

To—

The Legislative Council of the Parliament of Western Australia.

We, the undersigned residents of the City of Melville, hereby humbly petition the Honourable Members of the Legislative Council of Western Australia to do all within their power to oppose the proposed reclamation of the Swan River in the region of Alfred Cove.

This petition is formulated for the following reason:

An alternative site and proposal already exists to provide for the suggested amenities and we petitioners strongly object to any further reclamation of the river.

And your petitioners will ever pray that their humble and earnest petition may be acceded to.

The petition was tabled.

SWAN RIVER

Reclamation: Petition

THE HON. F. R. H. LAVERY (South Metropolitan) [4.35 p.m.]: I present a petition from the residents of Western Australia expressing opposition to further reclamation of the Swan River. This petition contains 416 signatures and bears the certificate of the Clerk as required by Standing Orders. I move—

That the petition be read and ordered to lay upon the Table of the House.

Question put and passed.

THE HON. F. R. H. LAVERY (South Metropolitan) [4.36 p.m.]: The petition reads as follows:—

To—

The Legislative Council of the Parliament of Western Australia.

We, the undersigned residents hereby humbly petition the Honourable Members of the Legislative Council of Western Australia to do all within their power to oppose the proposed reclamation of the Swan River.

This petition is formulated for the following reason:

An alternative site and proposal already exists to provide for the suggested amenities and we petitioners strongly object to any further reclamation of the River.

And your petitioners will ever pray that their humble and earnest petition may be acceded to.

The petition was tabled.

QUESTIONS (5): ON NOTICE

1. EDUCATION

Agricultural High Schools

The Hon. J. M. THOMSON asked the Minister for Mines:

(1) How many applications were received by the Education Department for entrance to agricultural high schools for the 1970 school year?

(2) (a) What was the number of successful applicants; and

(b) of that number, how many will be accommodated at—

(i) Narrogin;

(ii) Cunderdin;

(iii) Harvey; and

(iv) Denmark

Agricultural High Schools?

(3) What is the total accommodation for students at each of the abovementioned schools?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

(1) 233 applicants.

(2) (a) 165 were offered places (i.e. 20 more than the available places to allow for withdrawals).

(b) (i) Narrogin—60.

(ii) Cunderdin—36.

(iii) Harvey—28.

(iv) Denmark—21.

(3) Narrogin—108.
Cunderdin—80.
Harvey—48.
Denmark—40.

2. LAND TAX

Classification of Forest Growing as Primary Production

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS asked the Minister for Mines:

(1) Is it a fact that, as reported in *The West Australian* newspaper on Wednesday, the 1st October,

1969, the growing of forests is not regarded as primary production and that land tax has therefore to be paid on the land concerned?

(2) If the answer to (1) is "Yes"—

(a) why is this so; and

(b) is a review of the situation being considered by the Government?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

(1) and (2) Land used for the growing of forests is exempt from land tax where such use falls within the meaning of a business of agriculture—e.g. the establishment of pine plantations.

The growing of indigenous timber in its natural state does not constitute a business of agriculture within the meaning of the Act and therefore land used for this purpose does not qualify for exemption from tax.

3. EDUCATION

Financing of Library Buildings

The Hon. N. McNEILL asked the Minister for Mines:

(1) How many schools in Western Australia have been equipped with library buildings partly or wholly financed from funds supplied for this purpose by the Commonwealth Government?

(2) What has been the contribution in each case by—

(a) the Commonwealth Government;

(b) the State Government?

(3) Which schools are listed in the current programme for Commonwealth assistance, and what is to be the allocation in each case?

(4) When will the library buildings be completed at each of the schools for which the allocation of funds has been approved?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

(1) Under the Commonwealth Assistance (Libraries) Act, which only came into operation this year, the Commonwealth Government provides funds for building secondary school libraries and for the issue of books and materials to existing libraries.

No library building is financed jointly by the State and Commonwealth Governments.

No libraries built under this scheme have yet been completed but contracts have been let for libraries at Geraldton, John Forrest and Scarborough Senior High Schools.

(2) Contract prices (to be paid fully by the Commonwealth Government)—

Geraldton—$61,728.
John Forrest—$72,000.
Scarborough—$83,000.

(3) Under the current programme (for 1969) $503,000 has been allocated for buildings (about 80%) and books (about 20%). Book issues have been made to all schools with secondary pupils in reasonable numbers.

The following schools will receive libraries:—

Geraldton, John Forrest, Scarborough (allocation as in (2) above) and Perth Modern and Armadale Senior High Schools (allocation expected to be within similar range).

(4) John Forrest and Scarborough are expected to be completed by beginning of 1970 school year, Geraldton and Perth Modern during first term 1970 and Armadale by second term 1970.

4. EDUCATION

Supervision of Correspondence Courses

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE asked the Minister for Mines:

(1) What is the allowance paid to a supervisor of outback children on correspondence courses and the "school of the air"?

(2) Would the Minister ascertain from the Minister for Education whether consideration could be given to an allowance being paid to mothers of children on correspondence courses where a supervisor is not employed?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

(1) $200.

(2) This matter is currently being investigated.

5. EDUCATION

Living-away Allowance

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE asked the Minister for Mines:

In view of the difficulty being experienced in country centres through rising costs and lower incomes, would the Minister ascertain from the Minister for Education whether he would consider raising the living-away allowance to enable more parents to avail themselves of a higher standard of education for their children where local schools do not provide a full curriculum?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

Proposals to increase the living-away-from-home allowances are at present being investigated.

CHILD WELFARE ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Returned

Bill returned from the Assembly without amendment.

STATE HOUSING ACT AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2)

Second Reading

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (North Metropolitan—Minister for Mines) [4.45 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This Bill, in the form in which it has come to this House, proposes to empower the State Housing Commission to subsidise interest rates charged by permanent building societies. The object is to enable commission applicants to obtain housing loans at interest rates which will bring the instalments within their financial means.

The growth rate of permanent building societies is proceeding at an unprecedented pace, which is enabling them to play an increasingly important role in housing finance in this State.

These societies are currently making mortgage advances over a much wider field of applicants than heretofore, and in many instances are utilising mortgage insurance provided by the Housing Loans Insurance Corporation and the private enterprise Mortgage Guaranty Insurance Corporation of Australia.

The growth rate is apparent when we recollect that permanent societies are at present making mortgage advances at a rate exceeding $90,000,000 per annum, compared with $25,000,000 in 1967-68.

Nevertheless, even with mortgage insurance, the families of low and moderate means are finding it difficult to obtain loans required for housing. This is because of their inability to meet repayments at the level required to service the loan. These families, therefore, have no alternative but to wait for State Housing Commission assistance, despite the fact that in many cases applicants would prefer to be able to acquire a privately built home of their own choice, rather than one designed and built by the State Housing Commission within its own estates.

Some time ago a proposal was submitted by one of the permanent building societies whereby applicants in the upper bracket of income eligible under the State Housing Act could be assisted. The proposal limited the interest rate payable by the applicant to 6 per cent. per annum. The proposal was that the difference between the 6 per cent. and that society's normal interest rate of 7 per cent. would be met by a subsidy payable by the State Housing Commission. The idea is that the interest subsidy is to be payable only during the first 10 years of whatever term is arranged for repayment between the society and the applicant in the normal course of business.

This proposal has been considered by officers of the Treasury Department and the State Housing Commission and, on the recommendation that came forward from these sources, it was decided to offer the subsidy to all permanent building societies.

The extent to which the proposal would be put into operation, is that during the first year of its operation the scheme should be limited to 1,500 loans to applicants referred to societies by the commission. The estimated cost of these 1,500 loans, over the 10 years during which the subsidy would be effective, is $1,177,800. This cost would be reduced to an estimated $750,000 if discounted settlements were made by the societies.

Members will be interested to learn that the capital required to finance 1,500 commission homes, would be approximately $15,000,000. The terms and conditions required to be entered into by the building societies would include a condition that the interest rate of 6 per cent. to the borrower may be increased in later years only with the approval of the Minister. All mortgages would be required to carry mortgage insurance, and a second mortgage would be permitted only if the first mortgage advance were less than $8,000. It is intended that a review of the operation of the scheme would be carried out at the end of the first year.

At present, only one permanent building society is lending at the rate of 7 per cent. interest per annum, so that if other societies wish to participate in the scheme, they will be required to reduce their rate to an overall 7 per cent., less the 1 per cent. subsidy, so that the borrower pays the agreed 6 per cent. interest only.

In the matter of cost to the State, I inform members that should the interest subsidy be paid annually to the building societies for 1,500 loans, it would cost the commission a total of $1,177,800 over 10 years.

However, in lieu of annual payments, a lump sum of approximately $750,000, could be paid by the commission to the societies. This sum invested with the societies would earn, at 6 per cent., sufficient interest to enable annual amounts to be drawn by the societies. Over 10 years, these drawn amounts would equal the required $1,177,800 to meet the interest subsidy for 1,500 loans.

Having explained the provisions of the Bill, as it is presented to members, I desire to add that during discussions on the measure in another place the question whether the interest subsidy scheme should be confined to permanent building societies was raised. The member for Narrogin requested that terminating societies be permitted to participate, and the Deputy

Leader of the Opposition suggested that the facility be extended to any approved lending institution.

My ministerial colleague (the Minister for Housing) has given consideration to these propositions and has agreed to extend the scope of the Bill; that is, he has agreed to ask Parliament to extend the scope of the Bill.

It is, therefore, proposed in the Committee stage to delete the reference to permanent building societies which appears in clause 4 of the Bill and to replace this reference with "approved lending institutions approved by the Minister for the purpose of this section."

It may save time in this debate if members have knowledge of the fact that I will, following the last few remarks I have made, be placing the amendment on tomorrow's notice paper.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. W. F. Willesee (Leader of the Opposition).

MINES REGULATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 23rd October.

THE HON. J. J. GARRIGAN (South-East) [4.53 p.m.]: This is a Bill to amend the Mines Regulation Act. I will speak only very briefly to it, because my colleague (Mr. Stubbs) has dealt thoroughly with all the amendments contained therein. The first part I intend to deal with is the provision relating to second-class mine managers' certificates of competency.

For the information of members I will refer to this portion of the speech of the Minister when he introduced the second reading of the Bill—

> As mentioned earlier, the necessity or otherwise of second-class mine managers' certificates of competency has been investigated and discussed with mine management, the Mining Division of the A.W.U., the Gold and Nickel Mines Underground Supervisors Association, the Acting Director of the W.A. School of Mines, and the Crown Law Department.
>
> This action became necessary because of the shortage of men holding second-class certificates, which are required to be held by foremen and underground managers of mines employing less than 25 men underground. Since these certificates were introduced in 1962, only six have been issued and as this number is only a fraction of the number of certificates necessary, the statutory requirements of the Act can neither be observed nor enforced. It is now agreed by all concerned that the concept of this certificate and the attempted application of it have resulted in failure.
>
> In addition, the situation became further complicated when the Western Australian Institute of Technology took over the administration of the W.A. School of Mines and subjects for the course became no longer available and the standard of entry to the school was raised, making it virtually impossible for the practical mining man to enrol.

In speaking to this amendment, as far as I can ascertain, the Australian Workers' Union, and other unions which come under the category of "mining," raise no opposition whatsoever to the proposals in the Bill. I say that I support the amendments in the Bill, because I think they will do something to encourage, and to further our efforts in, the mining industry of Western Australia.

I think it was in 1961 when I vigorously opposed the proposal that a person had to hold a second-class mine manager's certificate to be able to supervise fewer than 25 men working underground, or to be the manager of a small mine. As far back as 1935 I held a shift boss's certificate, or what is known as a certificate of competency. At that time not many of those tickets were issued. It was an unwritten law in the mining industry in Western Australia that it was possible for 50 men to be working underground under the control of a holder of a certificate of competency; and when the shift boss was absent through illness it was deemed by the management—and it was an unwritten law—that a shift boss holding a supervisor's certificate could control 50 men.

The holders of certificates of competency at the time were men who possessed experience in all departments of underground working. They had to have knowledge of underground timbering, shaft timbering, stope timbering, and timbering for the purpose of ensuring safety. They had to have experience and knowledge in regard to winze sinking; rising; ventilation, which included air fans; and many other matters appertaining to safety and the efficient underground working of mines in the State.

I think in the 1961 debate I said there was no substitute—and there is still no substitute—for experience. To take our minds back to the early days of mining in Western Australia, the miners came from Bendigo and Wallaroo in South Australia. They were known as "Cousin Jacks." However, today we are using the same methods of underground mining as those adopted way back at the turn of the century. Those men did not have certificates of competency, but they were experienced men who had served their time in the mining industry all over Western Australia.

With your permission, Mr. President, I will refer to what I had to say on Wednesday, the 20th September, 1961. On that occasion the Minister and I did not agree for a period of about 10 days, and the position with which I disagreed still exists today. I think it will be found that my remarks, made in 1961, coincide with what is contained in the present Bill. I will read from *Hansard*, as follows:—

> I oppose this clause, and I do not know why legislation of this nature should come before the House. This clause means that something is being given to someone and something is being taken away from someone else.

I further stated—

> We have to have students from the School of Mines for the purpose of metallurgy, assaying, etc., but in five years one cannot learn as much as a man does with years of practical experience. I have had a supervisor's certificate since 1935; and it was not handed to me because I went to the School of Mines, but after long years of work and experience. If we are going to save lives in the mines we must have men who have had practical experience. There are many hazards in the mining industry, and one false step could be fatal. I suggest the Act be left as it now stands, because this amendment will be detrimental to the man who goes prospecting outback and who may employ 12 or 15 men. Although he has never been to the School of Mines, nevertheless he has the practical experience to carry on his own show. I oppose the amendment.

That was what I had to say in 1961 and I do not think the conditions in the mines have altered much since then. The men working in the mines today would earn more money than was earned by the old experienced miners of 20 years ago. They were men of vast experience and they are the type of men we need in the mining industry in Western Australia.

With all due respect to the graduates from the School of Mines—who are doing an excellent job on the technical side—only the experienced men can carry out these operations on the practical side. Later in the debate which took place in 1961 I had the following to say:—

> With all due respect to the Minister, there is an old saying among those who work underground. It is: "Never ask a man to do what you cannot do yourself." One could not expect a young man, straight out from the School of Mines, working underground as an offsider, telling a more experienced miner, with 30 years of experience behind him, what to do. One cannot learn underground mining in five years. This provision will take the right away from a man working a small show in the bush. There are quite a number of New Australians doing an excellent job in a small way; but they could not pass a written or oral test. However, they would easily pass any practical test. This measure will take away the right of such men to operate a small show in the bush.

