

discuss the matter now the Minister might care to report progress.

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON: I think we should sleep on the suggestion, and, in the circumstances, it would be preferable to report progress.

Progress

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

MARKETABLE SECURITIES TRANSFER ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Returned

Bill returned from the Assembly without amendment.

COUNTRY HIGH SCHOOL HOSTELS AUTHORITY 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 9.45 p.m.

Legislative Assembly

Tuesday, the 10th October, 1967

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

ACTS (7) : ASSENT

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

1. Lotteries (Control) Act Amendment Act.
2. Evaporites (Lake MacLeod) Agreement Act.
3. Albany Harbour Board Act Amendment Act.
4. Bunbury Harbour Board Act Amendment Act.
5. Indecent Publications Act Amendment Act.
6. Police Act Amendment Act.
7. Physiotherapists Act Amendment Act.

QUESTIONS (22): ON NOTICE

LEGAL AID

Introduction of Legislation

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

(1) Is he aware that—

- (a) not only indigent but also middle group earners are affected by the high cost of legal proceedings;

(b) the New South Wales Government has approved a scheme to subsidise legal expenses in selected cases of this group;

(c) the financial assistance will come from interest earned on investment of trust funds held by solicitors on behalf of clients?

- (2) Is any legislation contemplated this session of the same or comparable nature to make possible financial assistance to those who cannot afford recourse to law?

Mr. COURT replied:

- (1) (a) Yes, where they are litigants and the cost is high.
(b) I understand so.
(c) It will come from portion of such interest.
- (2) Yes.

SCHOOL TEACHERS

Appointments from Overseas

2. Mr. DAVIES asked the Minister for Education:

- (1) Referring to my question 8 of the 4th October, 1967, of the 38 school teachers brought to this State, how many are still in the employment of the department?
- (2) Of these, how many are teaching in primary, junior high, senior high, and other schools?
- (3) How many are male and how many are female teachers?
- (4) How many of each sex have been appointed to the permanent staff?

Mr. LEWIS replied:

- (1) 36.
- (2) Primary schools 16
Junior high schools —
High schools 5
Senior high schools 13
Others 2
- (3) Male 22
Female 14
- (4) Male 1
Female Nil.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

Meetings of Ratepayers

3. Mr. JAMIESON asked the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government:

What section of the Local Government Act allows for the calling of a meeting of ratepayers as distinct from a meeting of electors?

Mr. NALDER replied:

Sections 487 and 527.

SEWERAGE*Hills Area: Extension*

4. Mr. BRADY asked the Minister for Water Supplies:

- (1) Are any shires, companies or individuals negotiating with the Metropolitan Water Board to arrange a sewerage scheme in the hills area in the eastern districts?
- (2) Has any scheme been approved in the past twelve months?
- (3) Does the scheme or schemes under (2) anticipate effluent being carried into the Swan or Helena Rivers?
- (4) Are any plans being made to extend the metropolitan sewerage scheme into the hills area adjoining Midland?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) and (3) Although no scheme has been approved, it is expected that in one a lagooning system will obviate any effluent being carried into the river.
- (4) The Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage, and Drainage Board has no immediate plans to extend into the hills area adjoining Midland.

ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL*Oval: Test Bore*

5. Mr. HALL asked the Minister for Works:

- (1) Would he make available detailed results of test boring for water on Lots 312 and 315, Albany High School oval?
- (2) Is the quantity of water adequate for the development of the oval?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

- (1) Bore drilled to a depth of 24 feet, but produced a negligible supply of water.

There is an 18 inch layer of coffee rock at a depth of 4 ft. 6 in., below which is fine clayey silt. The coffee rock is overlaid by fine sand that is waterlogged.

The water table is almost at ground level and most depressions are filled with water.

- (2) Underground water is inadequate for development of the oval.

ROAD CLOSURES*Disposal of Land*

6. Mr. GRAHAM asked the Minister for Lands:

- (1) In the event of a public road being closed, are all adjoining landholders entitled to a portion of the area?

- (2) If the area is large enough for independent development, can adjoining holders be ignored when the land is made available?

- (3) Can such an area be allocated to a party other than adjoining holders; if not, what is the method of disposal?

- (4) Following closure of the road and before any allocation is made, to whom does the subject land belong?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

- (1) Where the land in a closed road is the property of the Crown, that which adjoins the land of a person holding an area contiguous thereto shall vest in the person for a similar estate. Where the land on opposite sides of the closed road is held by different owners, the contiguous half of the land in the road to the middle thereof may be vested in each respective owner.

- (2) The grant of land in closed road is limited to owners of contiguous land.

- (3) No. Answered by (1). The method of disposal is provided in section 118A of the Land Act, 1933-65.

- (4) The land vests in the Crown when closed under section 294 of the Local Government Act, unless otherwise directed by special legislation.

CRIMES OF VIOLENCE*Compensation to Victims*

7. Mr. FLETCHER asked the Premier:

- (1) Does the Government intend to introduce legislation this session to compensate victims of crimes of violence to be paid for—

- (a) out of Treasury funds;
- (b) out of any other fund to be established;
- (c) out of the property of the offender?

- (2) Does he know whether New South Wales has introduced such or similar legislation?

Mr. BRAND replied:

- (1) No, but the legislation operating in other places will be evaluated for the purpose of determining whether or not such a scheme would be feasible in this State.

- (2) Yes. The Criminal Injuries Compensation Act, 1967, of New South Wales makes provision for payment, in certain circumstances, of compensation to persons who suffer injury by reason of the commission of certain offences. The Act will come into operation on the 1st January, 1968.

PHOSPHATIC ROCK, SULPHUR, AND PYRITES -

Imports

8. Mr. MITCHELL asked the Minister for Agriculture:

- (1) What quantity of phosphatic rock was imported into Western Australia during 1966-67 from the following sources, and what is the cost per ton in each case—
 - (a) Nauru;
 - (b) Christmas Island;
 - (c) U.S.A.;
 - (d) Africa?
- (2) What amount of sulphur was imported in 1966-67?
- (3) What amount of local pyrites was used during the 1966-67 season?
- (4) How does the price of imported sulphur compare with local pyrites?

Mr. NALDER replied:

	Tons	\$ Per ton
(1) (a)	312,787	8.819
(b)	193,115	8.831
(c)	20,357	8.870
(d)	204,171	8.869

In addition to the above, 92,656 tons were imported from the Gilbert and Ellice Islands at \$8.870 per ton.

- (2) 125,797 tons.
- (3) Production year for pyrites ended the 31st December, 1966. 76,126 tons were produced for all purposes. Usage figures are not available.
- (4) Imported sulphur—\$34.241 per ton, at wharf Western Australian ports, (average 1966-67). Pyrites ex Norseman into the bin at the fertiliser works—\$21.12 a ton.

ESPERANCE LAND AND DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

Land East of Lort River: Minister's Approval of Sale

9. Mr. TONKIN asked the Minister for Lands:

Did he, as required by the Esperance Lands Agreement Act, give his approval in each case where blocks of land east of the Lort River exceeding in area 2,000 acres were sold by the Esperance Land and Development Company?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

The first Crown grant issued to Esperance Plains (Australia) Pty. Ltd. in 1957 by the Labor Government covered permit 389D/1 for approximately 61,520 acres. Included in this subdivision were nine locations east of the Lort River each exceeding 2,000 acres.

Plan showing this subdivision is tabled. No ministerial approval is recorded. I ask leave to table the plan for one week.

As the principle was established in 1957, surveys have proceeded on this basis when land classifications have indicated certain blocks to be understandard with a maximum area of 2,000 acres. There are a number of points which I would like to explain relating to events which led to the negotiation of the original agreement with Esperance Plains (Australia) Pty. Ltd. by the Labor Government.

On the 3rd June, 1955, the Esperance Downs Development Advisory Committee submitted to the Labor Government of the day a report on the special difficulties and problems associated with agricultural development of the area known as the Esperance Downs. As a result of a ground reconnaissance effected by a divisional surveyor of the Lands Department, the advisory committee recommended farm sizes should be of approximately 2,000 acres and when the agreement was negotiated with the original company, this figure was adopted as maximum for the area east of the Lort River.

The original investigations into land classification were carried out on a broad basis for the purposes of the committee report. When the ultimate soil classification and survey of individual blocks were effected, it was found necessary, because of the existence in some areas of poorer soil types, to increase the size of units in order to provide an economical farm. When replying to earlier questions, 12 and 13 on the 5th October, I explained that the subdivisions where farm sizes exceeded 2,000 acres were designed on normal classification and subdivisional principles to constitute economic units. It was thus bad planning to survey units within the 2,000 acres maximum where the soil types were such that a farm unit, to provide economic return, required additional acreage.

As an example of this, the plan, which it is requested to be tabled for one week, illustrates very clearly why certain blocks, because of poorer classification were surveyed to comprise in excess of 2,000 acres.

The plans were tabled for one week.

SHEPPERTON ROAD*Improvement of Street Lighting*

10. Mr. DAVIES asked the Minister for Electricity:

- (1) Has any approach been made to improve the street lighting in Shepperton Road, Victoria Park?
- (2) If not, who would be responsible for instigating such work?

Mr. NALDER replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) The local authority.

OFFENCES INVOLVING PERSONAL INJURY*Prosecutions*

11. Mr. DAVIES asked the Minister for Police:

- (1) What were the numbers of prosecutions in each of the last three years of persons charged with offences involving the doing of personal injury to anyone else?
- (2) Of these prosecutions, how many resulted in convictions and how many in acquittals?
- (3) Is any information kept of the type of personal injury in such cases?
- (4) If so, can it be made available?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

- (1) From January to December—

1964	719
1965	826
1966	870

- (2)

	1964	1965	1966
Convictions	579	691	730
Acquittals	140	135	140

- (3) Tabulations are not kept of the type of personal injury. The information is not available without a great deal of research involving examination of every file.

- (4) Answered by (3).

12. *This question was postponed.*

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS*Number, and Persons Injured*

13. Mr. DAVIES asked the Minister for Police:

- (1) What is the total number of traffic accidents reported to the Police Department in each of the last three years?
- (2) In how many of these accidents did some person suffer personal injury?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

(1) July to June	Non-Casualty	Casualty	Total Accidents
1964-65	3,800	2,856	11,602
1965-66	10,727	3,024	13,751
1966-67	11,580	3,367	14,947

(2)

	Persons Injured	Persons Killed
1964-65	3,804	96
1965-66	4,012	103
1966-67	4,492	103

The figures given above refer to traffic accidents in the metropolitan area.

14. *This question was postponed.*

ESPERANCE LAND: FIELDER'S APPLICATION*Conference: Presence of Minister for Lands*

15. Mr. MOIR asked the Minister for Lands:

- (1) Was he present at a conference with representatives of Geo. Fielder & Co. following the refusal of Fielder's original application for 20,000 acres of land at Esperance?
- (2) Was Fielder's legal adviser also present?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

- (1) and (2) There was no conference following the refusal of the company's application, but prior to the refusal there was informal discussion on the 24th November, 1966, at Parliament House between the Cabinet subcommittee and Mr. J. B. Regan of Geo. Fielder and Co. Ltd. and the company's solicitor.

The discussion took place following talks between the company and the Department of Industrial Development to consider the company's desire to acquire an adequate area of land on which to establish an industry—both producing and processing—with a substantial export and local potential.

The main objectives of the proposal discussed by the company and the department were to be incorporated into an agreement—

- (a) to establish and operate a factory to produce for export lucerne and clover leaf meal, and some specially prepared stock foods.

(These would be available as required for the local market but export was the main target.)

- (b) to collaborate with the Department of Agriculture and the University Institute of Agriculture in the development of new strains of pasture legumes and in related research with built-in protection as to price and availability for the local farming community.

It was considered by the department that the industry should be encouraged. It involved a large capital investment and—in addition to considerable export potential which we need—it would have given a processing industry to the Esperance region as part of the district's development programme.

No agreement was made with the company.