In order to elaborate on what I said eight years ago, I will quote further as follows:—

> There is not much more I can say in support of this amendment, following on my previous remarks. However, I made numerous investigations last week appertaining to this clause. I am in agreement with the Minister in regard to the larger mines of the goldfields, because they will not be done any harm whatever by this provision. But what about the future of the goldmining industry of Western Australia? We must consider the smaller mines. They are under ordinary supervisors, but in every way the Mines Regulation Act is complied with. These men have been there for about 30 years, and if this clause were passed and the managers of those mines were to resign, the only others they could employ as managers would be those who had a School of Mines or a university education. This would not be warranted, because these are the borderline mines. It would take at least 2 oz. a day to pay the manager.
>
> Therefore, as I said last week, I believe that the whole of this clause should be deleted and, perhaps, reviewed in another 12 months. No harm will be done by its deletion, but the small mines of Western Australia will be harmed if it is passed.

In summing up the amendment which is before us today I would say that my words then were very true. I told the Minister on that occasion that he had not been very well advised. From my own experience on the goldfields I know this work has been carried on by men with long and lasting experience, so I support the amendment proposed in the Bill. However, I hope that next time when amendments to this Act are to be made, Mr. Stubbs and I will be consulted.

I desire to deal briefly with one particular amendment. I refer to the provision which will make it definite that a man can work underground for only seven and a half hours in any one day. My mind is taken back to the early 1930s when we had to work 44 hours per week. We worked five shifts of eight hours, and a Saturday shift of four hours. When conditions improved, and five shifts of

eight hours were worked, the men going underground were passing the men who were being relieved. This meant that the fumes and dust and smog had no chance of settling before the new shift took over. After much consideration, much debate, and much haggling, it was eventually decided that each day a shift of seven and one half hours would be worked per five-day week.

This situation was brought about because the Act states that firing is only allowed at the end of every shift. That meant there was a half-hour break between one shift knocking off and the next shift commencing work. I think that was an excellent idea and if the provision had only been brought in 30 years ago there would not be so much silicosis amongst the miners, and a lot of honest miners would not now be in the cemetery. I commend the Minister for introducing the legislation which made it compulsory to work only a seven-and-a-half hour shift underground.

Regulation 73 states that to ensure the safety and the good health of the workers employed in the mine the Minister can require that additional rises, winzes, chambers, drives or other workings, shall be constructed. I quite agree with the reference to rises and winzes, but for the life of me I cannot see where drives come into the provision. The drives are concerned with the ore body, and keep on going straight through. On the other hand, we have rises from one level to another and winzes to open the load, or for ventilation.

I would like the Minister to ascertain for me the definition of "rise." The definition of a rise, as I know it, is that one is only allowed to work a six-hour shift immediately one's head and shoulders go above the first cut, or the brow of the level. Only a few years ago there was some debate and some argument between the union and the management as to what constituted a rise.

A rise, as Mr. Stubbs and I know it, is about six feet by four feet or five feet by four feet. However, advantage of this provision was taken by some managements when putting up a rise for the purpose of scrapers, where the ore had to be scraped into the shutes. Those rises are at an angle of about 45 degrees and can go up for, say, 20 feet. They are usually 12 feet by six feet. The management considered that was stope rising at something like a dollar a foot. At that rate one could not make wages if one worked for 1,000 years. So, when replying, I would like the Minister to give me the definiton of a "rise."

Regulation 64 states that rises of more than 30 feet in height shall not be made in any mine unless the sanction of the district inspector of mines has been first obtained. The sanction shall be in writing and shall impose conditions under which the work shall be carried out, and may at any time be cancelled or altered by the district inspector at his discretion. In my long experience of mining, such rises have always been made under the jurisdiction of an inspector. The management of the mines has always had to receive the permission of the Chief Inspector of Mines even to start a rise, let alone make one over 30 feet in length. I do not know why it is necessary to include that provision in the Act. However, I agree with the provision so long as it is policed in the right manner. There is not much more I can say except to support the amendments, and I would like the Minister to reply to my queries.

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (North Metropolitan—Minister for Mines) [5.13 p.m.]: With the support which the Bill has received I think I can leave any explanations until the clauses of the Bill are discussed in Committee. I think that more satisfaction could be obtained if I followed that course, and also I think Mr. Garrigan would find that more satisfactory.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee

The Deputy Chairman of Committees (The Hon. J. M. Thomson) in the Chair; The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines) in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 to 5 put and passed.

Clause 6: Amendment to section 61—

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I am allowing these clauses to go through with the idea in mind that if members have any questions to raise, they will raise them on the appropriate clauses.

Clause put and passed.

Title put and passed.

Report

Bill reported, without amendment, and the report adopted.

Third Reading

Bill read a third time, on motion by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines), and transmitted to the Assembly.

EDUCATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL

In Committee

The Deputy Chairman of Committees (The Hon. F. D. Willmott) in the Chair; The Hon. L. A. Logan (Minister for Local Government) in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 to 4 put and passed.

Clause 5: Heading and section 21C added—

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Because of the proposed amendments to this clause, it will be necessary to amend it first of all by deleting the word "fourteen" and substituting the word "sixteen." This is in line with the amendment which Mr. Dolan has on the notice paper, and it is intended that two members shall be added to the board, one representing the teachers from independent schools, and another representing the union. I move an amendment—

Page 3, line 4—Delete the word "fourteen" and substitute the word "sixteen".

The Hon. J. DOLAN: I agree with the amendment because irrespective of what happens to the proposed subsequent amendments, the number required on the board will not be affected.

Amendment put and passed.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Mr. Dolan has placed an amendment on the notice paper with the intention of increasing the representation of teachers on the board from three to four. I have circulated an amendment to this effect; but with a condition. This came about as a result of a deputation by the Teachers Union to the Minister for Education yesterday morning. After a great deal of thought, the Minister for Education is prepared to accept the extra representation of the teachers on the board, subject to the condition that the fourth member shall be nominated by the Director-General of Education. The Bill originally provided for three teachers to be included on the board; two nominated by the director-general, and one by the union. This was subsequently altered so that the three teachers would be nominated by the union.

I think now that the Minister for Education has agreed to an extra teacher being included, that teacher ought to be nominated by the director-general. One of the main arguments is that an important part of the board's work will be the preparation of the syllabus for secondary education examinations, and it may be necessary for a teacher with certain academic qualifications to be included. I move an amendment—

Page 3, lines 11 to 13—Delete paragraph (b) and substitute the following:—

(b) four shall be teachers representing Government secondary schools, of whom three shall be nominated by the Union and one by the Director-General;

The Hon. J. DOLAN: I circulated an amendment to delete the word "three" and to substitute the word "four" with no strings attached; so that there would be four teachers representing Government secondary schools, nominated by the union. I would like to ask the Minister what was the reaction of the Teachers Union to this amendment. Was it prepared to accept it?

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: I am unable to answer the question because the Minister for Education did not answer the union at the deputation. After listening to the representatives of the union he told them he would think about the matter. After the representatives left he had further discussions and then agreed that this could be done with the condition that the extra teacher be nominated by the director-general.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: This places me in a peculiar position. I probably made the first move for an amendment of this nature; now I do not know whether to go along with the proposition or not.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: You will get the increased representation.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: Well, I will be big-hearted about it and agree with the proposition.

Amendment put and passed.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: The previous amendment came about because last week I had on the notice paper an amendment to alter from three to four the number of persons representing non-Government secondary schools. This prompted the Teachers Union to ask for its representation to be increased, too. I move an amendment—

Page 3, line 14—Delete the word "three" and substitute the word "four".

The Hon. J. DOLAN: I feel this proposition is a worthy one, and I express my support of it.

Amendment put and passed.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: I have an amendment on the notice paper concerning paragraph (f) of proposed subsection (3). My purpose is that one person shall be nominated by the Federation of Parents & Citizens' Associations. Two persons on the board are to represent the interests of the community, and I can think of no section of the community which displays more interest in a practical way than the members of the parents and citizens' associations. My proposal is not new; The Hon. A. F. Watts approved a recommendation by the then Director-General of Education in 1962 that the progress made in secondary education should be reviewed, and a committee of inquiry set up. The chairman was Dr. T. L. Robertson, and of the 12 members of the committee, two represented the Western Australian Federation of Parents & Citizens' Associations.

I do not suggest there is any member in this House who does not realise and appreciate the magnificent work done by

those people. I feel that a person nominated by the parents and citizens' associations would not have a dominating voice on the board, but that he would be able to present a welcome point of view. He would be only one of 19, and I feel this organisation deserves representation. I move an amendment—

> Page 3, line 26—Insert after the word "two" the passage "persons, one of whom shall be nominated by the Western Australian Federation of Parents and Citizens' Associations,".

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: At first glance this amendment may seem fair and reasonable but it is not as easy to implement as the honourable member thinks. There are other bodies associated with education which might also desire the same privilege. If we accept the amendment we will stultify any action that could be taken by the Minister to select from the community the two people most suitable for representation on this board.

There is no doubt that the parents and citizens' associations do a wonderful job, as do the parents and friends' associations. The Chamber of Manufactures and the Retail Traders Association are also indirectly associated with education, because when a child secures his Achievement Certificate he could possibly look for a job. I do not want to see the Minister's hands tied in regard to this matter, and accordingly I must oppose the amendment.

The Hon. J. M. THOMSON: I cannot agree to the amendment. The members of the board as set out in new subsection (3) of proposed new section 21C are closely associated with the educational side, which is most desirable. Like everybody else I acknowledge the work done by the parents and citizens' associations and the parents and friends' associations, but I can see no necessity for there to be representation from such associations, because it is possible they will not meet the necessary qualifications. I oppose the amendment.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: I cannot follow the honourable member's argument. In view of the fact that two members shall be persons representing the interests of the community in secondary education I feel that one of these two should be nominated by the parents and citizens' associations or the parents and friends' associations. Those who represent the interests of the community from a practical point of view should be represented on such a board. We should have representation from the parents and citizens' associations or the parents and friends' associations.

The Hon. F. R. H. LAVERY: I support the amendment. It is absolutely necessary for us to have representation from the parents and citizens' associations on the board proposed in the Bill. The parents and citizens' association at Applecross High School—which has not been formed for very long and the school has something like 100 teachers—has done wonderful work and is representative of people in the highest sectors of the Public Service. To say that a representative of such a parents and citizens' association is not a fit and proper person to be included as a member of the proposed board is a damning statement.

In the short time since its establishment the Applecross High School Parents and Citizens' Association, up to two years ago, had raised £500,000—not dollars—and had also provided the school with innumerable amenities.

The Hon. J. M. Thomson: Do you think it should be represented on the board?

The Hon. F. R. H. LAVERY: Yes. We propose to nominate to the board people who are connected with education but there is not one person suggested for membership of the board who can speak up on behalf of the parents or of the children who attend our secondary schools. The money these associations raise reduces enormously the cost to the Education Department. I am speaking on behalf of a group of people of whom Western Australia is rightly proud. To give another example of the work the parents and citizens' association at Applecross is doing, I would point out that it paid for the building of a swimming pool at the Applecross High School. These people are not from my political sphere, but they are doing wonderful work and to say they should not be represented on the board is just not in order.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: Who will be better qualified to be members of this board than those representing the interests of secondary education?

The Hon. J. M. Thomson: I support that.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: Then what are we objecting to?

The Hon. J. M. Thomson: I am objecting to the inclusion of specific parents and citizens' associations.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: We are debating an amendment which will provide representation from parents and citizens' associations.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: I do not know who would be better qualified to look after the interests of the people than the parents and citizens' associations. I know the work being done by these bodies, and their members would be eminently suitable to be on the proposed board.

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: I do not think there is any doubt that Mr. Jack Thomson has a great deal of respect for the parents and citizens' associations.

The Hon. F. R. H. Lavery: I did not say anything to the contrary.

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: I think the honourable member did; I think he made it plain that he was not going to have them spoken of disparagingly, but I do not think they were being spoken of in the manner he seemed to imagine. We all appreciate the work that is done by parents and citizens' associations throughout the State, and the Education Department would be loath to offend them because it would be battling without the assistance given by these associations. According to the provisions in the Bill there is nothing to stop a member of a parents and citizens' association being appointed to the board, but I do not agree that we should specifically have these associations named as such.

The Hon. J. Dolan: One association.

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: If, as time goes on, we find the parents and citizens' associations are a greater influence in the educational field than they are at the moment—and I doubt whether they could be—such a provision could be incorporated in the legislation.

The Hon. F. R. H. Lavery: I suggested why they should be included, can you suggest why they should not?

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: There is nothing to suggest that these associations cannot be included, even as the Bill stands at the moment.

The Hon. F. R. H. LAVERY: Can the Minister give us an idea of the type of person who will fill these positions.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: I thought I made it plain in my second reading speech that I had no knowledge of whom the Minister had in mind. He had not given any consideration to it at that stage because the Bill had not been passed by Parliament, and he did not inform me as to whom the persons might be. When Mr. Dolan put his amendment on the notice paper, the Minister for Education said he would like me to oppose it, because he wanted to be free to select the two most suitable people from the community. It is possible, of course, that one such person could be a representative of a parents and citizens' association, but I do not want to stifle any action that might be taken by the Minister.

The Hon. J. DOLAN: I feel sure anyone who has seen the latest publication by Wapet, in which is contained a most interesting article on secondary education, will agree that one representative of the board should come from industry, because it is vitally concerned with the employment of people from our secondary schools. The interest shown by Wapet—which can be seen from the magnificent article in its latest publication—surely establishes the business sector as another group from which a representative should be selected for the board. However I do not change my opinion. I believe one should be from the Federation of Parents and Citizens' Associations.

The Hon. J. M. THOMSON: I feel that the clause as it stands adequately covers the situation and I do not see any necessity to specify anything. The situation should be left to the discretion of those who are to make the appointments, and therefore I oppose the amendment.

The Hon. F. R. H. LAVERY: I am worried about the situation concerning the Minister for Education because of the type of propaganda used against him, his department, and the education system and all others concerned with it. I have sufficient faith in the Minister to know that if the decision is left to him he will make the right one; and I have said this to him personally. However, over the last 12 or 18 months the department has been running the Minister, unfortunately, instead of the Minister running the department.

The Hon. F. J. S. WISE: I had no intention of joining in this debate, but I am afraid that those who are opposing the amendment are not sufficiently realistic to be appreciative of the contribution made by parents and citizens' associations. Those close to the operations of the associations, whether they be connected with secondary or primary schools, would be able to say truthfully that the schools could not satisfactorily function in some departments were it not for the voluntary contributions made by the parents and citizens' associations. They make contributions for materials for visual education. Who runs the canteens in many high schools? One person is a paid servant of the department and the balance are voluntary labour from the association concerned.