Conference: Presence of Minister for Agriculture

16. Mr. MOIR asked the Minister for Agriculture:

- (1) Was he present at a conference with representatives of Geo. Fielder & Co. following the refusal of Fielder's original application for 20,000 acres of land at Esperance?
- (2) Was Fielder's legal adviser, also present?

Mr. NALDER replied:

- (1) and (2) I was present at an informal discussion on the 24th November, 1966, at which the company and its solicitors were represented.

This was not after refusal of the company's application, as, to the best of my knowledge, there was no conference after the refusal.

Conference: Presence of Minister for Industrial Development

17. Mr. MOIR asked the Minister for Industrial Development:

- (1) Was he present at a conference with representatives of Geo. Fielder & Co. following the refusal of Fielder's original application for 20,000 acres of land at Esperance?
- (2) Was Fielder's legal adviser also present?

Mr. COURT replied:

- (1) and (2) I cannot recall attending any conference following refusal of Fielder's application but I was present at an informal discussion on the 24th November, 1966, before the refusal. The company's solicitor was also present.

TUBERCULOSIS (COMMONWEALTH AND STATE ARRANGEMENT) ACT
Commonwealth Subsidy

18. Mr. DAVIES asked the Premier:

What is the nature of capital expenditure necessary to attract any Commonwealth subsidy under the tuberculosis Act?

Mr. BRAND replied:

Any new buildings, improvements to buildings, equipment for furnishings for use in the diagnosis, treatment, and control of tuberculosis for which prior approval has been received from the Commonwealth.

BUNBURY GAOL

Tenders

19. Mr. WILLIAMS asked the Chief Secretary:

- (1) When is it anticipated tenders will be called for the Bunbury regional gaol?
- (2) What are the likely commencement and completion dates?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

- (1) March, 1968.
- (2) It is anticipated that building will commence in April, 1968, and be completed in June, 1969.

BUNBURY POLICE STATION

Tenders, and Type of Accommodation

20. Mr. WILLIAMS asked the Minister for Police:

- (1) When will tenders be called for the Bunbury police station?
- (2) What is the anticipated date for—
(a) commencement;
(b) completion?
- (3) Will the three existing staff houses remain, if not—
(a) will alternative accommodation be made available;
(b) in what locality?
- (4) Will any staff accommodation be provided in the building; if so, for whom?
- (5) Will the building contain—
(a) remand cells;
(b) short term prison cells:
and what number of (a) and/or (b)?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

- (1) Not decided at this stage.
- (2) Answered by (1).
- (3) The present scheme allows for the demolition of existing quarters.
(a) Yes. Two sets of quarters for sergeant-in-charge and lock-up keeper.
(b) The present scheme allows for the erection of these quarters on the same site.
- (4) Answered by (3).
- (5) (a) No.
(b) No.
(c) Nil.

STATE ELECTRICITY COMMISSION

Sales, Wages and Salaries, and Staff

21. Mr. TONKIN asked the Minister for Electricity:

- (1) What were the commission's total external sales of electricity for the years 1955-56 to 1966-67 inclusive?
- (2) What was the average price per unit of electricity sold for the years 1955-56 to 1966-67 inclusive as—

- (a) residential;
- (b) industrial;
- (c) commercial?

- (3) What was the total of operating wages and salaries and wages and salaries on costs, for the years 1955-56 to 1966-67 inclusive?
- (4) What was the average number of employees, wages and staff, employed by the commission for the years 1955-56 to 1966-67 inclusive?
- (5) What was the average number of commission employees, wages and staff, engaged on new construction and other capital works for the years 1955-56 to 1966-67 inclusive?

Mr. NALDER replied:

(1)

	kWhrs.
1955-56	455,831,728
1956-57	486,705,733
1957-58	516,564,988
1958-59	547,227,037
1959-60	590,024,685
1960-61	606,605,823
1961-62	717,479,643
1962-63	806,015,953
1963-64	899,035,605
1964-65	1,004,857,841
1965-66	1,118,168,031
1966-67	1,268,564,735

- (2) Not available separately for (a), (b), and (c).

	2-529 cents per kWh sold
1955-56	2-532
1956-57	2-522
1957-58	2-521
1958-59	2-517
1959-60	2-444
1960-61	2-341
1961-62	2-330
1962-63	2-326
1963-64	2-212
1964-65	2-181
1965-66	
1966-67	

- (3) The operating wages are not obtainable separately but the total wages and salaries paid are—

	Wages	Salaries	Total
	\$	\$	\$
1955-56	Not available.		
1956-57			
1957-58	2,605,084	1,087,676	4,562,710
1958-59	2,906,860	1,700,268	4,667,128
1959-60	3,065,476	1,908,434	4,973,910
1960-61	3,180,032	1,982,738	5,151,770
1961-62	3,304,294	2,077,906	5,382,200
1962-63	3,345,674	2,192,722	5,538,400
1963-64	3,519,930	2,555,530	6,075,460
1964-65	4,206,084	2,647,230	6,913,314
1965-66	4,631,995	2,976,049	7,658,044
1966-67	5,200,530	3,262,609	8,463,139

(4) At the 30th June—

	Wages	Salaried	Total
1955-56	Not available.		2,10
1956-57	1,535	685	2,220
1957-58	1,585	708	2,293
1958-59	1,581	728	2,309
1959-60	1,551	708	2,259
1960-61	1,378	705	2,083
1961-62	1,571	710	2,281
1962-63	1,628	725	2,353
1963-64	1,666	751	2,417
1964-65	1,741	807	2,548
1965-66	1,810	847	2,657
1966-67	1,915	881	2,796

(5) Not obtainable.

NICKEL MINING

South Kalgoorlie Location: Grant to Hampton Gold Mining Areas Ltd.

22. Mr. W. HEGNEY asked the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

- (1) By whom was the grant of ownership of Location 48, South of Kalgoorlie, made to Hampton Gold Mining Areas Ltd., London (*The West Australian* of the 8th September, 1967, page 26, under the heading "W.M.C. gets freehold of Nickel Area")?
- (2) What were the circumstances surrounding such grant?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

- (1) and (2) The grant of ownership of Location 48 south of Kalgoorlie was originally made to the trustees for Hampton Lands and Railways Syndicate Ltd. of London on the 18th July, 1895. This grant was in accordance with an agreement made between the Government of the Colony and the syndicate dated the 18th June, 1890. The terms and conditions of this agreement are set out in the Mining on Private Property Act, 1898, (62 Victoria No. 29).

The transfer of Location 48 to Hampton Gold Mining Areas Ltd. was effected on the 15th May, 1920.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

On motion by Mr. May, leave of absence for twenty-eight days granted to Mr. Curran (Cockburn) on the ground of ill-health.

LEGAL PRACTITIONERS ACT
AMENDMENT BILL*Further Report*

Further report of Committee adopted.

BILLS (2): THIRD READING

1. Marketable Securities Transfer Act Amendment Bill.

Bill read a third time, on motion by Mr. Court (Minister for Industrial Development), and passed.

2. Country High School Hostels Authority Act Amendment Bill.

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

LAND ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

MR. BOVELL (Vasse—Minister for Lands) [4.54 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

In introducing this Bill, I desire to inform members that it proposes five separate amendments to the Land Act. Section 41A, relating to the sale of town and suburban lots which are passed in at auction, stipulates that a lot, after being passed in at auction, remains available for sale at the upset price for a period of six months during which time an interested party may purchase the lot by private treaty at that price without having to await formal proceedings for the arrangement, advertising, and possible journey to the sale venue of a further auction sale.

It is proposed that the six months' period be extended to 12 months, but, where the Minister considers desirable or necessary, he may, by publishing notice when the sale is advertised, fix a lesser period during which time a sale under this section might be transacted. By extending the period to 12 months, it is felt this will avoid delays in finalising sales which would otherwise occupy a longer period in arranging an auction.

The proposed amendments to sections 110 and 111 are designed to restore a provision relating to compensation payable for dwelling houses on pastoral leases when such leases expire, are resumed, or are selected under conditional purchase conditions. Under the provisions of the Land Act Amendment Act, 1963—Act No. 60 of 1963—section 140 of the parent Act was amended to delete the provision whereby a valuation in respect of dwelling houses on pastoral leases was allowed as a *bona fide* improvement for the purpose of increasing the carrying capacity or improving the pastoral capabilities of the land. This amendment resulted in a complementary effect on sections 110 and 111 to the extent that the statutory provision providing for compensation payment to the pastoral lessee was removed. This amendment will reinstate the right of the pastoral lessee to compensation when his pastoral lease expires or is resumed or is selected under other conditions. It does not alter the existing position providing that a dwelling house is not included as a developmental improvement to pastoral leases.

Section 139B refers to rental concessions available to discharged members of the forces who select or acquire conditional purchase leases. Two new categories of eligible ex-servicemen are added to the definition of a "discharged member of the forces"—

- (i) Former members of the Mercantile Marine who served during the 1939-45 war within certain defined conditions;
- (ii) former members of the Naval, Military, or Air Forces who were engaged in a theatre of war or hostilities since World War II.

This proposal is designed to embrace servicemen who served in such areas as Korea, Malaysia, and Vietnam. This amendment does not specify any particular period of time a serviceman must serve in an area of hostilities to qualify for concessions, but he must complete six months' full-time service, or have been materially prejudiced by reason of service in any of those forces from completing six months' full-time service to become eligible.

Because certain sectors in the war zones referred to are not considered "areas of hostility" or "theatres of war," provision is made to empower the Minister to exercise discretion in determining the areas which apply.

Section 140 provides for the deletion of reference to "ring-barking" at a valuation of "not more than two shillings and sixpence per acre." This method of agricultural improvement is now an anachronism and in the unlikely event of its being practised, provision is already in section 140 in broad terms by allowing valuation for any improvement which enhances the agricultural capabilities of the land.

The first amendment to section 143 (2a) (a) arises from the need to maintain jurisdiction where a lessee or licensee intends to sell land held under the provisions of the Land Act, 1933. There is already adequate provision for the Minister to authorise the actual sale, assignation, or disposal of such land, but it also becomes necessary to provide that the Minister must approve where the lessee or licensee desires to offer his lease or license for sale, and wishes to invite inquiries from prospective purchasers with the ultimate objective of sale.

The other proposed amendment, which relates to section 143 (3), is necessary to conform to the new improvement conditions, for which legislation was passed in 1965, requiring a percentage of area to be developed instead of the previous provision where improvement requirements on a conditional purchase lease were based on monetary values.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Kelly.

STOCK DISEASES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

MR. NALDER (Katanning—Minister for Agriculture) [5.1 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

In the late 1950s a national committee was formed to consider ways of controlling and eradicating bovine pleuro-pneumonia. At this stage the disease was well established and most prevalent throughout the whole of Australia.

As increased work was done in detecting the disease and eradication procedures were put into effect, the total effort began to have some result. Large areas in some States became established as being disease free, other areas had a low level of disease, while in other areas the position was still serious.

It was therefore decided to establish three categories: bovine pleuro-pneumonia free areas, protected areas, and infected areas. Action has already been taken in the other States and in the Northern Territory to set up these areas.

It is now proposed to amend the regulations under the Western Australian Stock Diseases Act to bring Western Australia into line with the other States; however, it will first be necessary to amend the Stock Diseases Act.

This Bill seeks to widen the heads of power in section 6 so that regulations may be based on the current but changing animal disease situation in Australia. It will not only facilitate the interstate movement of cattle but at the same time provide adequate safeguards against the introduction of diseased cattle into Western Australia.

The basis of these regulations will be the establishment of the three defined areas.

A free area will be one in which there is an absolute freedom from the disease; a protected area will be one which is thought to be free and in which no pleuro-pneumonia has been found for some time, making it essential to prevent reinfection; an infected area will be one in which the disease is either known to exist, or else the area has not reached the status of a protected area.

There is every reason to base our regulations on these areas which have been legally defined in other parts of the Commonwealth. The status of cattle in these areas has been defined for us, and the necessity for further certification has also been clearly delineated. For instance the whole of New South Wales and the major part of Victoria are free areas while Queensland, South Australia and the Northern Territory all have some free

areas. This Bill will therefore permit regulations to be made which will—

- (a) Increase the safeguards to Western Australia in the introduction of cattle from other parts of the Commonwealth.
- (b) Permit the introduction of cattle which may presently be prohibited.
- (c) Remove anomalies in our present regulations.
- (d) Take cognisance of the greatly improved disease situation in the Eastern States.

That briefly outlines the position with reference to the proposed amendment to the Stock Diseases Act; and here again I am sure the House will be pleased to know that progress is being made in eradicating a disease which has played havoc in various parts of Australia during the past years. The co-operation that exists between all authorities and organisations which have an interest in this matter has been quite praiseworthy and a great deal of progress is being made. I have much pleasure in commending the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Kelly.

EVIDENCE ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

MR. COURT (Nedlands—Minister for Industrial Development) [5.5 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

Members will readily see that the Bill contains only one operative clause, the purpose of which is to amend the Evidence Act.

Clause 2 of the Bill adds a new section 104A comprising five subsections. This introduces an innovation new to this State in that where an authority—that is, a foreign authority—desires to take or receive evidence in Western Australia, the authority may, by instrument in writing, appoint a person to take and receive evidence. It follows that a person appointed pursuant to this provision has power to take or receive evidence in this State for the authority and, for that purpose, has power to administer an oath.

The section provides, however, that where the authority is not a court or judge, a person so appointed is not empowered to take or receive evidence or administer an oath in the State unless he has first obtained the consent in writing of the Attorney-General. The authority thus given applies, however, only to civil proceedings, for the section does not authorise the taking or receiving of evidence by a person so appointed in or for use in criminal proceedings. When I use the term "authority" in this context, I

refer to any court, judge, person or body, that is authorised under the law of a foreign country to take or receive evidence on oath in that country.

Briefly then, Mr. Speaker, as the Bill enunciates, these are the provisions intended to be inserted into our Evidence Act. They are identical to those contained in the Victorian Statute known as the Evidence (Foreign Tribunals) Act which was passed last year and which, the Commonwealth Government has suggested to the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General be introduced in the form of uniform legislation throughout Australia.

It will follow, on the passing of this Bill into an Act, that where an authority desires to take or receive evidence, that authority may appoint a person to take or receive evidence in this State and, for that purpose, administer an oath. At the present time, such a procedure, which would be granting facilities for diplomats and representatives of other countries to administer the oath here, would be breaking the law, because by the laws of the State, it is unlawful for such a person to administer the oath.

I might mention, before concluding, that the provision now to be made would have its application, say, in the case of the widow of a deceased American soldier, whom a representative of the U.S.A. might desire to call to give evidence on oath in matters arising from the death of her husband.

Provisions in the new section would apply in the main, I suggest, to foreign diplomats or representatives who are nominated in writing by an authority in their own country to take evidence in this State for use in their own country.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Evans.

IRON ORE (HANWRIGHT) AGREEMENT BILL

Returned

Bill returned from the Council without amendment.

JUSTICES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed from the 5th October.

MR. DURACK (Perth) [5.10 p.m.]: This Bill was very fully explained by the Minister for Industrial Development when he introduced it, and further by the member for Kalgoorlie in the comments he made upon it. I rise at this stage only because there are one or two matters of some general interest on which I would like to speak in regard to the provisions of the Bill, and also because I propose to move a small amendment to clause 4 at the appropriate time.

As has been said, the measure proposes to do three things, but I wish to confine

my comments to two of them. The first deals with the new method of serving summonses by post for offences under the Traffic Act, which was introduced in this State by an amendment to the Act in 1965. I recall with interest the debate which took place on the amendment to the Act at that time.

The member for Kalgoorlie has also recalled the debate in question, and the problem that was before the House at the time which concerned the need to ensure that any person who is a defendant to a summons should be given adequate notice of the proceedings to enable him to attend and to be heard at the hearing. The great problem presented by this method of service by post and the necessity for protection in this regard arises, of course, from the fact that a person may not receive the letter enclosing the summons and he may not in fact have proper notice of the hearing.

As the member for Kalgoorlie recalled the other night, this has occasioned a number of members of the House a good deal of concern. I shared that concern and I still do, because it is a vitally important matter that anyone who is charged with any offence or who has any claim made against him should be given adequate and proper opportunity of answering it and be heard in answer to it by the court that is dealing with the matter.

The proposition which was made two years ago in the House—and which was made again the other evening by the member for Kalgoorlie—was that such service should be made, not by ordinary registered post but by A.R. registered post, whereby the signature of the recipient is returned to the sender, and that more or less ensures that the person concerned has received the summons or the letter. It is true that I supported that suggestion two years ago and I am somewhat unrepentant in regard to the matter, because I still believe that is a reasonable method of achieving the need that was felt by the Police Department to serve by post and, at the same time, to ensure that the person concerned receives the summons.

At that time, I listened with some interest to the views of the member for Subiaco, who seems to have a very strong feeling against A.R. registered mail for reasons which I do not share or altogether understand. Nevertheless, the objections that were made by the Minister, the member for Subiaco, and others, prevailed at the time and I was prepared to support the legislation, because the Minister said he would watch it very carefully and if there were any instances occurring where people were not receiving notification of the summons and were thereby suffering an injustice, he would have the matter brought again to the House with a view to further amendment.

I can only assume that the amendment before us today is to keep faith with the assurance the Minister gave two years ago. However, as I pointed out during the debate at that time, the difficulties which have apparently resulted from this method of service were obvious. It was perfectly clear that some people would not receive the summons before the time had expired under which they could seek to have a conviction set aside. That was obvious, and the necessity for the amendment in the Bill was perfectly clear two years ago. I regret the matter was not introduced during last session, and we have had to wait two years for this perfectly obvious protection to be introduced into the Justices Act.

I have not heard that anybody has suffered any grave injustice because of the absence of the provision—and I suppose if anybody had suffered we would have heard of it—but the fact of the matter is that there was the possibility of it, and there has been for two years. It is a matter of some regret that the situation should have arisen, because it was really unnecessary and could have been cleared up two years ago. Of course what happened was that this piece of legislation was introduced, as the member for Balcatta would say, in the dying hours of the session—I think it was introduced on about the last day of the session—and it was rushed through.

I have already expressed myself—and I presume I will again shortly—on the necessity to ensure that the procedures of this House should be such that the fullest attention is given to all matters that come before us, and that nothing should be rushed, particularly questions which affect the liberty of the subject. Therefore, naturally, I welcome this amendment in the Bill. I think it covers the problem which I foresaw, and which I thought was accepted by the Minister at the time. So I can do nothing else but support the provision.

I think the amendment gives the protection required although, as I have said, I am unrepentant as far as my ideas about A.R. registered post are concerned. However, with the protection given by the amendment in the Bill there is no necessity to have service by A.R. registered post.

The other provision in the Bill about which I wish to speak is that which enables a minimum penalty to be divided between several persons convicted of an offence in certain circumstances. The Bill only enables that to be done where the persons concerned are jointly charged with an offence—that means where the complaint is made that A, B, C, and D, or however many others are concerned, have all committed the offence as alleged in the complaint, rather than to have a situation where a separate complaint is made in regard to each one. I think the

House will understand that each person commits a separate offence and the joint charge is only the procedural method adopted; it is not that only one offence is committed. It is because of the legal principle that each of them would be guilty of an offence that each of them has to pay the minimum charge prescribed in the Act in regard to that offence.

It is in regard to this section that it has been felt, and no doubt rightly so, that certain injustices have occurred. If a serious type of offence is involved this provision probably would not be applied by the magistrate when imposing a penalty; and the Bill, very properly, gives the magistrate that discretion. However, in many cases where offences of a minor character, or a technical nature, are committed, real injustices do occur where a number of people, just because they happen to be, say, the joint owners of a property in respect of which an offence is committed, all have to pay the minimum penalty; whereas if there were only one person owning the property concerned he, and he only, would pay the penalty.

Therefore, in effect, the minimum penalty is being paid three and four times over in respect of what is substantially the one act or omission. I do not wish to say any more regarding the justice of the amendment in the Bill and the desirability of it. However, I share the views of the member for Kalgoorlie that the intention is very poorly expressed in the Bill. I think the draftsman has employed some rather strange phraseology where he says—

Where two or more persons are jointly charged with, and are severally convicted of, a simple offence of such a nature that the offence might not, in the peculiar circumstances of the case, have been committed by one of those persons without being committed by the other or others of them . . .

I do not see how that can apply to any offence except that of conspiracy, as the member for Kalgoorlie mentioned. However, I presume the magistrates know what power they want and what power we intend to give them; and I have no doubt they will exercise it.

Mr. Hall: They exercise it very drastically at times, too.

Mr. DURACK: It is not a case involving the private rights of the individual, where arguments might arise as to what the new section means. I have no doubt the magistrates know what prompted the proposal and, therefore, I do not propose to move any amendment to the wording, although I am not very happy about it.

Mr. Evans: We would hope that the members of the judiciary would also agree that the case should go to a later stage.

Mr. DURACK: That is the point. I do not think it would be taken to a later

stage because, when all is said and done, the prosecutor is the only person who is concerned. He knows what the position is and this is meant to be a relief for the defendant. Therefore, I do not think anybody would raise a difficulty. In any case, I think it is fair enough that the matter should be allowed to come forward, and if a difficulty is raised something will have to be done about it. As I have said, I am not prepared to move an amendment to the proposal.

However, I believe that the new section as now worded only gives the power to a magistrate when a certain procedure is adopted—namely, charging defendants jointly. The benefit of this section is meant to be given to defendants who satisfy its requirements, whether they happen to be charged jointly or individually. Therefore, I propose to move an amendment in the Committee stage to overcome the technical difficulty which I see in the application of this proposal. Apart from that, and despite some of the critical comments I have made about the Bill, I support it.

MR. RUSHTON (Dale) [5.25 p.m.]: I rise to support the Bill because it could be said that one of the amendments contained in it is as a result of certain actions which took place in my electorate. The Bill covers three issues, two of which to my mind have been fully covered, and therefore I propose to address myself to the third issue—that is, the provision which will give magistrates discretion regarding the awarding of minimum penalties.

As all members would know, last year, in attempting to ensure that all precautions were taken to obviate the possibility of bushfires occurring, a shire in my electorate prosecuted certain people and, as a result, some anomalies became apparent. On a number of occasions prior to this the same shire had seen the provisions of the Act interpreted in a certain way and the magistrates, on different occasions, had in fact awarded proportionate minimum fines. Therefore it was somewhat distressing both to the shire and the electors concerned to find that they were charged with certain costs and were awarded fines which were greater than expected.

After reading the Minister's introductory speech in another place, and the speech made by the Minister for Industrial Development in introducing the Bill in this House, I am prepared to accept the assurances that the intention of the Bill is to give magistrates discretion in regard to the awarding of minimum fines and costs. I am not a trained legal man and I must admit that some of the wording threw a few doubts into my mind, but the intention is that the situation which occurred last year should not be allowed to be repeated, and magistrates should be

given certain discretion. That is satisfactory to me. Naturally enough, if the new proposal does not work out I am sure the Government and the House will agree to a further amendment to rectify the position.

As I said earlier, the Bill is the result of action taken last year under the Bush Fires Act, and because of the anomalies which became apparent. It is pleasing to me to note the actions of the shire in recent times, as a result of last year's experience, to look after the interests of the electors and provide them with full coverage so far as bushfires are concerned. In recent days the shire to which I have already referred has brought together all the shires that are likely to be confronted with similar fire problems and a committee has been formed to deal with this aspect so that there will be uniformity. In the last few days I have received notice of the shire's intentions, and all the electors in the district have received the same notice.

It is not my intention to elaborate on the matter except to say that when the fines were imposed last year many anomalies were apparent, but by the introduction of this Bill the Government will rectify the position. Therefore, I have much pleasure in supporting the measure.