The Hon. R. F. Hutchison: They do more than that, too!

The Hon. F. J. S. WISE: As a father of seven children—and one of these still attends high school—I know what contribution a family such as my own makes to education in this State, quite outside what is contributed by the Government. The members of the parents and citizens' associations not only do not seek the limelight, but they make in hard cash and in unpaid service a remarkable contribution to the education system of this State.

Under this amendment we would give the organisation an opportunity to express its point of view. I know it can be said that the two unspecified people may be members of the federation, but I think that the federation is worthy of particular mention; and therefore I strongly support the amendment.

Amendment put and a division taken with the following result:—

Ayes—7

Hon. J. Dolan	Hon. W. F. Willesee
Hon. J. J. Garrigan	Hon. F. J. S. Wise
Hon. R. F. Hutchison	Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs
Hon. F. R. H. Lavery	*(Teller)*

Noes—15

Hon. N. E. Baxter	Hon. N. McNeill
Hon. G. W. Berry	Hon. I. G. Medcalf
Hon. V. J. Ferry	Hon. T. O. Perry
Hon. A. F. Griffith	Hon. S. T. J. Thompson
Hon. Clive Griffiths	Hon. J. M. Thomson
Hon. E. C. House	Hon. F. R. White
Hon. L. A. Logan	Hon. G. E. D. Brand
Hon. G. C. MacKinnon	*(Teller)*

Pairs

Ayes	Noes
Hon. H. C. Strickland	Hon. C. R. Abbey
Hon. R. Thompson	Hon. J. G. Hislop
Hon. R. F. Claughton	Hon. J. Heitman

Amendment thus negatived.

Clause, as previously amended, put and passed.

Clause 6 put and passed.

Clause 7: Section 21E added—

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Because the number of the committee has been increased to 19, it will be necessary to increase the number of the quorum from 9 to 10. I therefore move an amendment—

Page 5, line 16—Delete the word "nine" and substitute the word "ten".

Amendment put and passed.

Clause, as amended, put and passed.

Clauses 8 to 11 put and passed.

Title put and passed.

Bill reported with amendments.

MANJIMUP CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES INDUSTRY AGREEMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 23rd October.

THE HON. V. J. FERRY (South-West) [5.55 p.m.]: I am delighted that the negotiations between the Government and the Shepparton Preserving Company Limited to establish a canned fruits and vegetables industry at Manjimup have been so successful, and the Bill to ratify the agreement between the Government and this company has my strong support.

I believe the establishment of this fruit and vegetable processing and canning industry at Manjimup will result in long-term benefits to the Manjimup region. This industry has come at a time when many agricultural industries are experiencing difficult conditions, and the assurance of a soundly based processing and canning industry in the south-west should provide stimulus and confidence for those people with properties suitable for intensive farming. The proposal will further consolidate the district and town of Manjimup.

Recently it was my pleasure to speak on a Bill concerning the establishment of another project envisaged for the Manjimup area, and I refer to the Wood Chipping Industry Agreement Bill. I am indeed pleased to find Manjimup is able to benefit from this further example of regional development, and I am very happy because this sort of diversity should assist the south-west section of the State in particular.

The industry envisaged in the Bill will assist not only the people on the land—and more so the small landowners in the south-west—but also the commercial houses, and the various services which will be provided in and around the town of Manjimup. I can visualise this town developing into a big regional centre over the years ahead. The establishment of a processing plant, as envisaged in the Bill, will ensure balance and depth of both primary and secondary interests in the lower south-west region.

The Manjimup region, as we know, has already a great diversity of industry and interests and for the record I will mention but a few of them. I have done this on other occasions, but the industries are worth repeating because they are part and parcel of the whole concept of regional development. The industries include timber, which, as we know, is the fourth most important primary industry in this State at present; dairying; beef cattle; and fruit and vegetable growing, the most important of the vegetables being potatoes. From this diversity of primary industries we are now moving to a more sophisticated form of secondary industry.

The population will increase as a result of this type of development, and this will further promote social and cultural interests and associated amenities for people not only of Manjimup, but also of the surrounding region; and this indeed will be a good thing because today people should be rewarded in their own areas of activity. By that I mean that they should be rewarded not only in a monetary sense, but also by the provision of services and amenities which are provided as a natural course of events for those in the metropolitan area.

This Bill to ratify an agreement for the augmenting of an agricultural industry, particularly in respect of the growing of peaches, must be gratifying to those peach growers in the south-west who have maintained faith in their industry. Over recent years the history of the endeavours of peach growers in the south-west has been one of a degree of frustration coupled with a certain amount of uncertainty. It is to the credit of the growers—that is, those who are still growing peaches—that they have persevered and persisted and have not lost faith in their ideals.

Admittedly, one or two growers in the south-west have in fact destroyed established peach trees. One orchard in particular was of quite a sizable acreage, and this orchard was destroyed approximately 12 months ago. I have no argument with the people who chose to destroy their trees because, in this free enterprise society, those associated with activities on the land should have the prerogative to do as they wish on their own properties.

The Hon. I. G. Medcalf: Free lack of enterprise.

The Hon. V. J. FERRY: However, I was rather horrified to find that this sort of thing was going on at the very time when there seemed to be some real chance at last of establishing a worth-while fruit and vegetable processing plant in Western Australia. Not only was there a real chance of establishing a processing plant in this State but, in fact, there was the great possibility of establishing this type of industry in the very heart of the growing area in the south-west of this State.

I would hesitate to guess what it has cost the present Government in financial assistance to nurture the peach canning industry over recent years. During that time fruit from the peach trees has been processed by arrangement in Perth—an arrangement entered into between the State Government and Plaistowes in the first instance and, more recently, an arrangement between the State Government and the Shepparton Preserving Company, which company is named in this Bill and will establish a permanent industry in the south-west.

Those were difficult years indeed. The fruit had to be transported from the growing areas to the metropolitan processing plant and when this type of commodity is transported it is not the same as transporting non perishable goods. For instance, it is not like transporting coal, wheat, bauxite, or any similar commodity. As we all know, peaches are a rather fragile fruit and with processing it is terribly important that the peaches be picked at the right time and in the right temperatures, where possible, and transported under the most careful conditions so that the fruit does not become damaged. It is in this atmosphere that the industry has gone along until the present moment when we see a real chance of a permanent canning industry being based in this State.

I repeat: I appreciate the action this Government has taken, and I know the growers in the south-west appreciate it, too, because it will assist them in what really is a precarious industry.

The history of the attempts to form a canning industry in this State is one of fluctuating fortunes. Attempts have been made in previous years to establish a fruit and vegetable canning industry here but, unfortunately, up to this time not one of them has succeeded. To my mind this emphasises the very difficult situation in which the processing companies find themselves. However, S.P.C., as the company is commonly known, are experienced and successful processors with all the knowledge so necessary to handle changing conditions both in field operations and in the competition on home and overseas markets.

I believe the company was first established in Victoria in the year 1918, and the conditions in that part of the State, particularly around Shepparton, were similar to the conditions prevailing at the present time in respect of the growing and marketing of peaches in our south-west. Arising out of those conditions this company was formed and over the years it has had its problems and its successes; it has prospered and flourished, and now it comes to Western Australia with a wealth of knowledge and a background of know-how to assist us in this State.

Sitting suspended from 6.8 to 7.30 p.m.

The Hon. V. J. FERRY: Prior to the tea suspension I was referring to the experience which S.P.C. has gained over the last 50-odd years in the processing of fruit and vegetables. I have been particularly impressed with the calibre of the directors of the company in this State. It has been my pleasure to be associated with the directors of the company in recent times. I gained the impression that these gentlemen have the welfare of the industry well and truly at heart. I am also particularly impressed with the calibre of their executive officers and technicians. The company appears to have an excellent blend of experienced officers and of young and very capable men, too. The average age of the company's young executives is, I believe, in the middle 30s. This blend of youth and experience augurs well for the successful establishment of the industry in this State.

This company is the only one which has shown interest in establishing itself in a country area of the State. I understand other canning firms have expressed some interest in this State, but S.P.C. is the only company that has made it its business to examine the possibilities of establishing a processing plant in the growing areas. The company has done this, of course, at Shepparton in Victoria, and it is following the same principle in Western Australia. I commend the company for this move.

I am very pleased that the Government has pursued to a successful conclusion the negotiations which will bring this type of industry to the south-west area of the State. I see it as a further determination

on the part of the Government to assist people in rural areas and today this is, indeed, a most worthy objective. Call it what one will—regional development or decentralisation—an attempt is being made to make use of the natural resources of the area.

The Shepparton Preserving Company executives were most impressed with the potential which exists in the south-west. A couple of weeks ago the executives visited the area to have a first-hand look. Some of them had been there before but, in the main, most of them had read or been told about it. On this inspection tour of the district the officers inspected the proposed site, the town itself, including the available amenities, and some of the orchards in the area.

When I say that the executives were most impressed with the potential, I am not referring only to the area around Manjimup but also to areas adjacent to the town. These included Donnybrook, south of Donnybrook, and places like Collie. The officers had some knowledge of those areas.

I have a product in my hand which I would like to feel members would advertise. It is a canned sample of one of S.P.C.'s products. I say quite unashamedly that I am proud to have it in my hand, because I believe the company will, in fact, do a great deal for Western Australia. I hope, too, that members will assist the company to promote its product.

In recent years in this Parliament we have become accustomed to ratifying agreements. Agreements in respect of iron ore projects, salt, alumina, wood chips, and so on have come before the Parliament. Indeed this is a very fine thing. However, perhaps we—and the public, too—have become a little blasé about this sort of development.

The Bill before the House ratifies an agreement for the fruit and vegetable processing industry. This has been no easy exercise. Only a few years ago the canned fruit industry was in great difficulties. In more recent times, however, some of the overseas marketing problems have resolved themselves and, consequently, S.P.C. has decided to expand its activities and encompass the benefits of the south-west. This has taken a great deal of negotiation and a great deal of encouragement. The company has come in, I believe, with tremendous faith that it will receive sufficient support to make the industry viable in the south-west, and, once again, I compliment the Government on the sort of encouragement it has given the company to establish the industry at Manjimup.

In speaking of the growing areas it is not unreasonable to suggest that other areas will ultimately benefit. I refer to such places as Collie, Donnybrook, Greenbushes, Bridgetown, Pemberton, Northcliffe, Denmark, and even the lower great southern area. I believe this area is capable of producing a tremendous amount of produce which is suitable for processing. I will touch on that aspect a little further in a moment when I refer to the type of production that will be required.

The lower great southern has the right type of soil and even in this particularly dry year there could be sufficient water to irrigate most areas which are capable of irrigation. I will speak further on water at this point, because reference is made in the Bill to the provision of sufficient water to meet the needs of the company. There is sufficient holding capacity in existing catchment areas and dams in the Manjimup district at the present time to service the immediate needs of the company. However, if, as we all hope, the company will expand to greater horizons there is a provision in the Bill whereby the company may give 48 months' notice to the State Government and the Government will be obliged to provide a tremendous amount of water for the needs of the company—as much as 150,000,000 gallons per annum.

Knowing the area as I do, and the research that has been undertaken by the Public Works Department over the past few years, I am quite confident that the requirements, as envisaged under the Bill will, indeed, be met. I have no doubts whatsoever. Although this year has been an exceptionally dry one, as I have said, there are adequate catchment areas and sufficient holding sites in the south-west region in the vicinity of Manjimup to ensure that sufficient water will be available for the industry and for other industries which, I believe, may be established as a result of this regional development.

This brings me to the point of having sufficient production in fruit and vegetables to ensure the complete success of the venture. Under the agreement the company is obliged to process 2,000 tons through the processing year of 1971. In the coming year—early 1970—processing will be done in Perth as it was last year. It will be carried out at the company's plant at West Perth under the supervision of technicians. However, in the year 1971 —which is not far off—the company will be obliged to establish itself in Manjimup with modern plant and equipment to cater for 2,000 tons of fruit and vegetables. I do not have the exact figures with me but I believe I am correct in saying that in the last canning season the company processed something in the order of 870 tons. This quantity was due to adverse conditions experienced in the growing areas, because the company had expected to process between 1,000 and 1,200 tons.

There will have to be an increase in the production of fruit and vegetables to make this a proposition.

Two years later—in 1973—the company will be obliged, under this agreement, to process not less than 5,000 tons of fruit and vegetables at its plant at Manjimup. In my opinion this will be a significant and rather tremendous increase. I consider the company has researched this proposition most thoroughly and is confident that it will be able to meet this stipulation.

In addition to the growing requirements for the project, one of the most important things will be for the growers to support the project wholeheartedly. I believe the whole success of the venture rests entirely on the growers themselves in the southern areas supporting it. If ever the growers have an opportunity to make this sort of proposition a thorough success, here it is. Not only will the growers have an opportunity but I envisage there will be a growing demand for factory staff and for farm workers.

This brings me to the point of markets. In addition to the home market, I understand there is an excellent opportunity for exporting products from this industry to Japan and other countries. S.P.C. itself is fully aware of this potential and I think I am correct in saying that the company is exploring every avenue possible to expand its overseas trade, and its efforts include Canada.

Under the provisions of the Bill it is envisaged that the Port of Fremantle will, in the main, be used for bringing in tinplate, sugar, and other raw materials. Also the finished product will be exported through the same port. I believe it is the company's intention to investigate the possibility of using Bunbury, which is nearer to Manjimup than Fremantle. I understand the company will work to this end, and I certainly hope this will be the case.

The Western Australian Government Railways is obliged to transport the tinplate and sugar to the factory from the port, and the finished product from the factory to the port. In the agreement the freight rate has been agreed upon between the company and the State. Apparently the rates satisfy both parties, and as the agreement has been negotiated I do not think I need comment on it any further, because it would seem, as I have said, that both parties are quite happy with it.

In view of the agreement recently entered into by the State and another company in relation to the wood chip industry to be established in the south-west, together with the establishment of this fruit and vegetable canning industry, the railways will be called upon to handle a great deal of traffic. Currently an upgrading of the system between Bunbury and a point just south of Manjimup is well under way. This is being conducted by the W.A.G.R. and, in total, it is costing $2,320,000. This amount, naturally, is being borne by the W.A.G.R. to assist projects such as the wood chip undertaking and the one which is the subject of this agreement and, in turn, this upgrading will, of course, benefit all other industries, including the timber industry and the potato industry, and will mean that the volume of transport will be considerably increased.