MR. COURT (Nedlands—Minister for Industrial Development) [5.30 p.m.]: I thank the members for Kalgoorlie, Perth, and Dale for their support of this legislation. The comments made, particularly by the members for Kalgoorlie and Perth, are appreciated. I realise that this follows closely on their attitude in 1965. I would, however, point out to those members that the amendment sought to be made today honours a promise made by the Minister for Police that the matter would be kept under review. I think he was speaking, at the time, in his capacity as Chief Secretary, though I am not sure. This, however, is the result; and I think it is a very satisfactory compromise to overcome some of the administrative and practical difficulties that would have been inherent in the original proposal of the member for Kalgoorlie. At the same time it gives full regard to protecting the interests of the individual.

As a result of experience, the proposal in the Bill achieves the basic objectives of the members for Kalgoorlie and Perth. The member for Dale, of course, is on a slightly different theme; and it is pleasing to know he is satisfied that the legislation removes what was obviously an anomaly and what could have been an injustice.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee

The Deputy Chairman of Committees (Mr. Crommelin) in the Chair; Mr. Court

(Minister for Industrial Development) in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 to 3 put and passed.

Clause 4: Section 166A added—

Mr. DURACK: I move an amendment—

Page 3, line 5—Delete the word “jointly”.

It is only a matter of limiting the application of the proposed new section to people to whom it would otherwise apply, to ensure they are charged jointly rather than charged separately. The benefit of the proposed new section could easily be circumvented by a prosecutor charging people separately rather than jointly.

Mr. COURT: I have conferred with the Minister concerned on this matter, and he in turn sought the views of the parliamentary draftsman. While originally it was thought proper to have the words “jointly charged,” as a result of the representations made by the honourable member it is appreciated that there could be a situation where somebody could circumvent the legislation and its intention—though this is unlikely—and I am prepared to accept the amendment. The provision will then read, “Where two or more persons are charged with”

Amendment put and passed.

Clause, as amended, put and passed.

Title put and passed.

Bill reported with an amendment.

LOAN ESTIMATES, 1967-68

In Committee

Resumed from the 4th October, the Deputy Chairman of Committees (Mr. Mitchell) in the Chair.

Vote: Railways, \$10,884,000—

MR. NORTON (Gascoyne) [5.36 p.m.]: In analysing the Loan Estimates for this year it is very disappointing to see that the amount for the north-west has been reduced by \$1,203,457, which is a 26 per cent. reduction. That is quite a large percentage by which to reduce Loan Estimates in an area which requires money urgently for various kinds of development.

I notice that no allocation has been made to State ships this year, and they have therefore no obligation in respect of loans. Last year an amount of \$364,247, was allocated to State ships, and, as this amount is now to be saved, it certainly does not justify the reduction in the amount allotted for the north-west in 1967-68. The amount allocated for irrigation has also been reduced by \$682,671, and that allocated to the Police Department by a smaller amount of \$61,717. I cannot understand why loan funds should be so drastically reduced when they are urgently needed in the north-west.

Mr. Ross Hutchinson: We are harnessing a lot of money.

Mr. COURT: The actual programme in the north will be the greatest ever.

Mr. NORTON: The Ministers have not indicated that to us yet. First of all, I wish to deal with the education of the children in the north-west and in the more remote areas of the State. I feel these children should, as nearly as possible, be given the same opportunities as are offered to their cousins in the city. Generally speaking, the numbers of children in the more remote areas are not as large as those in the city, and it is therefore not easy to supply educational facilities for them. That fact is acknowledged.

It is necessary, however, for parents in the north, and in the more remote areas, to make arrangements many years ahead for the education of their children. This is particularly so in the final years of the children's education. It is normal departmental policy that before a school is declared a junior high school or a senior high school there must be the prospect of a certain number of children attending it.

This is quite easy as it relates to schools in the city area. Because of the number of schools in the city it is possible to have children transferred from one school to another, and thus obtain the balance and the numbers required for the school to be declared a senior high school. In the north-west and in the more remote areas, however, this is not always practical. As I have said, it is necessary for people to make forward arrangements for the education of their children, and those who have sufficient money to do so make arrangements to send their children away to some other school—they want the children to have their secondary education at the one school—and the junior high schools and high schools are bypassed and, as a result, they do not provide the educational facilities necessary.

An example of this is the Carnarvon School. This year 25 children left Carnarvon to take their Junior and Leaving examinations away from the district. Had there been the educational facilities available for them at Carnarvon they would have continued their education in the district, and thus saved their parents a considerable amount of money. Not only would this have saved the parents a great deal of money but it would have ensured that the children remained in the district after completing their education. As things are now, the children who take their Leaving examination away from Carnarvon seldom return.

We had the spectacle this year of three banks in Carnarvon looking for junior boys, without any success at all. This is a clear indication that the boys do not return to the district in which they have

lived in order to continue their life's occupation. Two or three years ago the Carnarvon School was a junior high school; but the primary school was segregated and it then became a three-year high school in its own right.

Since it has become a three-year high school, however, nothing has been done to upgrade the school, nor has any effort been made to bring the high school to the standard one might expect. Virtually this school is still a junior high school. It still has two primary classes, and there are no additional classrooms or other facilities provided. Great credit must be given to the teachers who are able to obtain good results in spite of the lack of facilities available.

So that it might be placed on record, I would like to give the details in respect of the high school at Carnarvon. The high school has nine classrooms, including a science room. It has a manual training centre, which is also a technical drawing centre. When two classrooms are taken away for primary school children it leaves only six classrooms for the high school students. I would also point out that the science room is not properly equipped, because it lacks a fume cupboard which is so necessary for ventilation. Apart from this there is not adequate storage space.

In the arts and crafts section, while the school has been supplied with 18 art desks and stools, these desks and stools have had to be stored away because the room formerly available as an arts and craft centre was required as a primary classroom. Accordingly, it is not possible to teach arts and crafts efficiently; and this, of course, places a greater burden on the teachers as they have to use the ordinary classrooms to teach arts and crafts.

The manual training centre is too small and, as I have said before, technical drawing classes are conducted at the centre, which means that the class time for manual training has to be cut down considerably. The library is in a converted classroom and its fixtures are more or less inadequate. This has also to be used for a classroom. There is no canteen, such as is normal at a high school. Typing has to be taught in an ordinary classroom, and it is not practical to do that. Office space is totally inadequate. The deputy principal and the senior mistress have to share a room which was originally built as their medical room. They also have to store the duplicators and large quantities of stationery in this room, and there is practically no space in which to enter after chairs and tables are provided for these two teachers.

I feel that the shortage of equipment and facilities is definitely hampering children in remote areas; and that is one of the reasons why large numbers of children in their final years of education are

being lost to the areas concerned. People require facilities to be given to their children; and, where this is possible, it should be done. I can see no reason why the department should, in remote areas, require that certain numbers of children should be available in order that a high school may be upgraded to a senior high school. If the 25 children that went away this year for their fourth and fifth-year schooling had remained, there is no doubt the department would soon have had sufficient children there to meet the requirements for a high school. That may not have been the case this year, but parents would tend to send their children to the school if the facilities were available.

A similar situation exists in regard to the Carnarvon hostel. At the time the hostel was built, there were not sufficient children to fill it; but, since its completion, the numbers of children are climbing quickly. Some of the people in the north whom I saw during the weekend were pleased to know that at least temporary accommodation is to be provided at the hostel for this coming year. They were also pleased to know that primary school children would be included.

In 1964 I spoke quite extensively on the cost of building of schools in England. I am not able to quote up-to-date costs, but I think it is worth while going back and quoting the figures which I gave before.

As recently as the 20th September, I asked the Minister for Education if his department was investigating the possibility of adopting the modular system of building classrooms in Western Australia, thus emulating the British system. In Britain this system has saved millions of pounds since 1947 when it was first adopted. As the Minister will recall, I previously quoted the figures per square foot of schools built in England. Those schools are very elaborate as they include central heating, kitchens, and practically every other facility a child could wish for. There is no reason why this system of school building cannot be adapted to our own climatic conditions. The English schools are insulated against cold and therefore they would be insulated against heat. I cannot see that they would require very much modification.

The cost per square foot of a primary school in Western Australia in 1964—the figures were supplied by the Minister—was \$21.60, while the cost per square foot in England, converted from sterling to Australian currency, was \$10.50, a saving of \$11.10 per square foot.

Mr. Lewis: The Director-General of Education and the principal officers of the Public Works Department are at present in the United Kingdom investigating the situation.

Mr. NORTON: That is good to hear. In 1964 the cost of secondary schools in Australia per square foot was \$44.88 against

\$10.54 in England. The difference in cost in England for building primary and secondary schools was only 4c per square foot. The fact that in Western Australia it costs double the price to build a high school that it does to build a primary school has me puzzled. It may be that we are putting in extra classrooms for the teaching of science and manual training, which are not part of a primary school; but these facilities must be supplied in England. Perhaps dining rooms, and so on are being omitted.

I have not made a study of the situation to know exactly what takes place. However, I feel that if we adopted the modular system, quite an amount of money could be saved. This system virtually requires the letting of contracts for large quantities of materials which are of a standard size in every school. We could probably combine to some extent with the private schools, and also with other departments in regard to their buildings. With the modular system one builds on squares with four walls, windows, and that sort of thing; and, with a bit of research, probably other departments could join the scheme and order the main structural parts of their buildings under the modular system.

Another thing I wish to bring up again this year is the necessity for a new courthouse at Carnarvon. I asked a question of the Minister representing the Minister for Justice in regard to this matter on the 2nd August this year as follows—

Will a new courthouse be built in Carnarvon this year and, if so, where will it be built?

The Minister replied—

The present intention is to erect a block of public buildings in Carnarvon designed to accommodate officers of all departments represented in that centre. A new courtroom, court office and other facilities will be incorporated in this project. The time of commencement is dependent upon the amount of loan funds which can be made available from time to time for works of this kind. The allocation of loan funds for this financial year has not yet been finalised. The site for the proposed building has not yet been finally determined.

We find that the loan funds for the north-west for this year have been reduced by about \$1,300,000. Surely loan funds could have been increased so that we could have these buildings!

Mr. Court: For this year we have the biggest spending programme in the north, and this is not necessarily reflected in loan funds. The member for Albany has criticised us for spending too much.

Mr. NORTON: When I have finished the Minister can get up and speak if he wishes. Mr. Deputy Chairman (Mr. Mitchell) may I have the floor?

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (Mr. Mitchell): You may have the floor, Sir.

Mr. NORTON: The courthouse at Carnarvon has been condemned by the Chief Justice, and justices will not sit in session at Carnarvon. I do not blame them, because there is no room to which the jury can retire. The courthouse and court buildings actually comprise a courtroom, the clerk of courts' office, a storeroom in the middle, and a magistrate's office. In addition, the courthouse is not sufficiently large to enable a jury to sit in front of a judge; so it is not possible to have a judge and jury sitting in the courthouse. Because of this, the accused and all witnesses have to be transferred to Geraldton, which is a very expensive operation so far as the Government is concerned. In this courthouse is a small storeroom which, at the present time, is occupied by the sergeant of police, because he has nowhere else to go. If the sergeant cannot use the storeroom, we will definitely have to build some other room, or rooms, for him.

The work of the clerk of courts at Carnarvon has increased considerably over the past year or two, particularly in relation to his job as mining registrar. In addition to being registrar for the Gascoyne, he is also registrar for Pilbara. So he needs more room for the storing of his papers, maps, various forms, and other things which are required. He is badly in need of extra accommodation.

It is interesting to look back at questions asked in respect of the courthouse. In reply to a question last year the Minister said that funds would be listed for the year 1966-67, but when we come to the year 1967-68 we find the date for the provision of offices at Carnarvon is unknown—and six Government departments badly require accommodation. Just where their officers are at the present time, I am not sure.

A chronic situation exists in regard to the police station; and when I say, "chronic," I mean chronic. At Carnarvon there are seven constables and a sergeant, and the size of the police station is 14 feet by 24 feet, in which all their furniture, etc. has to be placed. Public interviews have to take place in this room, and there is not sufficient space for private questioning or for the taking of private statements. These things have to be done at the public counter.

When we have regard for the fixtures and furniture in the police station, the area allowed for the police to work in drops by 50 per cent. Over the past two years I have asked questions about the police station and am told that funds will be listed in the following year. It looks as though this will go on year after year. When we look at the amount provided in the Loan Estimates this year for police in the north-west, we find it is down by \$61,717.

I am advised that in the future all prisoners from the Carnarvon area will have to be transferred to a central prison

at Geraldton. This will mean that once a prisoner is found guilty, warders will have to come from Geraldton to take him to Geraldton. If the warders come by road it will mean a round trip of 620 miles which, according to my reckoning, will cost in the vicinity of \$60 for the vehicle alone; that is, using a rate of 10c per mile, which is a very reasonable amount. On top of that, accommodation will have to be provided for probably two warders, plus the cost of two days' work. In addition, there will be the cost of returning the prisoner to Carnarvon.

The alternative is to send prisoners by air which, again, is very expensive.

I feel it is up to the Government to see that people who work in the north are given adequate facilities in connection with their work. This applies particularly to the Police Force, as its members are doing a mighty job, when one has regard for the large areas which they have to cover. It is up to the Government to provide sufficient working space in the offices at police stations to enable the staff to carry out the jobs required of them.

Mr. Brand: Talk to the member for Albany about that.

Mr. NORTON: The job of a policeman is becoming very complicated. He has more clerical work to do, and that means he needs more space in which to work. I also feel that the members of the public who have a need to interview the police should be able to do so in reasonable privacy. I have seen as many as four or five people standing at the public counter waiting to receive attention, filling in forms for drivers' licenses, and so on. One might say that a lot of the confidential business which is transacted at the police station is not confidential at all, because there is no proper room provided for such interviews.

The last point I want to touch on relates to facilities for pensioners who require hospitalisation. I know the Premier has been very worried about rising costs in hospitals, and about the hospitalisation of people throughout the State. When it is realised that pensioners comprise 35 per cent. of the inmates of country hospitals, it can be seen that a considerable sum of money is being spent with no return, as it were, whatsoever.

I feel that the larger country hospitals should have a geriatric ward—that is what I would term it—attached to them. Most of the pensioners who go to hospital these days—in Carnarvon, anyway—are people who perhaps have the 'flu or who are suffering from malnutrition because they do not cook for themselves. Those people want a little nursing to bring them back to health. Of course, there are also those who are too old; those who have no relatives whatsoever in the district; and those who cannot look after themselves. Such people have to be hospitalised if they are

to be looked after, and the only place they can be admitted to is the public wards. I feel the hospitalisation of this type of person is costing the Government far too much money. The cost of a hospital bed per week is in the vicinity of \$85.61. The Commonwealth allows \$5 a day which would bring the cost to the Government down to \$50.61 per week.

The cost per bed to the Government in the aged persons' homes such as Mt. Henry and Sunset is \$32.83 per week. That cost is considerably less than the cost of a hospital bed. The Commonwealth allowance is \$2 per day, which reduces the cost to the State to \$18.83 per pensioner. That is \$31.78 less than for a bed in a public hospital. Pensioners have been in the Carnarvon Hospital for as long as four or five years because they have nowhere else to go. They have not been receiving actual medical treatment, but they have to be kept there because there is nowhere else for them to go. Those people cannot look after themselves, and the only place where they can be looked after is in the hospital.

If geriatric centres were built at the hospitals the pensioners could be housed there and they could be required to contribute a small portion of their pension towards their upkeep. This would help to reduce costs quite considerably. I think there might be a technical objection to the addition of geriatric wards, such as I have suggested, to hospitals. Such buildings have to be provided for under the aged persons homes' section. To erect them on Public Health Department land might involve some red tape. However, one would have to overcome the problem of where the money would come from for the buildings and their maintenance. I feel these geriatric centres could be built at places like Carnarvon, Geraldton, Merredin, and so on. A room could hold four or six beds. The hospital kitchen staff could provide the meals, and the house staff could do the cleaning. A geriatric sister in charge would be required, with two or three nursing aides to assist her.

A sister appointed for this work could also do the rounds of the town and keep in touch with the other aged people and render a service to them. I feel that if the Government followed this suggestion it could save a considerable sum of money as far as hospital expenditure is concerned. Also, a service could be provided for the pensioners, which is not available today in the remote areas.

MR. JAMIESON (Beeloo) [6.7 p.m.]: Each year, of course, we have this debate dealing with all those things which the Loan Estimates are applied to. Indeed, of recent times, we have seen some criticism made by the Federal Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee—I think that is what it calls itself. That committee looks into all the financial problems associated with grants and associated finance. We have

seen this criticism levelled at allocations of loan finance to certain projects when finance has not been used. This problem has been explained, on various occasions, by the Minister for the North-West and other Ministers. In fact, when one looks at the Budget papers, from time to time, it is hard to understand exactly why some of the money is not used more expeditiously than has been the case in the past.

It is true that we have various problems occurring, such as the changing of plans which can cause delay in the use of some finance. However, the money should be spent according to plan, otherwise it is very difficult for a body such as the Federal Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee to reconcile the estimates of the various States with the actual amount of money used.

In my own electorate a considerable amount of loan finance has been used in the provision of additional schools over the past few years. I would think that over the next few years, with the growing demand for educational facilities, the provision of such facilities will be one of the biggest problems facing the Government of the day in the allocation of loan funds.

We have other responsibilities such as hospital building for which loan funds are allocated. In this respect, the new Bentley Hospital is now taking in patients, and serving a good purpose. For many years I have been advocating a hospital to serve the south of the river suburbs. However, I have some criticism regarding costs at the new hospital. The costs to the patients have been the subject of Press comment in the south suburban supplement of *The West Australian*. The Press clearly pointed out that the costs in this particular hospital are in excess of those at many other hospitals available to doctors practising in that area. As a consequence, many doctors have, because of the financial position of their patients, found it necessary to send their patients elsewhere.

I feel the Government must provide this facility at least at the same price as that charged at private hospitals. We are all well aware of the penalties imposed by the Grants Commission if we provide facilities of a social nature. Hospitals, of course, are included in these facilities, and it would be a penalty against our State if we reduced the cost by too much. However, I think there is a special case with respect to hospitalisation. As I mentioned earlier this session, if we can provide hospitalisation at a cheaper rate than that applying in the standard States—and I see the number of standard States will be extended from two to four—then surely this would be a facility which could be made available to the people of the State.

We often hear of the great development in the State and the leap forward. The leap forward is also occurring with res-

pect to payments from the hip pocket, and this should not be necessary. I think that the States which are receiving royalties—and this is the general trend overseas—should reduce the burden of taxation on the people. After all, the State is not owned by the Government or the Opposition, but by the people. As a consequence, any benefit derived from the State should flow back to the people and should not necessarily be spent extraneously by the Government of the day.

I feel that sooner or later some benefit should be forthcoming from the vast mineral deposits now being exploited and used on a commercial basis by many countries other than our own. If the development was just tied to our own State it might be argued that the people of the State were receiving the benefit from the extra industrialisation, and the economy of the State would be receiving a boost.

One of the other major requirements for loan funds in the metropolitan area is main drains and sewerage. I feel this expenditure will have to be stepped up even more than it has been in the past if we are to relieve the situation which exists with the high water-table in the inner suburbs. Many suburbs could be closely and effectively settled if deep drainage and sewerage were provided. If suburbs were closely settled the economics would be far better, from the Government point of view, than at present. We find that many low lying areas have to be bypassed, and electricity, water, and drainage have to be carried past that land and are not being effectively used.

I think the Government might seek advice from other cities which have much the same area of swamp land around them as we have in Perth. Those cities have been able to manage. We have advice on other matters such as the freeway and all sorts of road systems and town planning.

Sitting suspended from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m.

Mr. JAMIESON: Before the suspension I was dealing with sewerage, drainage, and water supplies in the near metropolitan area, and many of the other areas which I consider are not being fully and economically used. Towards achieving this end I suggest the Government could take action to a far greater degree than it has done. It could acquire much of this land for use by the State Housing Commission at a fairly nominal price. The Government could argue that in its present state it is unsuitable for subdivisional development and, in consequence, it could obtain this additional land which I consider would satisfy the need for housing in the eastern suburbs without going too far afield. Drainage and other public utilities could be provided with a full return from each individual lot, because the

development of these areas would prove to be much cheaper than it has been in the past.

I consider this is one method by which the Government could use its services to a much greater extent than it is at present. Further, it would be of great advantage to the local authorities, because when dead pockets lie within the boundaries of the metropolitan local authorities they have the problem of providing those dead pockets with services in the same way as the Government has to provide electricity mains and water supply mains to areas further afield. So, to that extent, if those areas could be developed it would prove to be of great advantage to the community generally.

For a long time we have heard discussions on the problem of the terminal for the standard gauge railway. Over the past few years this subject has been greatly in evidence in the pages of our Loan Estimates; and, of course, this year we have to allocate a substantial amount for the finalisation of the standard gauge. I consider that in regard to the finances of this railway, the Government has let the State down, because of procrastination and changes in certain decisions. The Commonwealth Government readily agreed with the alternatives presented to it by the State Government, because the Commonwealth had been committed to a far greater degree and to a more expensive proposition than was anticipated, particularly in regard to the provision of the terminal at East Perth.

It will be recalled that originally it was planned that the standard gauge railway should terminate at Fremantle and, eventually, it must. This problem is tied up with the task of successfully channeling the railway through the centre of the city as we now know it. I do not think enough research was conducted by the Railways Department into this problem, because if more research had been made the railway could have been successfully re-routed to allow the city to expand, and the money obtained from the sale of the valuable land in the centre of the city could have financed the cost of re-routing the railway. The obvious route that could have been followed seems to have been completely overlooked by the department.

The problem will not be cured by the department's negotiating with various firms to develop land at present occupied by the Perth railway station, which originally was swampy country. For a long time to come it will be necessary for railway goods traffic to run through the centre of the city, and I would suggest, even at this late stage, that alternative plans be considered for the re-routing of the present line. Obviously, even to those who are inexperienced, there are other ways by which the problem could be over-

come; yet this problem seems to be incapable of being solved by the Government.

I do not know of any capital city through which a railway runs which carries a considerable amount of goods traffic as well as passenger traffic, other than the City of Perth with its railway running from the Port of Fremantle to the commercial heart of the city. I suggest it is high time that we re-routed the railway to the north of Perth where it would probably give better service. It would also release a great deal of valuable land in the heart of our ever-growing city which could be put to better use when considering plans for our proposed cultural centre which, it is hoped, will be developed in the next few years north of the existing railway line.

I admit that at the time it was built, the existing railway route was the most suitable. It may have been reclaimed swamp in those days. My grandfather used to pride himself on telling me that he used to shoot ducks where the Perth railway station is now situated. This, of course, would have been quite correct, and it would not have been sought by any commercial organisation at that time. In these days, however, it is very valuable land, and it will become more valuable when we re-route the railway line and remove the railway station from its present site. Consideration could then be given to putting down two or three railway lines for the rapid transport of both passengers and goods through the centre of the city instead of having the present stupid set-up of trains causing constant bottlenecks as a result of remaining stationary across main streets which are closed to road traffic by boom gates.

There is no accounting for this in these days of electronic signalling devices by which trains can be channelled from one point to another without there being any disruption of road traffic in the heart of the city. One would think we were still living in the days of manual signalling boxes when the signalman, in co-ordination with a number of other factors, kept his eye on the other signal box with the aid of a pair of binoculars. However, those days have long since gone and we should be able to make full use of the electronic signalling equipment that is available to the Railways Department. I am sure many members have seen the long lines of vehicles queued up at the Lord Street and Moore Street railway crossings at the eastern end of the city, and unquestionably this causes those engaged in commerce unnecessary expense because of the great delays that are experienced. These delays are quite unnecessary.

The Minister for Railways is not present, but I am certain that if he gave this matter some consideration he should be able to rid the city of these bottlenecks.