Although it may take some time, I envisage that, in the future, this particular line will be upgraded to standard gauge. There is no doubt that this is quite probable. I cannot see it occurring in the immediate future, but I believe the possibility exists and that eventually the area will be served by a standard gauge line.

To establish an industry such as this, electricity, of course, is a necessity. It is rather noteworthy, in my view, that the State Electricity Commission has performed an excellent job over the past few years in bringing electric power not only to the south-west but also to the great southern district, to that area east of the great southern, and so on.

To illustrate this I will quickly quote from the 1968 annual report of the State Electricity Commission of Western Australia, which indicates that the country system, including the south-west, had a revenue of $6,024,801, with an expenditure of $6,543,328, representing a loss of $518,527. Therefore the country system of the State Electricity Commission was running at a loss of about $500,000 for the 1968 financial year, and for the previous financial year. This loss has been offset by profits made from the metropolitan system so the country people receive some benefits by way of electric power being brought to their areas, not at cost, but at a figure below cost, and this I appreciate.

Throughout the country districts where the State Electricity Commission has successfully extended its power lines, the progress in development is evident, not only in industry but also in the benefits that are enjoyed by the people in their homes. In my view this has been an important factor in the progress of the south-west, particularly where there is closer settlement, and in this respect I appreciate the efforts of the State Electricity Commission.

Under the Bill, to some extent, there is provision for housing. Being the local authority affected, the Manjimup Shire Council has been called upon, and has agreed, to assist to meet the housing requirement.

The Hon. F. R. H. Lavery: In what way will the shire assist?

The Hon. V. J. FERRY: Perhaps I could answer that by reiterating what the Minister said when he introduced the Bill at the second reading stage. I quote—

> There is no obligation by the State to construct the houses. It is intended that the land, once it has been acquired, subdivided, and serviced, will be sold at cost to the local shire, which will then enter into an agreement with the company to build suitable homes for company employees. This has been agreed to by the local shire and is incorporated in the agreement, which specifies the rate at which houses will be built and the rate at which they will be acquired by the company. The houses will be for the technical staff, which the company cannot recruit locally.

Under the Bill houses are to be erected at a rate, as required by the company, up to a maximum of five each year, with a total of 15.

I am particularly pleased with the assistance being given to this company and the attitude of the Manjimup Shire Council to the project. I recall a previous occasion—it would now be over two years ago—when a similar situation occurred at Pemberton. It was desired that an additional house be provided for a married school teacher. It was my lot to suggest to the Manjimup Shire Council that it should provide such a house, and I had the assurance from the Minister for Education and the Government Employees' Housing Authority that the expenditure would be met by a self-supporting loan once the shire constructed the house for the teacher. Unfortunately the shire did not see fit to enter into the spirit of the venture and I was extremely disappointed, because I believed that had the house been erected it would have helped the town of Pemberton by having the services of a married school teacher instead of a single teacher. If this situation had been reached it would have helped not only the town, but also the whole scheme of things in the area. However, that is history.

I am very pleased, therefore, that the shire council has seen fit to render assistance by way of housing for this project. It will not cost the shire any money, because the housing will be financed by a self-supporting loan.

In the efforts that have been made over the years to establish this industry, I must pay tribute to all the organisations, committees, and individuals who have done everything possible to promote the idea of a fruit processing factory at Manjimup. Many people have interested themselves in an official and semi-official way over the years by encouraging the establishment of this type of industry. A few years ago an extensive survey was conducted among various landowners in the lower south-west asking them to what extent they would support this type of industry if it were established at Manjimup, and at that stage the response was quite overwhelming.

I trust that all those who indicated their support at that stage will confirm it now that the company has declared that it will establish this industry at Manjimup. I pay tribute to the real help rendered by departmental officers. It would be foolish for me to single out several of them, but of course those in the forefront of the negotiations have been some of the officers of the Department of Industrial Development. Therefore I pay tribute to the efforts of these dedicated men. I use the word "dedicated" advisedly, because I believe they are dedicated and it gives them joy to see success following on their efforts to bring about this type of regional development.

The price of land to be paid by the company has been negotiated between the company and the State, and if both parties are satisfied, and as I believe the price referred to in the agreement is reasonable, I have no cause to offer further comment.

One point that has been raised in the area—and it is quite natural that it should be raised—is the question of the disposal of the effluent from the processing plant. When the Minister in this House introduced the Bill he tabled a map showing the area to be set aside for the use of this company. It is some 380 acres. Not all this land will be made available to the company at the one time. It will be released progressively as the company keeps faith with its development of the area and, as the need arises, of phasing its establishment in stages. The Bill covers these contingencies.

I have personally inspected the area in question—380 acres—and I can assure the House that by having such an area available, and by the disposal methods to be employed by the company—I understand the company uses a spray system to irrigate the land and the effluent is dispersed in this manner—there will be very little risk of contamination of adjoining streams. The soil itself is of the quality and type that is capable of absorbing large quantities of water under irrigated conditions. The land is undulating but it has a loamy content and in my opinion there is very little danger of the effluent contaminating the surrounding country.

As a result of talking to the executives of the company, and learning of its experience in Shepparton in Victoria, I know it has overcome this problem and is expert at handling it. So I do not think we need worry about this particular matter.

The company is obliged to spend at least $500,000 to establish the processing plant. A lesser amount may be allowed, if the Minister is satisfied the company can satisfactorily establish the plant for

a lower figure. I referred earlier to the type of agreements that have come before this House by way of Bills and which have relation to other industries, and perhaps members may think that $500,000 does not seem very much. Nevertheless I suggest that this industry will do more for the Manjimup district than any other industry, apart from the timber industry. That is a sweeping statement, because there are many industries in that region. However, I believe that, over the years, the benefits from this industry will grow. If anyone has studied what has happened in Shepparton, it is quite apparent that the processing plant to be established at Manjimup will be large and capable of employing many people. This will, of course, lead to town and district growth which will, in turn, lead to the employment of many more people, and so this industry will be more important than any other industry except the timber industry.

As I said earlier, by blending the rural communities with the townsfolk, it will assist in cementing the district as a whole, and I believe that as a result it will be a better community throughout. I will conclude by reiterating that I believe the company, by this agreement, has set itself an extremely tight programme. It has a very tight schedule in which to obtain the right quantity and quality of fruit and vegetables for the processing plant. At present the peach production is very limited because there are relatively few orchards, and relatively few peach trees in the south-west area.

We should realise that it takes from five to seven years for a peach tree to start producing any worth-while quantity of fruit. With that knowledge it is apparent that under the provisions of the agreement the company will be searching the south-west area for the right type and the required quantity of fruit and vegetables to reach the target of 2,000 tons by 1971, and 5,000 tons as a minimum two years later.

I go back to the point that I have made: I believe the success of this venture will rest very largely on the attitude and the co-operation of the landowners in the south-west region. If the company succeeds in enlisting their support—as I believe it will—then the future of the company is assured. We know that from time to time problems arise between the growers on the one hand and the processers on the other. It is inevitable that from time to time there will be points that require discussion.

In my short association with the officers of this company I have learnt that its public relations are excellent; that the company liaises very closely with the producers; and that it has an excellent record in Shepparton, Victoria, of employer-employee relationship. This company is very jealous of its reputation in respect of its industrial co-operation, and I am very pleased, indeed, that this is the company which is proposing to come to Western Australia to establish itself right alongside the producers in the south-west.

In these days too often we find in the field of agriculture and industries—to use an expression—the growers out on a limb. The producers seem to be producing at all points of the compass, and in some cases they are obliged to market their products in a haphazard way.

I see a grand opportunity here for the producers and the company to make this venture work properly. I have much pleasure in supporting the second reading.

THE HON. F. R. H. LAVERY (South Metropolitan) [8.2 p.m.]: In rising to support the measure before us I want to make a few comments. I was very interested to hear the remarks of the previous speaker on what the future for the company might be. I am sure that all members in this House, as indeed all the people of this State, would wish this company well in this venture.

I want to go back a little and deal with the history of canning in Western Australia. In respect of certain things I am parochial, and I am always pleased to talk about Western Australian companies. The agreement in the Bill contains a few matters I wish to refer to; and one deals with transport.

Canning in Western Australia is not an industry of long years of maturity. Most of it was started in the latter half of the 1930s and onwards. Before that attempts had been made by companies like Rayners, which is well known in Western Australia for the canning of fig jam, to establish a canning industry.

The pursuits which have been carried on by the Plaistowe family in Western Australia deserve recording. We are all aware of the establishment of a confectionery industry by this family, of the production of oil from eucalypts through one of its subsidiary companies, and of its other pursuits.

When this Bill was introduced I took it upon myself to call upon the Plaistowes people, and I have obtained some very interesting information from them. Among the points that were raised, they informed me that they are delighted that the Government has seen fit to make it possible for the very efficient and progressive Shepparton company to be established in Western Australia. The Plaistowes company has had an association with the

Shepparton company over a long number of years, and it feels that Western Australia will be a much better place with the coming of the Shepparton company.

The part played by Plaistowes in the canning industry commenced in 1931 to 1933. It started with the processing of tomatoes from the Wanneroo district, and gherkins from various areas. Thus a small vegetable processing industry was in existence in 1939 when the company took on the processing of vegetables for the armed services, and it then curtailed its activities in the manufacture of confectionery to concentrate on canned and dehydrated vegetables. At about that time the Plaistowe family lost one of its members who had joined the armed services.

In 1942 Plaistowes commenced the construction of new buildings to house a complete, modern processing plant, and gradually developed fruit canning after a period of years of research into methods and economic possibilities. I think a gentleman by the name of Barnett, who is well known to Mr. Wise, was the adviser to the company for the establishment of a peach canning industry.

In 1953 Plaistowes began trial plantings of about seven varieties of peaches. These were narrowed down to three varieties, and then to one variety—the Golden Queen, which was chosen for its yield and high quality. This variety provided a final product of excellent appearance and flavour. A nursery stock of Golden Queen trees was built up and offered to the growers at cost. Plantings increased annually.

In 1963 Plaistowes and the canning committee of the Fruit Growers' Association agreed on acreage targets which over the years to 1966 formed the basis on which it is possible for a cannery to operate today. The high capital investment requirement to carry a fruit canning industry was found to be beyond the resources of a Western Australian based company, the immediate market of which was 8 per cent. of the national market. This meant a freight disadvantage on all fruit sent out of the State, and would inhibit the growth of the industry. In respect of transport, the cost of transporting a tin of pears over the trans.-line is about 2c.

Plaistowes had negotiations with a large Victorian company in the 1963 period, so that the work of nearly 20 years in establishing orchards would not be lost. That Victorian company was the Shepparton company. Plaistowes, in fact, continued to process peaches in its factory at West Perth.

It is as a result of the foundation work undertaken by Plaistowes that today it is possible for a company with sufficient capital to install modern plant, and with established national and overseas markets to take over and start with an assured supply of fruit.

When Mr. Ferry spoke in the debate he went to great lengths to tell us what the Shepparton company was capable of achieving, and what the agreement contained in the Bill meant. This project has been brought about in part by the efforts of Plaistowes in its early development of a small industry in Western Australia; and of this the company is very proud. The industry is able to be expanded as a result of the experience and the scientific knowledge gained through the research work that has been undertaken by Plaistowes. However, finance of the magnitude to establish an industry, on the scale envisaged by the Shepparton company, was beyond the resources of Plaistowes.

It is interesting to record that around 1942-43 a member of the Plaistowe family was discharged from the armed services to enable him to advise on and establish peach growing in the south-west, in association with the canning committee of the Fruit Growers' Association. The peach production target of 200 tons was to be reached within five years of the planting of the trees, and this was a very big undertaking at the time. Today we hear of the production of 5,000 tons, and that illustrates the importance of the early planning and the scientific research that was carried out in establishing a fruit-growing industry in Western Australia.

This encouragement of growers is part of a carefully formulated plan drawn up years ago by Plaistowes, a totally Western Australian firm. After deciding to tackle fruit canning for the first time, the firm's representatives started their investigations 10 years ago. There were a number of questions to be answered before they could contemplate canvassing orchardists. These were—

What was the market potential?

Was there any possibility of export?

Could this State produce fruit of the right quality?

If so, what varieties would be best suited to our conditions?

Out of this set-up came Mr. A. R. Kelly and his sons, who were fruitgrowers. They started from barren land with the aid of the Department of Agriculture. They found that they were able to produce a very good fruit of reasonable quality for the Western Australian market.

So far as an economic market is concerned, to establish a canning factory on anything near the scale of the present proposal, it has to be borne in mind that the Shepparton company will have to look forward to a market of 2,000,000 cases per annum. At this time the potential market in Australia is the thought of possible

contracts for 1,000,000 cases with Woolworths, and 100,000 cases with Toms, Freecorns, and Charlie Carters combined. There the matter rests. Plaistowes felt that this market should not be lost and that it should find an organisation which would be prepared to come to Western Australia to carry on from there. So, the coming of the Shepparton company has been a tribute not only to the Government, as a result of the agreement it has made, but also to the early pioneering work undertaken by the Plaistowes company. For those reasons I think it is worthy that the history behind an event such as this should be recorded for posterity.

There are one or two points in respect of transport which I wish to raise. I feel that the Shepparton company should, at some time early in its establishment, receive a concessional freight rate from the railways.

It has already been mentioned that goods will be carted from Manjimup to Bunbury, and also from Perth to Manjimup, and this brings me to the system which operated in the railways a few years ago, when empty returns were charged cheaper freight rates.

It is understood that the goods required by the company are mainly tinplate and sugar—mostly imported. Therefore, the contract contained in the schedule to the Bill is fairly reasonable at the present time. The freight from Manjimup to Perth will be $5.70 per ton, and from Manjimup to Bunbury the rate will be $4.15. There seems to be a disparity when comparing the mileages, and I feel the company has not been overgenerously treated, at least for the first five years of its proposed existence.