No trains should be allowed to pass through that particular area unless it was possible to pass through the city to West Perth from the east, or in the opposite direction, without stopping. The old saying that one used to have a pretty good run through on the train from Sydney to East Perth still stands. The objective should be to rid the centre of the city of the existing railway and put down new railways elsewhere. As the then Minister for Railways indicated to me some few years ago when I raised this matter, the State will have to bear the full cost of the re-routing of the railway line; but, regardless of this, we will have to go ahead with the work, because it is ridiculous that we should have primary produce transported south of the city through the Kwinana district, back through a bottleneck south of Fremantle, and over the bridge to the marshalling yards at North Fremantle so that it can be loaded onto ships at the north wharf. This is quite unnecessary. There should be a through railway line and it should not be necessary to have railway marshalling yards on that site.

The Minister for the North-West is keen to point to the development in the north, but some of the engineers under his control should take cognisance of the bottlenecks which are overcome in the handling of large ore trains used for the conveyance of iron ore in the north. I feel certain that similar steps could be taken to overcome the bottlenecks which occur daily with trains passing through the centre of the city and which will become more frequent as the transport of freight increases over the next few years.

One could say, of course, that eventually there will be great harbour development in Cockburn Sound and that much of the shipping at present using the wharves at Fremantle will be diverted to that area. Nevertheless, I think it must be realised that for many years yet the north wharf at Fremantle will be used for the berthing of ships which call at that port to load wheat, wool, and many other primary products. In regard to the loading of wheat, in particular, we have too much at stake at the north wharf for shipping to be diverted elsewhere to load this type of cargo.

Eventually, there will be other berthing facilities made available in the Cockburn Sound area, but regard must be had to the capital investment at the north wharf, and no doubt many years will pass before the capital that has been invested there is completely repaid. The loan commitments of Co-operative Bulk Handling and others involved in the handling of wheat at the north wharf will ensure that any Government would deliberate carefully before making an attempt to remove the bulk installations from North Fremantle. No train should stop between East Perth

and North Fremantle, and to achieve that objective we have only one problem; namely, the re-routing of the railway through the City of Perth.

Other associated problems do not matter to the same extent, because there are reasonable facilities available; and, whilst additional railway cuttings will be required at some points, together with the provision of other requirements, the railway reserve is reasonably adequate to carry a two railway lines, each of a different gauge.

Such a set-up should be provided, so as to fit in with a service which would be run from Sydney to Fremantle in an efficient manner, instead of the line taking a circuitous route and having to pass over a bridge which it should not have to cross. In my view the plan of the railway line is a rather stupid one. As in other matters in the design of railways we seem to abide by the views of experts, rather than by the views of those who are responsible for planning the most efficient routes and for directing the Railways Department to proceed with the construction in order to provide the necessary permanent way for the functioning of the line.

One matter which we always seem to be faced with is the extension of water supplies to country areas. I am a great believer in the fact that everything possible should be done to extend the supplies. However, in this direction we are limited by the amount of loan funds that are available, and it is high time that thought was given to building dams progressively to retain the potable water wherever possible. We often hear references to the Swan River and to the fact that its water is not potable, and the same applies to the Murray River, and to the Blackwood River, which is the principal river on the lower west coast. The potable water of many of the tributaries of these rivers is allowed to be wasted and to be drained into the sea.

In a dry country, such as Australia, every effort should be made to preserve all the available potable water. Even this year, dry as it has been in recent months, most of these fresh water streams are still flowing rapidly. One need only take a trip between Perth and Bunbury to see the huge volume of water that is wasted. Countless millions of gallons of potable water are allowed to flow into the sea.

I suggest it is high time that a full survey is made to ensure that the fresh water of the tributaries of the rivers in the southern part of this State is dammed so as to provide sufficient water for the present and for the future population of the seaboard as well as for the thirsty towns on the upper plains of Western Australia.

In the Loan Estimates there is an appropriation for the establishment of a

laboratory and aquarium at Waterman's Bay. Such a project has been suggested on many occasions, and no doubt the one proposed will deal with fisheries research and such matters. Although a suggestion in this direction has not been put forward, I think that a public aquarium should be established in association with this project. I doubt whether any other State, with as large a coastline as Western Australia, lacks a public aquarium. Such an aquarium would be a tourist attraction and would enable people to make a study of sea life. The private aquariums which are found on the eastern seaboard are quite fascinating.

I realise that the population of the Eastern States is much greater than that of Western Australia, but the establishment of a public aquarium would provide the Government with a tourist attraction. To establish one as an annexe to the proposed laboratory and aquarium would be no different from the creation by the Government of zoological gardens. One would not expect private enterprise to maintain zoological gardens without some form of aid from the Government; and neither would one expect private enterprise to establish a public aquarium without such assistance.

In my view a public aquarium would be an added attraction to tourists. It is always fascinating to visitors to observe sea life in glass wall pools or containers. I am sure that the cost of building a public aquarium, in association with the proposed laboratory at Waterman's Bay, would not be very great.

I notice in the Loan Estimates an amount allocated for the purpose of subdividing and furnishing Government offices in Claver House. It is becoming quite an obsession with the Government to take over privately owned premises for Government offices. It seems that anybody with a few thousand dollars to spare can build a reasonable sized building and get the Government to rent the accommodation. With a Government guarantee of the rental, it will be no worry to such a person to repay the amount borrowed for the building. Such a policy of this Government is not a good one.

We have been informed by the Government that it has guaranteed a rental to return a certain percentage for the accommodation at the new superannuation building. It is being used almost exclusively for Government offices. I think only one private enterprise or commercial establishment has obtained accommodation in that building, but I do not know how it managed to do that, I wonder why Reg Ansett did not come to the fore and obtain the concession before the present tenant got the lease.

The superannuation board has provided the funds for the construction of this building, and it is encouraging to see that organisations with large accumulations of

funds are putting them into bricks and mortar, and are being guaranteed by the Government a certain amount of interest, by way of rentals, on the funds they have invested. I should point out there are many other instrumentalities which have accumulated funds. The Rural and Industries Bank and the State Government Insurance Office could use their reserves—although I realise they have to hold reasonable reserves under their charters—to erect office buildings, and to lease them to the Government. In that way they would be guaranteed the repayment of their investments.

Such organisations should be encouraged to provide the Government with office accommodation, and it should not be left to private persons to do this, and to reap the reward from guaranteed rentals by the Government and from the increased valuation as the years go by. The Government should not be a party to the repayment of finance for the erection of office blocks by private individuals. We already have an example of this in Vapech House, and here we have another in Claver House. The rentals being paid by the Government are fantastic, and are far beyond reasonable expectation.

I now turn to an item concerning the State batteries, and I am a little concerned about it. In the past the goldmining industry has been associated with the State batteries—although in more recent times some of these batteries have put through crushings of minerals other than gold—and their purpose is to crush gold-bearing ore.

As a result of questions asked in this House it has been found that one battery has been re-established and re-equipped at no small cost, with no additional gold potential in the area. It would have been better for the Government to pay the cost of cartage of the ore from that particular area to the nearest battery, and by doing that it would have saved between \$40,000 and \$50,000. In asking questions in this House earlier in the session I drew the attention of the member for the district to the battery referred to; that is, the Paynes Find battery.

We are often told by the Government that it has not the money to provide some of the requirements of the people, but if it is to spend huge sums like this on the re-establishment of batteries then it is unfair for it to tell the people who are in need of housing and other essentials that money is not available. It seems the Government has sufficient to spend \$10,000 on a battery and another \$11,000 to keep it going for a few months, with a return of only \$640, approximately, during that period. The people do not appreciate this being done by the Government, but not much publicity is given to these matters by the Press.

The fact that money is being spent by the Government on re-establishing a State

battery, and in other similar ways, should be publicised. Last year I indicated to the Premier and to the Minister for Industrial Development that I would make certain facts known to the Grants Commission; and this year it might be necessary for me to do so again, because in my view the Government is not justified in continuing the expenditure of these sums while housing and other essentials are in great need of loan funds.

Mr. Burt: You would do a great disservice to the State by closing all the batteries.

Mr. JAMIESON: I would not be so silly as to advocate the closing of all State batteries. I say that certain batteries in strategic centres should be retained, but that others for obvious reasons are absolutely uneconomical to operate, and are therefore unnecessary. The money spent on the latter could be put to better use in other avenues.

At long last I notice the Government is to permit the Government Printing Office to purchase new printing machinery. From my inquiries of the people working there I find that these works have not been able to replace old machinery with modern machinery. It is necessary for all Governments—private enterprise Governments or semi-socialist Governments—to have printing works, in view of the large amount of printing that has to be done. The Government in this State is no exception. The Hawke Labor Government spent quite a large amount of money on new machinery for the Government Printing Office, and, indeed, it provided the new premises in which those works are situated. However, we should watch over the position. The works should be able to continue their operations efficiently, and they should not fall behind the field through lack of modern machinery.

Recently the South Australian Government commenced the erection of a new printing office some distance from the city. As members are possibly aware, the present printing office is situated right next door to Parliament House. However, provision has now been made for a building with nearly twice as much space as the present printing office requires, because it is realised that the need for expansion will arise in the future.

Following discussions with commercial interests around Perth, I am led to understand that many of our Government departments have taken to printing their own material on lithographic types of machines which turn out a fairly good copy. As a matter of fact, when work has been done on one of these offset machines which are owned by many of the Government departments—both Commonwealth and State—it is pretty hard to determine whether it has been duplicated or printed.

However, if these expenses are to be hidden under normal Government department operations, then we will not know how much printing is costing. I suggest it would be far better if we could concentrate all the printing in one area and have all the printing for Government departments done in the one place.

Of course the Government Printing Office now has a rival in the field, which is a rather unusual position. The Commonwealth Government believes in the two airline system and it appears that our State Government believes in our Government Printing Office having the T.A.B. as a rival. The T.A.B. apparently turns out a considerable amount of commercial work as well as catering for its own very lucrative establishment. The T.A.B. is responsible for perhaps the biggest percentage of finance from any State Government department. It is acting as a really good socialist department and is bringing money from the people into the Government coffers.

I would very quickly remind members that this very good socialist enterprise was fully established, and all its undertakings fostered, by the present private enterprise Government. The Government apparently had no hesitation in allowing it to spend money on its own printing works, which it is entitled to have if it so desires. However, it would not have been a great problem to have the charts and other necessary forms of the T.A.B. printed by the Government Printing Office. This would have saved a considerable amount of capital outlay for the press which the T.A.B. bought from a private company.

Mr. Toms: What is the name of the paper?

Mr. JAMIESON: The name of the paper is *Fairplay*, but whether its readers obtain fair play, I am not too sure. I am not really able to understand these things. My friend, the member for Murchison, might be of assistance in this regard. He can very often interpret the form guide far better than I can and I must leave it to such people to judge whether *Fairplay* is of any use to people.

Mr. Burt: I certainly can't interpret how to pick winners.

Mr. JAMIESON: I notice that an amount of \$329,000 is listed in the Loan Estimates for capital additions to the charcoal iron and steel industry. As members will be well aware, this industry was in the throes of becoming a non-socialist enterprise and was to be promoted to private enterprise. However, halfway through the negotiations the situation apparently became a little too hot and there was not enough capital invested in it. Those concerned reneged.

I am hoping that the amount of \$329,000 of loan funds is not to be applied for the upgrading of the machinery and plant of

the particular industry, only to have the industry sold for some ridiculous figure to some other enterprise. We are not entitled to throw away loan funds. We have seen that done too much in the past. A number of railways were established as a matter of expediency and for political purposes, and before they were anywhere near paid for—many did not even have a hope of being paid for because they never showed a profit at all—they were pulled up and the State was faced with the necessity of making the repayments for the follies indulged in by the various Governments concerned.

If this capital is to be applied to the addition of new machinery and plant at Wudowie, we ought to ensure the industry remains the property of the State and is not written off or given away. In the past we have experienced this situation far too often. The Hawker-Siddeley deal and others are examples of actions perpetrated by this Government through Parliament. It is time we called a halt to this state of affairs and respected the money which belongs to the people. This industry belongs to the people and should remain the property of the people and not be handed over to someone for the general purpose of private enterprise.