I have some letters which I would like to have recorded because they are important. Ever since I have been a member of Parliament I have made it my business to consult the trade unions on various matters. So far as the trade unions are concerned I am a great believer in conciliation, and if, early in the negotiations, we can arrive at a position where good public relations exist, a number of problems which could arise from time to time could possibly be settled without recourse to the closing down of plant by strikes. However, as long as I live, I will always defend the right of the worker to strike finally. With those thoughts in mind, I had a discussion with the Food Preservers' Union of Western Australia. As a result of that discussion I received the following letter:—

> Further to our telephone conversation yesterday I enclose for your information copies of correspondence between the Shepparton Preserving Company and this union.
>
> The following is a summary of the dealings this union has had with the Shepparton Preserving Company. They first started operating in W.A. from premises formerly occupied by Plaican Pty. Ltd. in February of this year. On that occasion they employed some forty female and ten male employees for a period of three weeks on a permanent contract basis. I objected to this type of contract and claimed that the workers should be employed as casual workers and receive the 15% loading provided for in the award. The company refused to consent to this and I took the matter before the Industrial Commission for interpretation. Commissioner Flanagan ruled that the company was entitled to employ the workers on a permanent contract basis as the definition of casual workers in the award simply stated "A casual worker is one who is engaged and paid as such." In view of this ruling I applied to amend the award in respect to the definition of casual worker. After discussions with the Employers' Federation, acting on behalf of the Shepparton Preserving Company, agreement was reached on an appropriate definition and an undertaking given on behalf of the company on the future employment of labour. The award was amended incorporating the agreed definition on the 30th September. Prior to the amendment of the award I had private discussions with a Mr. Morrish of the Shepparton Preserving Company. During these discussions Mr. Morrish assured me of the company's full co-operation including wage deduction of union fees on receipt of a signed order from their employees. He further assured me that it was the practice of the company to ensure that their employees were members of their appropriate union. I assured him of the union's full co-operation as I fully realised the advantages of such an industry being established in the South-West. These discussions were followed by an exchange of letters the copies of which are enclosed.
>
> From the union's point of view we are happy that such an industry is to be set up in the Manjimup area and provided the undertakings given by the company are adhered to we will give all possible co-operation to help the company in their operations.

The next letter is dated the 19th September, and is from the union to the company. It reads as follows:—

> Referring to my conversation with your Mr. Morrish today I wish to thank you for the opportunity for such a frank exchange of views and assure you of this union's full co-operation. The benefits accruing from your company's proposed extension of operations into Western Australia is fully appreciated and this union will work

in close co-operation with your company should the current negotiations be successfully concluded.

Finally, another letter dated the 24th September, from the company, reads as follows:—

Thank you for your letter dated 19th September, 1969 indicating your intention to work in close co-operation with S.P.C. should the current negotiations with the Western Australian Government be concluded successfully.

You will be aware from press comments that negotiations are in a final and critical stage and I expect to be back in Western Australia towards the end of October 1969 when some form of announcement will be made.

We wish to assure you and your union that our company endeavours at all times to establish mutually happy relationships with all of its employees and this policy would be continued should we commence full scale operations in Western Australia.

I look forward to meeting you personally when I am next in the West.

I am having a little difficulty in hearing myself speak.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. F. R. H. LAVERY: When the Minister introduced this measure he stated that the work force for the industry would be drawn mainly from the local region, and would comprise people who work on the orchards and farms during the season, as well as town people—including womenfolk. It was because of those remarks by the Minister that I investigated the matter. I am very happy, and I am sure that all members are happy with the contents of the letters between the company and the union, and the co-operation they hope to extend to each other. I am sure that you, Mr. President, will also hope that co-operation will continue for a long time.

When Mr. Ferry was speaking I did not hear him mention the timber industry for which his area is well known. I refer to the use of timber in the manufacture of fruit cases. I do not know whether the company will be interested in timber fruit cases as against the use of cardboard containers.

It was also suggested that in the expansion of its activities the company might can mushrooms which are imported in quantity. Beetroot and other vegetables of that type have also been mentioned.

The establishment of this industry at Manjimup will compensate for the loss of the tobacco industry to that area. The tobacco industry meant a great deal to the people of the district, and also to the State. I believe that many other matters could be raised at a time like this. Mr. Plaistowe told me of the situation which exists at Shepparton. Although I have not been there, any member who has been to the Shepparton works would know what I am talking about. However, Mr. Plaistowe told me that the works actually cover an area of something like 200 acres, all of which is roofed. The works are so highly mechanised that 50 machines are operating in banks, each bank handling peaches, apples, pears, and other fruits and vegetables. Each one of those machines cost in the vicinity of $30,000. That gives some idea of the tremendous capital involved, and how much will be required for the industry in this State.

On behalf of the members from this side of the Chamber I wish the company well. I hope the people of Manjimup will not have any troubles such as we have had with some industries with regard to the disposal of effluent. I support the Bill.

THE HON. F. D. WILLMOTT (South-West) [8.26 p.m.]: It is not my desire to delay the House for very long in speaking to this Bill as my colleague (Mr. Ferry) has dealt with it fully. However, I would like to make a few comments. Mr. Ferry has pointed out that there will need to be a vast increase in the supply of produce for the factory if it is to reach the target visualised.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: The company ought to be planning now.

The Hon. F. D. WILLMOTT: The company has been planning and, of course, there are other areas from which it can draw some produce. For example, it can draw peaches from areas such as Bridgetown. There are a number of varieties of pears such as the Bartlett, which are good for canning. The Bartlett pear is of no use for export, and it has been very difficult to find a market for this variety over the past few years. I feel that a great quantity of Barlett pears will very shortly be going to the canning factory.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: The factory will be a godsend to Bridgetown.

The Hon. F. D. WILLMOTT: Of course, some vegetables are already growing in the area which proves that they can be grown successfully, in quantity, at Manjimup and Pemberton. Peas are grown there now, and the crops have been very successful. Vegetable growing will extend greatly and a type of intense culture will be carried out.

I think a point has to be brought home to many people who have criticised all Governments since, I suppose, 1920, for the policy of preserving our vast forests in the south-west. We will now reap the

benefits of that policy because in the preservation of those forests the purity of the water for irrigation was also preserved. It is very necessary that the water be pure for growing the type of vegetables envisaged using intense culture methods.

As an instance of the effect of denuding areas which formerly carried forests I mention the Blackwood. It is very interesting that in the Blackwood River area, at Bridgetown, where there are considerable areas of cleared country, the salt content of the Blackwood River is in excess of 300 grains. However, only 20 miles away—as the crow flies—at Nannup, west of Bridgetown, the salt content drops to something under 200 grains. In fact, the salt content is over 100 grains less at Nannup than at Bridgetown.

That could only be due to the forest areas which lie along the Blackwood River between Bridgetown and Nannup. I believe there is no other reason for it, and this is why I say that I think the actions of the various Governments which have been insistent on jealously preserving our forest areas will now be vindicated, and many of the people who criticised in the past will come to realise that by this policy we have preserved more than just the timber.

A short while ago I asked some questions in this House regarding experiments with trickle irrigation along the Blackwood River. Part of the Minister's reply to my questions informed me that the experiments were to be carried out at Bridgetown on one acre of apples. I made it my business to go down there this morning and discuss this matter with an officer of the irrigation division of the Department of Agriculture to try to persuade the department to carry out some experiments with this type of irrigation on peach trees also. I did this because I know the area where the experiment is proposed to be carried out; it is only some two and a half acres in all and peaches and pears and various other fruits are growing there, too. The department visualised that the experiment would be carried out only on the apple trees.

I hope I have been able to persuade the powers that be at least to include peach trees in the experiment. The reason I say that is that we have already proved by experiments in an area in Bridgetown that some fruits will stand quite a high degree of salt. We know that pears will take 300 grains, but we do not know whether apples would stand up to it, although it is hoped that they will under the trickle irrigation system; and I believe this will be so. However, whether this will apply to peaches will be another matter because peach trees are shallow-rooted—their roots are close to the surface—and I understand that with trickle irrigation, which is a drift or trickle of water around the tree, the salt content in the water tends to spread out to the perimeter of the tree.

The roots of many varieties of trees tend to go down rather than spread out, to get away from the salt. Whether this will happen in the case of peach trees is yet to be proved, and that is why I hope the department will reconsider its proposals and include peach trees at least. I hope it also includes in the experiment other varieties which are in the same area. All that is necessary is for the department to use a slightly different part of the two and a half acres in which it is proposed to carry out the irrigation experiment. I sincerely hope that my discussion this morning will be successful for the reasons I have mentioned.

I think there is only one other matter I want to mention and that is that the area where this factory is to be built is largely disease-free. One of the worst pests so far as the canning of peaches, apricots, and other stone fruits is concerned is the fruit fly. Many outbreaks of fruit fly have occurred in this area, but thanks to very stringent control methods applied by our Department of Agriculture, the pest has always been wiped out. I hope the department will continue with its stringent control of fruit coming into the area so that in the future there will be even less chance than there is now of the threat of fruit fly. With the advent of more and more of this type of fruit being grown the area will be more attractive to the fruit fly.

Fruit fly will do more harm in the future than has been the case in the past, because the growth of stone fruit in this area has been reasonably limited; and as a rule it is in stone fruit that the fruit fly gets its initial hold. I hope that in the future this part of the State will be watched strictly to keep this pest out.

I wish to express my great happiness at the success of the negotiations for the establishment of the factory in this area. We know the district has had rather a rough ride with negotiations, and at one stage it looked as though it might be 12 months before success was achieved. We now have that "success" and I hope that the people in the area will back the company by getting in smartly and expanding their production, because I sincerely believe that the company will handle whatever can be produced for quite some time to come. With those few remarks I support the Bill.

THE HON. E. C. HOUSE (South) [8.36 p.m.]: I think all members are pleased to see new industries established in this State, particularly industries which are established in country centres thus bringing about a certain amount of decentralisation. We are pleased also because

this industry is to be placed right in the centre of the fruit-growing areas and will, no doubt, as Mr. Ferry said, be a great asset to the Manjimup district. I think one must also consider the fruit which may be taken from other centres such as Mt. Barker, Kendenup, and Albany, which have proved in the past to be capable of growing prime fruit. However, those areas, like some of the other orchard centres in the State, have started to deteriorate because of economic circumstances brought about mainly as a result of the terrific waste which takes place in the fruit industry.

In these modern days, because such a high standard is set for the quality of fruit that is to be exported, combined with the short period of harvest and the variations of climate, there is a colossal waste in the fruit industry. This measure will obviate a lot of that wastage by creating more or less a sideline within the industry which has in the past been directed mainly at exporting.

We know that it is a distinct advantage to grow our own fruit, because it is fairly costly, in view of freight and so on, to import it, and we will also have a distinct advantage from the point of view of labour. In these modern days of farming it is necessary to diversify as much as possible, and we find that a number of people engaged in the production of fat lambs, beef, wheat, and so on, are having to turn to other industries; and it might be possible for orchards to spring up in the areas concerned which may be a very economical proposition.

It is remarkable to see the extent of the forest plantations in the area, and one wonders just how far we will go and how much land will be left for fruit growing. The pioneers did a remarkable job in the old days in clearing all this land, and now it is being replanted. This applies to a good deal of the orchard areas. However, I must not get away from the subject matter of the Bill, Mr. President, because I can see you looking very hard at me.

The Hon. F. R. H. Lavery: He didn't say a word.

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: There is no doubt that this measure will create an opportunity to expand the fruit-growing industry, not only in the Manjimup area but also in the areas of Kendenup, Albany, and Mt. Barker; and it will provide a great boost to many parts of the State. I support the Bill.

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (North Metropolitan—Minister for Mines) [8.40 p.m.]: I acknowledge with thanks and appreciation the remarks which have been made by the members who have spoken to this Bill. No points have been raised on which I need to comment, and therefore I do not propose to waste the time of the House by expanding further in reply to the debate—I will merely reiterate my thanks for the support the Bill has received. My second reading speech contained considerable detail, and I see no purpose for delaying the passage of the measure.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee

The Chairman of Committees (The Hon. N. E. Baxter) in the Chair; The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines) in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 to 3 put and passed.

Schedule—

The Hon. V. J. FERRY: I wish to refer to clause 13 of the schedule. Under this clause the Government protects S.P.C. from any competition which may be established within a 50-mile radius of Manjimup for the period of the next 10 years. The company is protected inasmuch as the Government may not assist any other company to establish a similar sort of industry in the area during that period. I believe this is an adequate provision and a very just one, because if we wish this industry to succeed surely we must give it every encouragement and protection.

I wish to refer also to clause 14 of the schedule which deals with future expansion. My colleague (Mr. Willmott) referred to the Manjimup area as being disease-free. A couple of weeks ago I was in the area in the company of the executive and members of the board of the Shepparton Preserving Company, and those people were truly amazed and delighted at the lack of disease. They mentioned two or three diseases by name—I cannot recall them now—and the fruitgrowers of the district looked at them wide-eyed and open-mouthed because they had never even heard of the diseases. However they exist in the Eastern States.

This disease-free area places the company and the growers in a handsome position to meet competition, because the growers' costs are lessened if they do not have to combat this hazard. So I just mention that any future expansion of the company under clause 14 would be to the advantage of the vegetable and fruit-growing industries.

The Hon. F. R. H. LAVERY: I would like to say a few words on clause 22 of the schedule and, like Mr. Willmott, I wish to speak on pest control. Not so many years ago the South Australian canning industry was nearly lost because diseases associated with fruit fly had got completely out of control. Because of the magnitude of the company's intended project, and the fact that by the year 2000 we expect our population to have doubled, I feel it is opportune to draw attention to the fact that although there are many groups of fruit

fly committees doing a wonderful job in the State I think the stage has been reached where consideration should be given to establishing a State-wide body to control fruit fly.

While clause 22 binds the company, I think the company is entitled to an assurance that a sincere attempt will be made to control fruit fly and other pests on a State-wide basis rather than by the operation of small groups. I appreciate the fact that the company would carry out its own control measures to ensure that it is not receiving contaminated fruit.

I think members also know that there are many countries that will not import fruit—tinned or otherwise—from countries which are affected by fruit fly.

When I was in Penang recently I witnessed a spectacle of tinned peaches which arrived from Canada and Australia being snapped up almost before they reached the shelves. But the people concerned would not buy Australian pears and apricots.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Under an agreement of this nature it would be impracticable for the State to accept the obligation to protect the company against fruit fly infestation. There are many checkpoints in areas throughout the State and whether one arrives by air, by boat, or by any other means of transport, one is subjected to various checks at certain checkpoints, with particular reference to any fruit that is being carried.

It does not matter how careful the authorities are, however, there will always be the odd person who finds a pride in bringing fruit into the country without being detected. This is a regrettable state of affairs. It achieves nothing for the person concerned—apart from a degree of satisfaction—but it could cause a great deal of damage. The Department of Agriculture keeps a close check on these things and, as Mr. Lavery knows, various parts of the country are proclaimed as prohibited areas and there are also special areas where inspectors check for fruit which might be brought in to prevent the spread of fruit fly.

It is, however, certainly the responsibility of the public to realise that a great deal of damage can be done by transporting affected fruit to areas which are now free from fruit fly infestation.