This situation has been in evidence in the Government's action concerning the meatworks in the north-west and, no doubt, if it were possible, it would do the same in regard to other meatworks in the metropolitan area. This brings me to the subject of the Midland Junction Abattoir. A considerable amount is included in the Estimates this year for upgrading the situation at the Midland Junction Abattoir, and I am wondering just how far this undertaking has to be upgraded. In recent times it has faced a problem which has arisen between State and Commonwealth officials rather than between management and workers, although for some years this was not so.

It is a ridiculous state of affairs that every now and then our principal abattoir runs foul of the Commonwealth health regulations in the matter of slaughtering meat for export. Surely the people of this State are entitled to the greatest degree of hygiene, and if this is not being practised at the abattoir—after all, loan funds have been applied to the undertaking for a number of years—it is high time the board was sacked and someone else appointed to look after the abattoir. I have been told by a fairly authoritative source that the present clash is one of personalities between State Government and Commonwealth departmental officers; and the taxpayers of Western Australia are paying the bill. This is how stupid the situation is at this stage.

Improvements have been made over the years at the abattoir, and no doubt the member for Swan, in whose district the undertaking is established, is

well aware of those improvements. Therefore it is ridiculous that every now and then the export authority at the abattoir is withdrawn because of unhygienic conditions or because the conditions do not come up to the standard required for export. This is not good enough, and I repeat it is high time something concrete was done to ensure the establishment of the best conditions for slaughtering and for those who have to carry out slaughtering in the State. It appears that the conditions of both slaughtering and the slaughterers were responsible for the last holdup.

Professor Stephenson recently made some comment about a second university. Universities are always a very big drain on loan funds, and whilst there is a tapering off this year in the amount being appropriated for universities, this situation is not likely to continue. I believe that bigger and greater demands will be made in future.

Professor Stephenson, who has been acting in an advisory capacity for the present University, is probably well versed in this matter, and it would appear that the present State University has just about reached its limit. We are probably in what we could describe as the peculiar position of being one of the closest western universities to the vast numbers in Indonesia, Malaysia, and suchlike places, and while these countries are now establishing their own universities, many of the students choose to be educated at our University. Indeed, agreements have been established which are responsible for the students coming here.

This is not a bad idea. Surely this is one of the things that cement good fellowship between nations, and I think we would be quite justified at this stage in giving thought to a second university. At the moment there is no clear idea as to where the second university should be situated.

Mr. Hall: Albany would be a good place!

Mr. JAMIESON: That might not be a bad place.

Mr. Brady: Greenmount would be good, too!

Mr. JAMIESON: This is what I am trying to indicate. Our ideas are not unanimous on the location of a second university. Areas all over the State are suggested, and, while this is the position, we will never get our second university established; we will not even get to first base by allotting an area. It is high time the Government at least made a decision and set aside a site of some 100 acres or more for this project. It could then be developed as time goes by and thus we could do much good. I am of the firm opinion, despite the beliefs of my colleague the member for Albany—and no doubt the member for Bunbury would make a request—

Mr. Williams: Too right!

Mr. JAMIESON: —and possibly other members, including the member in whose electorate Esperance is situated, who might put in a prod for Esperance—that we must be sensible about this matter. It appears that for obvious reasons the student population gravitates towards the larger cities.

Mr. Hall: Don't let us have any more of that.

Mr. JAMIESON: I wish we could get away from it, but I fail to see any practical application of decentralisation by the present Government, and, as far as I can see, this situation is going to be very difficult. For obvious reasons there will not be enough students in Albany to keep a university going.

Mr. Hall: You try it and see!

Mr. JAMIESON: For a long time to come students would have to go from the city area and would have a long way to travel.

Mr. Lewis: Have you been reading *The Albany Advertiser* or the speech of the member for Albany?

Mr. Hall: The member for Albany was saying—

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (Mr. Mitchell): Order! The member for Beeloo.

Mr. JAMIESON: It is rather strange that when I rose to speak, no-one else wanted to do so, but now everyone wants to.

Mr. Hall: After a statement like yours, we all ought to speak!

Mr. JAMIESON: At least some reason for debate has been engendered in this particular item before us. I feel we should allocate a site. A new sort of second-class university has been established in the pine forest at Collier. As the Minister told us, the academics are to be trained at our main University, and the Institute of Technology will look after the work horses. However, I feel we have gone as far as we can with our present University. Many of the areas of land which used to give the University an attractive setting are fast being built out. If the University is allowed to continue to be cramped and crowded, we will finish up with a University something like the one in South Australia. In that State the University has nowhere to go except into the air. This is not a good scheme.

We must have a good environment and a nice aesthetic layout for our University, and I am suggesting the Government should with haste select a site somewhere south of the river. I do not care whether it is 20 or 30 miles—

Mr. Williams: Make it 116.

Mr. Rushton: Twenty!

Mr. JAMIESON: —south of the river, but there must be plenty of room to allow the decent development of our second university. It should be reasonably served by major roads that will connect it with the greatest number of people who look as if they will be making up the State's population for a long time to come.

Mr. Burt: Why not transfer it to Paynes Find?

Mr. JAMIESON: That suggestion is something which the present Government is just as likely to carry out. I could visualise the erection of a university at Paynes Find and the Government's saying, "Now it is there, you have to use it." It might be worth recalling that the amount spent on education per person who is being educated in Paynes Find would give an individual a good university education. There is no doubt about that. There is one final matter which I wish to mention briefly.

Mr. Hall: The question of a university at Albany?

Mr. JAMIESON: The member for Albany will be lucky if he gets a teachers' training college at Albany.

Mr. Hall: We will have a university college.

Mr. JAMIESON: A university college is a little different from an integrated university; and to establish university colleges, as has been done in the Eastern States, which cover a very limited field of subjects would not be a bad idea. As a concession I would agree that Albany has a claim for one of these colleges.

Mr. Lewis: That is very expensive, too.

Mr. Williams: The member for Beeloo is seeking free board and accommodation.

Mr. JAMIESON: Not at all; it is only a question of fair play. The last matter to which I wish to refer is something I dealt with earlier; that is, the condition of the loan authorities. As I pointed out, this has caused some comment from Federal circles. I know it is not possible to say that we will need a certain amount this year and exactly that amount will be used. Nevertheless, some of the situations seem to be ridiculous when looking at the unexpended balances of authorities as at the 30th June, 1967.

We see that the item Additions and Improvements to Opened Railways has a credit of \$2,360,509 in excess of what could be spent in the period. Surely we should not be that wide of the mark in our requirements for loan funds. If we are to receive loan funds, of course we have to pay interest on them, and once the loan funds are allocated, naturally the interest would be due and payable. Other sections show similar discrepancies. Possibly because of the problems which have been experienced, the Kewdale marshalling yards show a debit of \$100,000 odd. However, this is to be expected more than the \$2,000,000 odd which has just been mentioned as being in excess of what was required for opened railways. The standardisation of the gauge was one item about which the Federal body complained. I notice that the figure stands at some \$4,000,000 in excess of what could be expended last year. Again this seems to be rather a large amount to be outstanding.

If a private person were conducting a business, he would not borrow \$4,000,000 which he did not need and then pay the interest upon it for a year while trying to make up his mind what it would be paid out for. Without doubt, some margin is necessary. Even the State Electricity Commission has rather an excessive amount of capital still in hand. No doubt it will be appropriated for certain purposes but it stands at \$1,831,500 which was unexpended from loan funds made available to it.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (Mr. Mitchell): The honourable member has another five minutes.

Mr. JAMIESON: All these public works have a total accumulation in excess of \$11,000,000. The railways balance is in excess of \$7,700,000, and the north-west is right up in the chips with an unexpended balance of \$2,800,000 odd. Accordingly, the North-West Department should get on with some of the works required in the north-west and not start to demand more money. I might be able to find something for Albany yet.

Mr. Hall: I hope you do, because you made a hell of a job with the university!

Mr. JAMIESON: A laughable part is that, after all the money which has been sunk into the re-establishment of the Paynes Find battery, there is, in the State batteries, still an amount unexpended of \$4,874 of loan funds. Somebody has made a bad blunder.

The housing situation is far better. It has an amount of \$900,000 odd unexpended but, of course, a large part of that sum would be committed for payment. This is getting far nearer the mark in big business than some of the other undertakings.

In connection with sundry undertakings, there is an allocation to various local authorities for septic tank systems to be installed in schools. The figure shows that an amount of \$16,000 odd is unexpended. Surely the Government can get nearer to the mark with its Estimate than this. We should not need to have all these loan funds which are unexpended. There should be some way to overcome the position. Good and well-trained financial advisers are available and they should be able to bring forward a better set of Estimates and get closer to the mark of the loan fund requirements than the results I have listed briefly tonight. The Government should lend some thought towards getting the Estimates closer to the mark and thereby leaving itself open to far less criticism.

MR. BURT (Murchison) [8.22 p.m.]: I would like to take this opportunity to pass some remarks on the mining industry, with particular emphasis on the gold-mining industry which, although it has dropped in production to an alarming degree in the past few years, is still a very important

industry to Western Australia, particularly in the areas which, until a year or so ago, had not felt the benefit of the great mineral upsurge in the north-west.

Since the parliamentary goldmining committee took evidence in various parts of Western Australia, production has dropped by a very large extent. When we were taking evidence, the 1964 production figures were quoted generally, and they stood at 715,000 fine oz. of gold and the average grade was 5.41 dwt. Last year this had dropped to a production of 627,000 fine oz. and, what is even more serious, the average grade had dropped to 4.79 dwt. per ton which, in the table before me, is the lowest ever on record in this State.

Mr. Jamieson: The last figures showed that gold was being imported into the State.

Mr. BURT: Of course, everyone knows the reason for this. In fact, all but one operating goldmine now is receiving a subsidy from the Commonwealth, but even with this subsidy a number of operating mines are finding it difficult to make ends meet. The only goldmine which is not receiving a Commonwealth subsidy is the Central Norseman Gold Corporation, but how long it will be able to keep on this satisfactory basis remains to be seen.

The goldmining companies have done everything possible to remain alive. They have used the most modern methods of mining and treatment. Despite this, they will, in time, face certain extinction unless the Commonwealth Government and the State Government can render them more aid. After all, I suppose there must be a limit to what aid can be given to any industry in order to keep it alive.

A few weeks ago the Chamber of Mines put forward a proposition to the men to work at weekends in order to try to boost the production. For some reason or other the unions turned this offer down. In fact, at a meeting which was held in Kalgoorlie, all but one person voted against it. I was rather surprised at that result, because a number of men I had spoken to at various times were quite happy to secure weekend work because they could make use of the extra money.

When I was in Mt. Magnet last weekend, I was approached by a number of men as to why the Government had refused them permission to work on Sundays. I explained it had nothing to do with the Government; that it was the unions who had seen fit to turn down the offer made by the companies. I think this was rather a disappointment, especially for the future of the goldmining industry.

In September of every year, the International Monetary Fund holds a meeting in the capital city of one of its member nations, and the meeting that was held in September of this year was at Rio de Janeiro. These people came forward with

a proposition, which was passed unanimously, to introduce a system of credits to supplement the gold reserves. This is only another way of getting paper money to do the work and to obtain the credits which gold will always do, simply because the supply of gold in the free world is getting steadily less every year. It must be extremely worrying to the United States of America—which country, of course, hoards all the gold in the free world—to find that its stocks of this metal are dropping rapidly every year.

The world production of gold is round about 42,000,000 oz. a year of which 30,000,000 oz. is produced in South Africa. Australia's share of this production is only about 2 per cent. This production has increased ever since World War II, mainly because of South Africa's contribution, but experts consider that this year of 1967 will mark the limit of the production of South Africa if gold remains at the present price. From now on a steeper down-trend is expected in the free world production of gold.

There can only be one answer to this and, that is eventually there will be so little gold left in the world to meet the claims of other nations which are owed money by the United States that gold will have to be dispensed with altogether as a medium of monetary exchange or, alternatively, a considerable increase in the price of gold will have to be made to encourage more production. It is the hope of us all, of course, that such a move will not be left too late.