The Hon. S. T. J. THOMPSON: I feel that the industry concerned will have to accept as part of its business the control of fruit fly by spraying. We have proved in the country areas that fruit fly can be controlled by systematic spraying, but this must be done regularly.

Schedule put and passed.

Title put and passed.

Report

Bill reported, without amendment, and the report adopted.

Third Reading

Bill read a third time, on motion by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines), and passed.

BILLS (2): RECEIPT AND FIRST READING

1. Land Tax Assessment Act Amendment Bill.

2. Land Tax Act Amendment Bill.

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

STATE FORESTS

Revocation of Dedication: Assembly's Resolution

Debate resumed, from the 21st October, on the following motion by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines):—

> That the proposal for the partial revocation of State Forests Nos. 7, 14, 16 and 51 be carried out.

THE HON. W. F. WILLESEE (North-East Metropolitan—Leader of the Opposition) [8.55 p.m.]: Consequent upon the introduction of this motion by the Minister I discussed the matter with Mr. Willmott and Mr. Ferry on the basis of their being the accredited experts on forestry. These members had nothing to say against the proposed motion; in fact they were in full support of it.

Having followed the passage of the motion in another place I see it was introduced by the Minister for Forests; the debate was continued immediately by an ex Minister for Forests, and the motion was supported in its entirety.

Accordingly, having read the motion moved by the Minister for Mines—that the proposal for the partial revocation of State Forests Nos. 7, 14, 16, and 51 be carried out—I can only say: Why not?

THE HON. V. J. FERRY (South-West) [8.56 p.m.]: This is a relatively simple motion which I support. I thank Mr. Willesee for his generous comments concerning my personal interest in forestry matters. I believe the State does not relinquish forests lightly and it rests with Parliament to scrutinise the validity of any revocation motion.

As Mr. Willesee has said, the matter has been thoroughly examined and, like him, I can see nothing wrong with the proposals. Today, however, when we are trying to establish industries in Western Australia—and I refer particularly to timber industries—it is probably right that we

should look more closely at any revocation that is sought. On the face of it our 2,000,000 acres of timber reserves and about 4,500,000 acres of State forest might seem a great deal of land for timber requirements but these could in the future prove to be quite inadequate. It is therefore necessary for Parliament to examine these matters very closely and, this having been done, I support the motion.

THE HON. N. McNEILL (Lower West) [8.58 p.m.]: I wish to support the motion and I do so for the particular reason that I had some interest in at least two of the areas it is proposed to alienate from State forests. The first one referred to is area No. 2 for the partial revocation of State forest No. 14 in respect of Murray Location 1377. I say I had a personal interest because until quite recently this happened to be portion of my own property.

I make this reference because the present owner has seen the desirability of squaring off a particular boundary to take in this small area of some two acres of State forest. This was purely an exercise between the departmental officers and the present property owner.

Some reference was made during the introduction of the motion that this would include a tramway, and since it might be asked what a tramway is doing in that part of the Western Australian forest, let me explain the historical significance. This was a loading point for the tramway or the log hauling train which was in operation in these areas. Some 60 or 70 years ago it served a mill named Waterous Mill, which has not been in operation for a great many years.

This figured very prominently in the early history of the timber industry in that part of the south-west, and the area described in this proposal is simply that portion of the tramway which served that part of State forest No. 14. It is rather remarkable that in the course of the survey this little tramway, extending over a few chains, should have been surveyed out of a property; but this was the situation, and it is quite reasonable, of course, that as the tramway serves no useful purpose in its capacity, but was a fireline for the purpose of fire control, the boundary should now be straightened and the portion of the tramway included in the balance of Murray location 1377.

The other area to which I would like to refer is that described as area No. 4 and the exchange of a piece of land in the Harvey area. I have an interest in this because representations were made by a local organisation—namely, the Harvey Golf Club—for an exchange of an area, referred to in this motion, for the existing golf club land in the Harvey district. I am sure this will be of interest to members because the area will be well known to them as the very attractive approach to the Harvey district on the left-hand side of the South Western Highway, hitherto the golf club and course for the district, but at the same time a very attractive area.

However, it has not the capacity for the development which is desired in an area and district of this sort, developing the way it is, and so the local organisation endeavoured to obtain the sanction of the department and Parliament for the release and exchange of a more suitable area situated between the town of Harvey and the now completed Old Coast Road. The department co-operated and was prepared to see the value in an exchange of an equal area of some 146 acres, so I must recognise the co-operation between the local community, which includes the golf club and the shire, and the Forests Department. More particularly I would like to compliment the Minister for Forests who took a personal interest in the endeavours being made and facilitated, I believe, the exchange which resulted in portion of the motion before the House.

While I agree with Mr. Ferry that there is a need for Parliament to protect the interests of the State, I also believe that when it is necessary or desirable for some revocation to be made to suit local purposes and interests, Parliament should be prepared to give its support and co-operation, in order that the revocation might be made without detriment to our own asset; namely, the Western Australian State forest.

With those words, I support the motion.

THE HON. J. M. THOMSON (South) [9.4 p.m.]: I rise to support this motion, of course, but in doing so I take the opportunity to express my disappointment that it does not include the revocation of an area of State forest within the Plantagenet location. I presume I am permitted to do that.

The proposals contained in the motion before the House are the result of the activities of the tribunal dealing with Crown land. No doubt the members of the tribunal have made inspections of the area in Plantagenet, which is west of Redmond and Narrikup, with the idea, I hope, of making recommendations to the Minister that the millable timber be removed at an early date so that the land can be thrown open to the adjoining landholders who are desirous of increasing their present farming lands. I therefore hope that in the near future the Minister for Forests might see fit to introduce another motion to deal with the area to which I have referred, and about which I made representations to him prior to the introduction of this motion.

I trust the Minister here will convey my hopeful remarks concerning the removal of millable timber from the area in question, in order that it might be thrown open.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You get away with anything!

The Hon. J. M. THOMSON: Do I?

The Hon. L. A. Logan: You carry on!

The Hon. J. M. THOMSON: Having made my comments to the motion, I have much pleasure in supporting it.

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (North Metropolitan—Minister for Mines) [9.7 p.m.]: I am grateful for the support members have given to the partial revocation of State forests Nos. 7, 14, 16, and 51, which apparently did not include the area to which Mr. Jack Thomson referred. However, I am sure he is grateful to you, Sir, for the license you permitted him.

Question put and passed, and a message accordingly returned to the Assembly.

LAND ACT AMENDMENT BILL (No. 3)

Receipt and First Reading

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

MARKETING OF CYPRUS BARREL MEDIC SEED BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 21st October.

THE HON. E. C. HOUSE (South) [9.9 p.m.]: At the time I adjourned the debate on this Bill it was considered I should not have done so and that the Bill should have that evening been proceeded with and finalised. However, to prove that it is quite valuable at times to do that sort of thing, I would point out that it was only the next day that the president of the small seeds section of the Farmers' Union was in this building and spoke to quite a number of members from all parties concerning their thoughts on the Bill. He was virtually unaware of the move being made and the full import of the measure.

When we look at this Bill we realise that it concerns only 36 growers who are part of only one section dealing with the production of clover. The legislation is called the Marketing of Cyprus Barrel Medic Seed Bill, which is difficult to understand when the whole clover harvest and its marketing is taken into consideration, because the whole harvest covers a rather wide area of the State and also includes many different varieties of seed.

However, as with all industries, it is difficult to persuade the growers in this one to agree on various points, and particularly on orderly marketing. No matter what the industry, a great deal of difficulty is involved in obtaining unanimous agreement on orderly marketing and the controls which it entails.

It will be noticed that this Bill incorporates all the provisions usually found in a measure involved with orderly marketing, and it gives the full range of powers.

I would have preferred this Bill to be called the marketing of medic seed Bill rather than the Marketing of Cyprus Barrel Medic Seed Bill, because in this day and age, with so much advancement in all fields, and in the clover field in particular, new varieties are being discovered all the time. The University has a fine team of experts which is continually improving on and experimenting with the various types so that no sooner do we have one clover than it is superseded by a better variety, whether in the medic or subterranean field.

This has already happened in regard to the cyprus barrel medic which no doubt was a winner and was proved to be beyond doubt an excellent clover. However, the new one just coming on to the market—tornafield—could have a wider field of adaptation and be even more popular than the cyprus barrel medic —do what the cyprus barrel medic does, but do it just that much better. It is also capable of being used on a wider variety of soils with a much stronger bacteria content which allows it to last that much longer.

Therefore in some ways we can sympathise with the cyprus barrel medic seed growers in what they have done; that is, to ask for orderly marketing. However, this Bill does provide for only one small section of the small seeds industry and we could wonder whether this is very wise at this stage, because the growers could go to a great deal of trouble and expense and then an outside group could come in, which could virtually do what it liked because it would not come under this legislation which restricts itself to the cyprus barrel medic seed. There are so many cyprus varieties and many more improved varieties being established, without going into the small seeds industry as a whole.

No doubt we must appreciate the value of this industry to the State, and I believe it is a good thing that orderly marketing is to be introduced because there are so many untapped markets at the moment which could be exploited, especially in the other States and possibly, even, overseas. This is, therefore, an industry which could grow without being faced with many of the hazards of price fluctuation which occur when orderly marketing does not exist.

Mr. Wise mentioned the tonnage produced over various years, and from those figures the fluctuations can be realised. I think much of this was brought about by the fact that a good price was obtainable one year, and the next year it would fall back below a profitable level, which would discourage people from harvesting, and, therefore, the quantity produced fell short of the amount the State required to fulfil its needs.

I question the advisability of calling this legislation the Marketing of Cyprus Barrel Medic Seed Bill. I would much rather see it referred to as the medic clover Bill. If this were done the growers of other types of clover could be brought under its provisions, whereas at the moment it is restricted to growers of cyprus barrel medic seed. I believe the small seed producers would welcome the provisions of the Bill being extended to cover all the other types of seed now that something along these lines has started.

To deal with the Bill itself, there are two provisions about which I am not particularly happy and I refer firstly to clause 29 on page 14, under which a person authorised by the board may at any time enter and search any place, premises, or vessel where any seed is or is suspected to be, and may inspect any stocks of seed and accounts, books, and documents relating to seed. If the legislation is to be restricted to cyprus barrel medic seed growers only, then I do not believe a person authorised by the board should have the right to inspect on suspicion that any seed is held at some place. I believe the words "any seed" should be deleted from the clause. This would mean that where any suspicions were aroused in regard to cyprus seed certain action could be taken. I say this because the Bill covers only the growers of cyprus barrel medic seed, and its provisions should be confined to that aspect only.

Another part of the Bill which I do not like is the penalty of $400. There is no reference to this being a maximum penalty; it is simply a reference to the penalty being $400. At odd times I have heard the Minister for Justice say that the courts award penalties based on the figure referred to in the Act in question. If the figure in an Act is fairly substantial then the court imposes a rather severe penalty. In this instance the figure of $400 is mentioned, which is rather severe, and I think the courts would probably interpret it as indicating the necessity for a fairly heavy penalty for any breach of the Act. I think this aspect should be looked at, too.

One other clause in the Bill refers to 60 per cent. of cyprus barrel medic seed. This is on page 3 and it reads as follows:—

> "cyprus barrel medic seed" means the seed of *Medicago truncatula Gaertn. var. truncatula. cv. Cyprus* and includes samples or parcels of seed containing not less than sixty per cent. of cyprus barrel medic seed;

I do not think that percentage is nearly high enough. This Bill will cover a very select field of specialised growers and they should be able to produce a better product than one having only 60 per cent. of that type of seed. That is just over half, and I do not think it is good enough.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: What percentage is considered suitable for subterranean types of certified seed?

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: I think 90 per cent. is the recognised figure; but when we get down to 60 per cent. it is just too low.

The Hon. J. Heitman: Isn't the figure higher than that under the Seeds Act? Isn't it 98½ per cent.?

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: I know it is over 90 per cent. I think certified seed has to be 98 per cent., but 90 per cent. is acceptable for uncertified seed.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: That is very important from the point of view of your argument.

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: That is so. If we intend to set up a board then it ought to be able to insist on an almost pure product. It would not be reasonable to expect the seed to be 100 per cent.; but let us face it, 60 per cent. is far too low.

The Hon. T. O. Perry: This is a totally different seed.

The Hon. N. E. Baxter: This is a fine seed.

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: It might be; but whether it is a fine seed or not, I still consider 60 per cent. is too low. I cannot really see that the smallness of the seed has a bearing on the percentage or purity of it.

The Hon. N. E. Baxter: It is much harder to grade out.

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: I do not think the people who grow this seed should be worried so much about grading it as having it grown on land where it can be produced in a fairly pure form. Most people recognise that when growing clover it is necessary to get the right type of country otherwise there can be an awful mixture, and a person could be buying seed that would not even grow on his own country.

The Fielders people carried out a good deal of research at Esperance and this sort of thing is a great benefit to the industry. I think eventually they were granted 30,000 acres on which to grow clover and it was all virgin country—unadulterated country. They were able to get clovers from the University to grow on that land, and they were sure the quality of the product was as they wanted it. Anyone who intends to specialise in wheat does not buy a mixture of gamenya, mengavi, insignia, and so on.

The Hon. N. E. Baxter: Or oats.

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: No. One expects the seed to be pure. The producer then sows the wheat and later on harvests

it. He starts at the beginning with pure seed so that he knows his product will be good.

By this Bill we are setting up a board or, in other words, we are permitting the people covered by this legislation to control their own product and therefore, in my opinion, high standards should be set otherwise it is pointless in having a board.

The Hon. N. McNeill: That clause does not specify that that is the grade of seed that will be sold. That simply facilitates the receival of seed of not less than 60 per cent.

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: The honourable member thinks that that refers only to receivals. I know the board will not always be holding seed of 60 per cent. purity. It would endeavour to do better than that, as I am sure all the growers would, too, because it would have a bearing on the price paid for the seed. Mr. McNeill does not think it means—

The PRESIDENT: Order! I would ask the honourable member to address the Chair and not to invite interjections.

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: I have little more to say on the Bill, but at this point I support it and I hope the points I have made have been noted because I believe they should be of some concern. When we start off, as we are doing by this Bill, by virtually laying the foundation stone of what could be the orderly marketing of all clover seeds it is important that we make everything right in the first instance. I support the Bill.

THE HON. S. T. J. THOMPSON (Lower Central) [9.25 p.m.]: I support the Bill but with some reservations. I say this because I believe we all must have some reservations about setting up a board to cater for a small number of producers. However, this Bill is the result of several years of endeavour to set up an orderly marketing scheme for small seeds, embracing the whole of the clover industry. It has proved difficult to get agreement among all the growers and, in an endeavour to get a scheme off the ground, it was decided to proceed with that section of the producers who could reach agreement. Hence we have legislation covering only cyprus barrel medic seed producers.

The growers of this seed were circularised and a referendum was held on the basis that a producer-controlled board would be set up to control the sale and marketing of their product. That is the reason for the measure before us. The 60 per cent. that is written into the legislation has no relationship to the quality of the seed that will be sold. It simply widens the field of the seed which will be covered and controlled by the board. In other words, it will prevent the board from being sabotaged by those growers who may sell it a mixture of seeds thus destroying the market for the pure seed producers. By providing for all seed over 60 per cent. coming within the scope of the board it will be possible to control the sale of seed which is not really pure. The board will be in a much better position to ensure that seed sold through the board is pure seed.

Being a producer, you, Mr. President, will know how easy it would be to get a mixture of this seed which could be just as readily marketed as the pure seed. Hence the reference to 60 per cent. It will enable the board to have a much tighter control over the industry.

I hope this Bill is only the first step towards orderly marketing for all seed types because, as Mr. Wise pointed out, to set up an organisation to cover only 36 growers who produce only a small quantity of seed is rather pointless. The cost of running the board will have to be borne by the other farmers—in other words, the consumers. The costs will have to be passed on and they will be considerable, bearing in mind the small amount of seed handled. However, I have a feeling that the whole of the clover industry will very shortly be included in the orderly marketing proposals. Meetings have been held and the producers are now closer to reaching agreement than they have ever been before. Possibly this is the result of legislation such as this being proceeded with. It is an inducement for them to come to the party and I believe it will not be long before we have another measure to change the name to cover all types of seed. I agree with Mr. House that perhaps at this stage it is a mistake to refer to the legislation as the Marketing of Cyprus Barrel Medic Seed Bill. This limits the legislation to producers of one particular type of seed only. However, as I have said, I believe it will not be long before we will have legislation before us to change the name to embrace all small seeds.

THE HON. I. G. MEDCALF (Metropolitan) [9.29 p.m.]: I do not suggest that I can add anything of a technical nature to the debate on this Bill. We have heard from the country members who know a good deal about this subject and I have listened with considerable interest to what they have had to say. I was particularly interested in the comments made by various members, starting with Mr. Wise and finishing with Mr. Syd Thompson.

Personally I do not know very much about the technicalities of clover seed. I was in the Army once so I know what a medic is; I know where Cyprus is; and I know what a barrel is. However, I do not know much about clover seed and, in a serious vein, my comments will be devoted to a consideration of some of the other perhaps less agricultural terms in the Bill to which I will refer quite briefly.

Whilst organised marketing is obviously beneficial to primary producers, I think it must be looked at very closely when inroads are made on the ordinary rights of other primary producers in the field.

I share Mr. Wise's lack of enthusiasm for this Bill, although I support it in the same way as he and other members have supported it. I was interested in Mr. Syd Thompson's comments, because for the first time these gave me some inkling as to why the Government has proceeded with a Bill which was wanted by 28 people only. A referendum was held among the producers of this type of seed. Altogether 36 ballot papers were issued and only 30 were returned. Of those 30 only 28 producers favoured the introduction of this scheme. This seems to be a rather poor start for the legislation.

I am not saying that it might not be a good thing to have legislation for a small number of people but, in this case, the people concerned are supplying a great number of other primary producers. For a small number of people to be given legislative power to dominate the industry seems to me to be a bad thing, generally speaking, from a social point of view. At the same time, I have some sympathy with their desire for some form of organised marketing and their desire to see they get a fair deal and a fair return for the work they do.

I have approached the Bill with very mixed feelings and I merely wish now to point out some details which I think could be incorporated to make this better legislation. I am pleased to see a number of amendments on the notice paper and some of them embrace matters to which I shall refer briefly. The first item occurs in clause 5 of the Bill where the word "advertisement" is defined to mean an advertisement in three newspapers, and the newspapers are named. I have no objection to any of these newspapers and I am sure they are all very good and that all three newspapers circulate in areas where the notification of marketing arrangements should be received. Generally speaking, however, I do not think it is wise to refer to individual newspapers. I consider it is better to refer to newspapers which are circulated in the State, and I notice an amendment to this effect appears on the notice paper.

Clause 9 refers to the non-elective members of the board and subclause (7) states—

> (7) Each member other than an elective member shall hold office during the pleasure of the Governor.

I have noticed that it is very difficult for the Governor, in some circumstances, to remove members from boards once they are appointed. From a practical point of view, I do not think it is desirable to leave it at that, but some sort of term should be put on their appointment. I suggest it would be a good idea to place a term of appointment on non-elective members; because, after all, they can always be reappointed if they are doing the job well. At the same time, if such a provision is included, their services can be terminated, if necessary, and another appointment made without any fuss or bother. I consider it would be very much in the interests of primary producers generally to have such a provision rather than a provision which would, perhaps, allow people to be there for life.

Clause 17(f) provides that the board may undertake printing, publishing, and transport services. I cannot see why the board would want to undertake this kind of activity. It seems to be going right beyond the powers of the board which is organised to market cyprus barrel medic seed. In my opinion this area of activity would only mean high administrative costs and difficulties when many other elements in the community can supply printing, publishing, and transport services at much less cost than would be the case when a board establishes its own facilities—and particularly such a small organisation with such a small number of members.

I have looked at clauses 23 and 24 rather carefully. They are the clauses which really give the board the power to control the seed. Clause 23 says—

> ... the seed is vested in the Board freed and discharged from all trusts and encumbrances, and all previous rights and interests of any person ...

Those rights and interests are converted into a claim for compensation, which claim can be held by the person to whom a certificate is granted, or his assignee. Clause 24 goes on to state that the board shall classify the seed when it has received it and shall issue a certificate in the prescribed form to the person by whom or on whose behalf the seed was delivered, unless he authorises the board, in which case the board will deliver it to the person stated in the authorisation. In other words, a producer of seed has a claim for compensation for the assessed value of his seed after it has been classified by the board unless he authorises that the compensation be paid to someone else.

This provision, of course, gives the producer the right to grant an authority in favour of some agent or financial house which might have financed him. I imagine this is very similar to the manner in which other boards operate. Provision is also made for the board to grant a certificate to more than one producer.

Probably these provisions are all right, but it seems to be a rather general way of expressing the situation. I do not know how the Wheat Board operates, but I imagine the same sort of arrangement basically

applies. However, I think there will be a need for a number of regulations to define exactly how this will work in practice because it does not appear to be sufficiently stated in the Bill.

Clause 26 refers to the amount of compensation to be paid and, strange to say, this will actually be determined by the Minister. The Minister will have the right and the task to determine the amount of compensation, but he will do so on the recommendation of the board. I do not know whether the Minister will be bound to accept the board's recommendation, but I consider it is rather strange that the Minister will actually determine the compensation.

I think this provision is a direct copy taken from the Marketing of Barley Act, 1946, as, indeed, is the rest of the Bill. However, I consider the Marketing of Barley Act could have been improved, too. In my opinion the board should perhaps determine this compensation instead of placing the task directly on the Minister. After all, the board classifies the seed and does all the basic work in connection with it. Under clause 26 the board's decision will be final on the data relating to the seed and, consequently, I would have thought it was quite proper for the board to assess the amount of compensation. However, I suppose this does not matter a great deal in the case of only 36 producers.

Clause 28 refers to contracts and I am left in some doubt as to what is intended exactly. The clause says that certain contracts for the sale of seed are void and severable and, in detail, the clause says that where a contract relates to the sale or delivery of seed and is not completed by the delivery of all that quantity before the appointed date when the marketing scheme commences to operate, the contract is to the extent of the amount of that seed not so delivered, void from the date it was made and is to that extent severable. This means that the contract becomes void from the date it was made.

The Hon. S. T. J. Thompson: It sounds as though it was drawn up by lawyers.

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF: It could have been. However, the latter portion of the clause puzzles me most, because it says that any other contract or any transaction in respect of that seed is void and severable to the same extent.

I am puzzled because frankly I do not know what is meant by "any other contract or any transaction." Does that mean any other contract whatsoever—for instance, an agreement to sell a seed harvester, which is contingent upon receiving supplies of seed? I believe there would be such contracts. Would that contract also be void? In other words, what would happen in connection with the sale of the machine?

The Hon. S. T. J. Thompson: No, I would say that would not be the case.

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF: I am glad to hear Mr. Syd Thompson's opinion and I hope he is right because frankly I think there is room for doubt. Subclause (2) says that if any money has been paid in respect of this transaction the money shall be repaid.

I think the intention is fairly clear; namely, to ensure that as from the date when the seed is marketed the whole of the seed is vested in the board and nobody else will have any claim over it. I understand that such a provision would have to be included to make the marketing quite effective but I think some tidying up should be done to this provision.

Like Mr. House, I must confess that clause 29 leaves me with very mixed feelings. The clause reads—

> A person authorised by the Board may at any time enter and search any place, premises or vessel where any seed is or is suspected to be and may inspect any stocks of seed and accounts, books and documents relating to seed.

I think this is a most arbitrary power—

The Hon. J. Dolan: You can say that again.

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF: — to give to a person authorised by a board. It will mean that he will be able to go anywhere at all if he suspects that there is seed on the premises. In other words he will be able to go onto a farming property or any other property.

The Hon. E. C. House: I hardly see the need for it in a Bill like this.

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF: I think it is going a bit too far. I hope my comment will not be taken wrongly, but I do not think it is in the interests of the farming community to include a clause such as that. I consider it takes away private rights over private property to a far greater extent than is ever necessary. I am pleased to see an amendment on the notice paper to the effect that the authorised person must have reasonable grounds for suspecting that seed exists on the premises.

The Hon. E. C. House: What about the penalties?

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF: In answer to the question asked by Mr. House, the position is that the penalty is the maximum one. Under the Interpretation Act if a penalty is prescribed without reference to either maximum or minimum, it is the maximum penalty. This means that a fine of this sum will not be ordered automatically.

THE HON. J. HEITMAN (Upper West) [9.44 p.m.]: I intend to support the Bill. I think it is necessary that the few producers of cyprus barrel medic seed should be allowed to have an orderly marketing system if they desire one.

At the outset, I say that the board has been given terrific powers under this Bill and I think a number of provisions in the measure need to be tidied up before it is passed and becomes law.

Together with Mr. House, I consider the word "cyprus" could have been left out altogether if it is expected that other clover seeds shall be brought in and sold through this marketing board. The board could have been called the barrel medic marketing board or the barrel medic seed board. As Mr. House mentioned, the tornafield variety is new in the field and is a barrel medic which grows equally well on light or heavy land. Of course, cyprus barrel medic seed thrives on red soil much more than on the lighter soils. Another seed, harbinger, is better suited to the deep yellow sandy soils. I feel the producers of all these seeds would want to come under the selling organisation of this board. The reason I advance is that the primary producers will receive far better prices, under the set-up of the board, than they have received over the past few years.

I also feel we are establishing an organisation for a few producers who will sell seed to the rest of the farmers. Here again we should watch matters fairly closely, because the establishment of this board will mean that the seed sold to the consumers will be dearer, not only because it is an organised marketing board, but also, according to the Bill at present, they will be members of a board who will be paid a sitting fee, travelling expenses, and other attendant expenses. This expenditure alone will add to the price of the seed that will be purchased by the consumers.

I consider that an attempt could have been made to establish an orderly marketing scheme under the Grain Pool of Western Australia, which is a voluntary set-up. It has all the necessary machinery ready for the sale of seed to consumers on a voluntary basis. Like other speakers, I am not very keen on the receival of seed of the quality of only 60 per cent. I have harvested cyprus barrel medic seed myself, and I found it was an extremely hard seed to harvest. It is unlike the subterranean clover seed. The ground has to be prepared before one can run over it several times to collect all the seed that is there. Also, a 64 h.p. tractor is needed to thresh the seed because it is so hard. For this reason it would be necessary for producers to receive approximately 25c a pound if the growing of such seed were to be profitable.

I notice that last year seed was advertised in *The Countryman* at a price of from 13c to 30c a pound. One grower who was selling it for 30c did not sell much, but he still has some on hand and he should make a fair profit this year. I felt that Mr. Syd Thompson was not quite right in suggesting that the quality should be made 60 per cent. in order to bring in all the seed possible, and so that some growers can sell outside the pool. This is impossible. It is a compulsory pool and there is a penalty of up to $400 for anyone who commits a breach of the legislation by attempting to sell outside the pool. Also, he could not sell inside the pool unless he brought the seed up to the desired quality.

During the years I harvested clover seed I had to bring it down to Perth because that was the only place where there was a cleaning shed, and if the quality of the seed was not 80 per cent. or 90 per cent. in the first place the people who cleaned the seed in Perth had no desire to receive it because they had too much rubbish to get rid of afterwards. Under the set-up proposed in the Bill the board is permitted to accept seed of 60 per cent. quality, which means there is 40 per cent. of rubbish that has to be disposed of, and so with the handling, grading, and cleaning, it would be battling to get a price much better than the one I have suggested would be payable. For this reason I suggest that the receival of 60 per cent. quality seed is not good enough; it should be 80 per cent. or 90 per cent. at least.

I mentioned this point to one of the producers and he suggested that perhaps a mixed article could be sold made up of 60 per cent. of cyprus barrel and perhaps 30 per cent. to 40 per cent. of Geraldton seed. However, if the board is to sell seed at all it would need to be sold under the Seeds Act, and for this reason the board would not be able to sell a product which is part cyprus barrel medic, part Geraldton, and part cut clover. If a farmer wanted mixed seed he would buy a quantity of each seed and mix them himself. It would be impossible for the board to mix two seeds together. There would be one type of inoculent for cyprus barrel medic, and another for subterranean or any other clover. Therefore, if any opportunity presents itself to increase the quality of the seed to 80 per cent. by an amendment to the Bill in the Committee stage, we should endeavour to do something about it.

The Hon. S. T. J. Thompson: Have you looked at the definition of cyprus barrel medic seed on page 3 of the Bill?

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: Yes, I notice it includes samples or parcels of seed containing not less than 60 per cent. of cyprus barrel medic seed.

The Hon. S. T. J. Thompson: It is not cyprus barrel medic seed unless it is 60 per cent.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: It will need to be 80 per cent. otherwise it will be too costly to clean afterwards.

The Hon. J. Dolan: Eighty per cent. is a familiar percentage.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: The next point I would like to mention is the composition of the board. The Bill states that six members will be appointed. Two members who are producers will be elected by producers; one person who is a producer will be nominated by the Minister; another will be nominated by the Minister to represent consumers of cyprus barrel medic seed for other than seed production; another person shall be nominated by the Minister to represent pasture seed merchants and pasture seed selling agents, and there will also be a person nominated by the Minister; which person shall not be commercially involved in the pasture seed industry as a producer, consumer, etc., and he shall be the chairman of the board. Therefore, the personnel of the board is out of balance.

If we are to set up a board to control the production of seed by 40 growers who will have to depend on the consumer for the sale of their seed, in my opinion the consumer will have very little say if he has three voices against him. Consumers should have at least one representative on the board, and the number of board personnel should be reduced to five as suggested by the amendment on the notice paper. I would agree with the amendment, but I would like to know more about the constitution of the board. At present, as it is proposed in the Bill, it is top heavy and is in favour of the producers. By having two elected representatives on the board there would be a preponderance of producer-representation.

As I mentioned earlier, the board could be a very costly luxury, and if the personnel of the board can be reduced from six to five we will be doing the producers and the consumers a very good turn.

Like Mr. Medcalf, I have made a note in regard to the power of the board to enter and search premises without a warrant. I think that this is perhaps overstepping the mark. As I said earlier, the board will have terrific power under the proposed system, and although it may be said that the Barley Marketing Board has similar powers, I would point out that that board was set up for all producers, but it does not sell the product back to consumers in the farming districts.

Therefore in my opinion the powers that are to be granted to the board under this Bill are going much further than they need go. The reason for these extra powers being granted is that the board does not wish a farmer to grow seed for his own purposes. In my opinion, I do not think the board should prevent anyone growing and harvesting seed for his own use. In the initial approach to this question, only those growers who produce $1,000 worth of seed were allowed to vote. That would be equal to 5,000 or 6,000 lb. of clover seed which would be much more than the average farmer would want to replant. I feel that any grower should be able to harvest the amount of seed he wants for his own purpose without, in any shape or form, coming under the jurisdiction of the board, because with the powers that are to be granted to the board it will be permitted to enter and search premises if it suspects a grower of producing seed for his own use. The board could make things very uncomfortable for him, when, in actual fact, there would be no need for it.

Therefore, like Mr. Medcalf, I do not think there is any need for this provision to be in the Bill. It should be sufficient for the board to have power to fine anyone $400 for selling seed on the black market. That penalty should be sufficient to deter anyone committing such an offence.

Unlike the Barley Marketing Board, this board will have no control over production. Possibly this is a sound move and may be one of the few safeguards the consuming farmer has to ensure that the price will be kept within reasonable bounds, because everyone knows that if this cyprus barrel medic seed board is created, and the price for the seed becomes too high, many more producers will be coming in to enjoy the fruits of their labours by selling such seed at a much enhanced value. This, in turn, would tend to bring the price of the seed down, and for this reason I am very pleased that the control of production has not been mentioned in the Bill. There is not a great deal more I want to say. I think all of us will have something to say on the amendments that are on the notice paper, and those which perhaps have been foreshadowed, when the Bill is discussed in Committee.

THE HON. L. A. LOGAN (Upper West—Minister for Local Government) [9.57 p.m.]: I suppose I could thank members for their very lukewarm support of the measure. However, it has been stressed by more than one speaker that the reason for the Bill being here is that it was requested by the growers themselves. It is an attempt to achieve orderly marketing in an industry; the question of whether the industry is big or small has no bearing on it. This Bill seeks to bring orderly marketing to an industry which, over the years, has suffered ups and downs because of adverse seasons, markets, and other factors. If I read one or two of the comments of those growers who were asked to express an opinion on whether they wanted a pool or otherwise, members will be able to understand why they finally decided, by ballot, to support the controlled marketing scheme.

The first one I am about to quote will, I think, answer Mr. Heitman to some extent in regard to his suggestion that a voluntary pool could have been established. In fact, the growers tried a voluntary pool, but it did not work. The first answer I have here to the questionnaire that was circulated among growers, reads as follows:—

> Yes. A voluntary pool is better than no pool at all but is nullified to a certain extent by selfish growers who sit on the fence.

Another grower replied—

> Yes. Almost impossible to settle it in this year. Consider a pool essential.

Another one replied—

> Yes. Would support a compulsory pool because I believe the current situation for small seeds is chaotic. Do not believe a voluntary pool has any use.

Another grower replied—

> Yes. I feel it would have to be compulsory because too many farmers will sell seed cheap because it is a sideline.

Another reply reads as follows:—

> Yes. Good idea—very haphazard now.

A further reply reads—

> Yes. I sold 4 bags this season to a friend. When the price slumped I delivered 5 bags as he had already paid. Something must be done to save the industry.

The Hon. J. Dolan: You are reading the answers from all the "Yes" men. Were there any who were against the scheme?

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: No, they were all "Yes" men. Those were the answers given to a questionnaire that was circulated among the growers before a ballot paper was sent out to them to cast a vote on whether they desired a pool to be formed. Another grower replied—

> Yes. Feel that to be workable, a pool would have to be compulsory. Also selling price would have to be realistic because a person wanting any quantity would be better off harvesting their own seed if it were not.

A further reply reads as follows:—

> Yes. Would support a system of orderly marketing for all clover seed as well.

The answers go on in similar vein. These were the comments of the various growers to whom a questionnaire was sent before a ballot was taken for the establishment of a pool. Of course, the questionnaire was sent out to other growers of small seed, even to the growers of rye grass seed. However, the growers of cyprus barrel medic seed were the only ones to approve the formation of a pool and an orderly marketing scheme.

I appreciate the fact that the Bill will cover only a small number of seed producers; but I am certain if this Bill becomes law the other small seed growers would begin to think in terms of joining in an orderly marketing scheme.

I disagree with the comments of Mr. Heitman and Mr. McNeill that the board should not include three growers. I would point out that this is a commodity which belongs to the growers; they are the ones who are selling it.

The Hon. J. Heitman: This is the only board which is to be set up to sell the products of its growers to fellow farmers.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: One does not appoint representatives of the consumers on the board of directors of a company which sells a commodity to the consumers. The board proposed in the Bill is really a board of directors selling a commodity which the growers are producing.

The Hon. E. C. House: What about the interests of the people who have to buy the seed?

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Does the honourable member think that any producer of this seed would charge a price which his fellow farmers could not afford? If he did he would kill the very industry in which he was engaged. I am sure that Mr. Yewers, the producer at Morawa, would not put so high a price on his commodity that he cannot sell it.

The other point raised by Mr. Heitman referred to the 60 per cent. content of the seed. All that the definition in the Bill means is that any quantity of seed which does not contain 60 per cent. of cyprus barrel medic seed is not covered by the Act. If the percentage is raised from 60 to 80 per cent. then a producer with 79 per cent. of cyprus barrel medic seed in a parcel could sell it on the open market.

The Hon. J. Heitman: It does not matter whether you are selling a quantity with only 20 per cent. of that seed. As long as it contains cyprus barrel medic seed it is to be covered by the Act.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Under the definition in the Bill a parcel of seed must contain not less than 60 per cent. of cyprus barrel medic seed before it comes under the legislation. Any parcel with less than 60 per cent. of the seed does not come under the provisions.

The Hon. E. C. House: That is good news. It will help producers to get out from under, by mixing parcels of the seed.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Who would buy a mixed barrel, if he wanted cyprus barrel medic seed? If a person wants a good strain of this seed he will not buy it from a producer who has a parcel with

less than 60 per cent. If anyone desires to buy a parcel which has less than 60 per cent. of the seed then the provisions of the Bill will not prevent him from so doing. The Bill is designed to ensure that any parcel of the seed containing not less than 60 per cent. of cyprus barrel medic seed shall come under the control of the board.

I have no objection to the amendments which have been proposed, except for the one relating to the personnel of the board. In line 6 on page 4 of the Bill the word "Cyrus" should be "Cyprus" but I expect this can be rectified by the Clerk.

I would remind members that in dealing with the aspect of grower control, we would lose faith with the growers of cyprus barrel medic seed, who were responsible for carrying the ballot that was undertaken, if we opposed the Bill; because the ballot on which they cast a vote was based on the proposals which appeared on the back of the form. On the back of the ballot form the following appears:—

> It is proposed that legislation be introduced for the establishment of a Marketing Board to market Cyprus Barrel Medic Seed.
>
> The proposed legislation is to be modelled on the Barley Marketing Act, 1946. It provides for the setting up of a Marketing Board consisting of the following members:—
>
> (a) Three representatives elected by eligible producers of Cyprus Barrel Medic Seed.

These are to be the three representatives of the producers. If the proposal was that they were to have two representatives on the board they might have voted "No" in the ballot. I think they would have done that.

The Hon. I. G. Medcalf: Because they voted on the question that does not make it right.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: If what I have read out had not been shown on the ballot paper they might have voted "No."

The Hon. S. T. J. Thompson: This has been the basis of all marketing schemes.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: I thank members for the very good debate that has taken place on the fundamentals of the Bill.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee

The Chairman of Committees (The Hon. N. E. Baxter) in the Chair; The Hon. L. A. Logan (Minister for Local Government) in charge of the Bill.

Clause 1: Citation—

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: I reiterate my protest against the word *"Cyprus"* being included in the title. I think the Bill would have had the support of the industry had this term been deleted. The deletion of the word would avoid the need to introduce Bills in the not too distant future to include the growers of other types of medic seed. I do not agree that the measure should apply only to the growers of cyprus barrel medic seed.

As a purchaser of these seeds I should point out that new varieties are being produced from time to time by the University from grants which are made to it. These varieties have been channelled to selected growers who produce the seed in quantity, and who can charge what they like for it. This was a difficulty we experienced with the buying of new varieties which came onto the market.

If we are to have orderly marketing then some control of the price structure should be exercised. The production of clovers for the heavier country is just getting under way. In the past attention has been given to the need to find varieties, such as subterranean clover, for the light lands, and for years clovers for the heavier country were neglected. We are getting the new varieties, but with the supplies being limited the price is high.

I move an amendment—

> Page 1, line 9—Delete the word *"Cyprus."*

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: I cannot agree to the amendment. The whole Bill is based on the production of cyprus barrel medic seed. It may be that the producers of other seed do not wish to be covered by this legislation. A query was raised as to how long ago barrel medic seed was first introduced in Western Australia. I can say that 30 years ago it was produced in this State, but it was not known as barrel medic seed.

The Hon. E. C. House: With the Bill as it is, on every occasion that a new clover is intended to be covered a new Bill would have to be introduced.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Only if the growers of that seed want to be covered. It was said that a new Bill might have to be introduced next year to cover other varieties of seeds; I hope that next year this Bill, if it becomes an Act, will become redundant and all seeds will be included under an orderly marketing system.

The Hon. S. T. J. THOMPSON: I am in a quandary. It might be wiser to have a barrel medic seed board, so that cyprus barrel medic seed and other varieties could be brought in by regulation. That would be preferable to having a cyprus barrel medic seed board.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Under the Bill the Government has power to make regulations for effectually carrying out the objects and purposes of the legislation. If

the word *"Cyprus"* is deleted from the title it will mean that the whole Bill will have to be altered and a definition of "barrel medic" will have to be included. It would be preferable to wait until the producers of other seeds indicate their desire to be covered by an orderly marketing scheme before steps are taken to include them.

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: I sympathise with the views of the Minister, but it does not alter the fact that the Bill is ridiculous. If we are to have orderly marketing for a specific group in an industry, then all the producers in that group should be covered, otherwise it would lead to malpractices.

I am sure that the growers of other seeds will want to come in when it suits them. The growers of cyprus barrel medic seed did not want to be covered by an orderly marketing scheme in the years when the price of the seed was high, but now that they experience difficulty in controlling the price and the production they want to have this scheme. This will go on applying to all the other medic clovers as they come along.

The Hon. T. O. Perry: What is wrong with that?

The Hon. E. C. HOUSE: There could be quite a lot wrong with it because the whole basis is to have orderly marketing. It is desirable that Parliament, in its wisdom, should see that not only the growers but also the consumers are protected, and to see that they get orderly marketing in the medic field. Now that the move has been made Mr. Perry has a right to disagree, and I have the right to express my opinion. I still think it would be wise to delete the word *"Cyprus."*

The Hon. F. J. S. WISE: I agree with Mr. House in this action. I do not think it is a valid argument to say this is a trial run and if the barrel medic people are satisfied with their board other growers will also seek a board. Where a specialised type of industry is established, and people grow only a specialised type of seed, it is understandable that, in getting control, they would be able to prescribe what medicine the purchasers should take, and the manner in which they take it.

I would like to ask if anyone could define those much vaunted words "orderly marketing." I wonder if Mr. Medcalf would attempt to enlighten us with a definition? I think it is time we had a stocktaking, both in the interests of the producers and the consumers. On the point raised by Mr. House, I think this Bill is far too circumscribed and we should look at it again.

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: I am not prepared to accept the amendment and I intend to ask that progress be reported.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: I do not think there is any need for the Minister to take that stand.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: I must take it; I cannot do otherwise.

The Hon. J. HEITMAN: I have spoken to some of the producers and they are sorry they did not ask to have all seeds included in the present Bill, and placed under the control of a small compulsory marketing board. It is only a matter of time before production will be sufficient for other seeds to come under the control of the legislation. About 100 different types of medic clover exist, and we could eventually set up a board for each variety. I do not think any of the barrel medic growers would object to bringing in other clover seed.

We have to realise that cyprus barrel medic has been known to grow in a 3½-inch rainfall area. Only this morning I spoke to a man who lives in an area which usually receives 11 inches of rain. This year the rainfall is down to 4½ inches, and he told me that in the red york gum country the seed had bedded down and feed will be available.

Not a great number of medic clovers would need to come under the provisions of this Bill, and if we delete the word *"Cyprus"* it means that the other seeds could come into the orderly marketing of barrel medic clover.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I believe I may have misunderstood the Minister. Was it the Minister's intention to move that I do now report progress?

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Yes, for the reason that the ballot paper was for a referendum on a proposal that legislation be introduced to form a board. I am handling this measure on behalf of another Minister and I think it is only right, if we are to alter the set-up, that I should go back to the Minister concerned. He should then go back to the people responsible for the ballot.

Progress

Progress reported and leave given to sit again, on motion by The Hon. L. A. Logan (Minister for Local Government).

NORTHERN DEVELOPMENTS PTY. LIMITED AGREEMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Receipt and First Reading

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

House adjourned at 10.25 p.m.