At present America leads a nation of 107 members which call themselves the International Monetary Fund, and none of them, with the exception of France, seems anxious to increase the price of gold. In the past 13 years only 42 per cent. of the free world production of gold has gone into monetary reserves and the balance, amounting to 298,000,000 oz., has gone either to industry or to private hoarders. These private hoarders are buying more and more gold every year and they consider it a very cheap commodity at \$35 (American) per ounce. As a consequence, of course, American stocks have fallen to something like 400,000,000 oz. in the last nine or ten years and they have fallen because other countries, mainly France, Germany, Holland, Belgium, and Italy, are demanding payment in gold for goods sold to America.

In 1954 the U.S. stocks amounted to 686,000,000 oz. worth \$24,000,000,000 and foreign claims against America were only \$7,000,000,000 and these claims could be described "as good as gold."

Today American stocks have dropped to 400,000,000 oz., worth \$14,000,000,000; and foreign claims in paper money have increased to \$30,000,000,000, which is over twice the amount of gold held by

America. In other words, Europe is flooded with paper money which could be said to be not "as good as gold."

If the price of gold were doubled or trebled, or say, increased to \$100 an ounce, the stocks of American gold would still be only \$30,000,000,000. By trebling the value of American gold stocks, the free world, at the present rate of production, would have an extra 10 years of life. The world reserves would increase because there would be plenty of new gold mined and, in other words, the life of the South African, the Australian, and the other mines would be considerably lengthened. I should not imagine that the overall production of gold would increase, but the quantity of new gold taken from lower grade ores would be maintained for a much longer period.

Then, of course, the hoarders, to whom I referred just now—those who are buying gold for all they are worth—would surely disgorge a great deal of their gold onto the world market—that is if the price were increased to \$100 an ounce. It was interesting to note in today's issue of *The West Australian* a reference to black marketeers paying \$80 an ounce for gold in the Far East.

One of the reasons given for not increasing the price of gold was the fear that Russia might unload a lot of gold and flood the market with it. I do not think she would but, even if she did, I do not think it would matter very much. I think Russia would use gold only when she had to do so, as was the case in 1965 when she was forced to pay out \$200,000,000 worth of gold to buy wheat from Canada and Australia. The reason she did that was because the two countries in question refused to accept Russian paper money—roubles—for the wheat, and so she had to pay for it in gold. That is why all the smaller countries of the world are buying and hoarding gold—it is in case of a financial crisis which may be just around the corner. If they have gold it will enable them to buy urgently needed materials from countries which will not accept their paper money.

Mr. Hall: Does the honourable member believe that Australian wheat is used for the transfer of currency in place of gold?

Mr. BURT: I agree to a certain extent with what the honourable member says. Goods are being exchanged for gold, in the same way as trading was carried out years ago before the invention of paper money. However, I believe that where a country is forced to buy an urgently needed commodity, the fact that payment is made in gold gives that country far easier and quicker access to the product required, and without any questions being asked.

Mr. Nalder: There was a very interesting discussion on the radio tonight in News Review. It was dealing with the very subject you are talking about.

Mr. BURT: I did not hear it.

Mr. Hall: The Minister raises an interesting point. Has wheat been used as a medium of exchange with China?

Mr. BURT: I would not say that at all. Returning to the position in Western Australia, we have the town of Kalgoorlie which two or three years ago had a very bleak future, depending as we all thought it was, on gold. Then a miracle occurred—and I think we all agree it was a miracle. Nickel was found only 30 miles south of Kalgoorlie and an industry of tremendous possibilities came into being in an area which looked to have a hopeless future while gold remained at the present price.

Even if gold does not increase in price in the foreseeable future—and I see no reason why it should not increase in price—the maintenance of the mines at Kalgoorlie, and in one or two other districts outside Kalgoorlie, is terribly important; because, although we are all hoping that the nickel find at Kambalda will set off a chain of mineral finds throughout the whole of the area from Wiluna to Norseman, the goldmining industry still employs many more men than are engaged in looking for or producing minerals. Therefore, it behoves both the Federal and the State Governments to keep a close watch on the declining gold industry, and they should not hesitate to give it essential help so that the existence of the towns involved is protected.

I have no doubt whatever that the mineral potential of this huge belt of country to which I am referring will steadily increase and probably will take the place of the once famous goldmining industry. I referred earlier to the industrial use of gold, and there is a small spark of hope in the fact that gold is finding a number of uses in our modern scientific world as a conductor for electrical computers, and in other directions. Gold is an essential mineral, but I do not think it will ever have a market for industrial uses equal to the tremendous necessity for it in trying to balance the great monetary reserves of the free world.

Before I complete this speech I wish to refer to a much discussed topic—I refer to the question of Paynes Find, which is just inside my electorate. I was rather surprised to hear an endless stream of questions asked by the member for Beeloo in regard to this small town. I did not know whether, as President of the Australian Labor Party in this State, he was echoing the views of his party, but I have heard so much from the Opposition benches about decentralisation during my period here—

Mr. Jamieson: I would not be afraid because there are five more votes for you.

Mr. BURT: —that it was rather strange to hear a member of the Australian Labor Party—and after all those members owe

so much to the people of the goldmining districts—criticising the starting up again of a State battery.

We all know the State batteries have given wonderful service to the people in the outback parts of Western Australia. I suppose most mines operating now owe their existence to the treatment of ore at the State batteries. I also know we cannot live on sentiment alone, but ever since I have had anything to do with the goldmining industry the State batteries have had to carry tremendous losses. The batteries still crush ore, as they did in 1903, for 10s., or \$1, a ton, although it costs somewhere about \$5 or \$6 a ton; but surely it is vital that we do everything possible to try to populate some of these lesser successful mining districts, and Paynes Find is one of them. It is a little hamlet 100 miles from anywhere in which a number of mines operated successfully in the 1930s.

It exists now simply because it is half way between Wubin and Mt. Magnet on the Great Northern Highway, and it boasts a hotel, a small post office, and a store. There are 10 or 12 prospectors operating around Paynes Find today, and that is a most unusual occurrence. Naturally they do not wish to cart their ore all the way to Mt. Magnet, where there is a battery, a distance of nearly 100 miles. Even if they were subsidised, as the honourable member suggested, it would not be much incentive to open up a mine in the district, and develop it, when they knew they would have to live for about five or six weeks in another district while their ore was being treated.

I have never known the department to subsidise the cartage of crushings to the extent that it would make up for the difference between crushing them nearby and crushing them elsewhere. The battery was started up and one prospector who wished to crush there was told by a Government geologist that he had 1,000 tons of at least six or seven dwl. ore. That would be sufficient in any district to have a battery started up, but unfortunately the ore did not live up to the geologist's expectations. Other crushings were put through, however, and several little mines are now being worked as a result.

The honourable member referred to the school at Paynes Find. Perhaps sentiment did creep into this aspect, because there is a family of Taylors there and the last three generations of Taylors have been educated at that school. Although there are only the five Taylor children at the school, a number of younger children are coming on and the new classroom built there is the demountable type that can be taken away and erected somewhere else if necessary. So I defend the Government's action at Paynes Find, and I am certain some members opposite, including the member for Boulder-Eyre, the member for Merredin-Yilgarn, and the member for

Kalgoorlie, will be in complete agreement with the Government's action in rehabilitating a battery in an endeavour to keep a little district alive.

Mr. Jamieson: How many people has it brought to the district?

Mr. BURT: It is like a lot of other mining ventures. If a successful mine is produced—and who is to say that will not be the case in this instance—a number of people will be brought to the district. If it is not successful, it will be just another mishap such as we have seen in hundreds of other mining districts throughout the State. It is always a gamble worth taking and I believe the action of the Government was courageous and brave.

Mr. Jamieson: It was brave all right.

Mr. BURT: I believe over the years it will reap a just reward for its courage in leaving open the town of Paynes Find.

Mr. Jamieson: You will continue to receive your five votes from there.

Mr. BURT: The votes do not worry me as much as the honourable member thinks. During my period as a member of Parliament I have learned that if one can do some good for one's district the votes are the least of one's worries.

MR. RUSHTON (Dale) [8.44 p.m.]: In speaking to the debate on the Loan Estimates it gives me considerable pleasure to look at the figures that were presented because they reflect tremendous credit on the present Government and the results it has achieved. The Leader of the Opposition referred to various sections of the Estimates to try to show some weakness in the Government's activities, and his references encouraged me to make some comparisons. When I made the comparisons I wondered how anyone opposite could have the temerity even to refer to the figures because they are so much in favour of what the present Government has done.

Mr. Graham: Then you cannot read figures.

Mr. RUSHTON: Of course, the Leader of the Opposition selected only a couple of items and this was not the complete picture. He selected, I think, the S.E.C. and mines—just the two.

The picture shows that the Loan Estimates back in 1957-58—I think that was the last complete year of the present Opposition's term in Government—totalled \$35,046,000 compared with a total of \$57,394,000 set aside by the present Government. This would indicate a 64 per cent. increase in funds made available. When we relate this to the field in which the Government feels it should provide additional services—namely, schools, hospitals, and so on—and we leave out the unprofitable venues in which Governments are shown not to operate successfully, we find the present Government has achieved

tremendous success in what it has sought to do.

For the sake of the members of the Committee I would like to give some comparative figures for the year 1957-58 and the present year. I will quote the actual result for 1957-58, which will be more favourable to the Government of the day than would the Estimates; and I will give the Estimates as we see them here today. I have taken out figures for the south of the State and for the north of the State. We have heard the member for Albany complain that all the available funds seem to go to the north; while, on the other hand, we have heard the member for Gascoyne say that all the available funds go to the south. So it would seem that the picture is a fairly balanced one. In 1957-58 the then Government set aside \$2,909,128 for schools in the south of the State and \$59,046 for schools in the north, while this Government is providing \$7,665,700 for schools in the south and \$335,300 for schools in the north. It will be seen that every item shows a tremendously increased percentage in the moneys provided by this Government compared with what was provided in 1957-58. The previous Government provided \$1,312,616 for hospitals, with an extra \$26,280 for hospitals in the north. The present Government's estimate for hospitals is \$4,523,008 with \$773,592 being set aside for the north.

Mr. Kelly: What about the \$50,000,000 more that your Government is receiving?

Mr. RUSHTON: Apparently the figures I am quoting are bringing forth some comment.

Mr. Kelly: It is very natural comment.

Mr. RUSHTON: I am only giving these figures to show how unfair the Leader of the Opposition was when he mentioned the items here—he only referred to two of the items—which did not give a proper picture. In the case of institutions, the previous Government in 1957-58 set aside \$151,176 with nothing for the north, while this Government has estimated an expenditure of \$1,199,250 with \$750 for the north.

We have heard some criticism of the provision that is made for police stations. Here I have a figure of \$66,834 set aside by the previous Government in 1957-58, with \$18,474 for the north, while this Government has estimated an expenditure of \$732,196 with \$75,804 for the north. This figure shows at least a 300 per cent. increase. For native welfare the previous Government provided nothing, while this Government estimates an expenditure of \$227,000, with \$50,000 being spent in the north.

Mr. Jamieson: It has not got enough money to build a university.

Mr. RUSHTON: In the south of the State the present Government estimates it will also spend \$2,199,660 on other build-

ings, equipment, etc., as detailed in the Loan Estimates.

Mr. Norton: What are the total loan funds this year?

Mr. RUSHTON: The increase in funds, which I mentioned earlier and which the Leader of the Opposition claimed the present Government was in receipt of, amounts to 64 per cent. The total figure provided for public buildings south of the 26th parallel amounts to a 215 per cent. increase, while that for the north amounts to a 789 per cent. increase.

That would indicate that the present Government has achieved what it set out to achieve: to place emphasis on the services for which it feels responsible.

Mr. Graham: Are you including housing in that?

Mr. RUSHTON: I collected these figures to draw a comparison, only because this matter was introduced by the Leader of the Opposition, who said it was a fairly unbalanced sort of Budget. I think the figures I have given show that the present Government has met the challenge successfully.

Mr. Graham: Housing is apparently not important to the Government.

Mr. RUSHTON: I will now move to a few items which are of tremendous interest to me because they indicate activities and work to be carried out in my electorate this year. One such item which will not cost a great deal but which will be of tremendous help is the provision of navigational aids at Warnbro Beach. These have been required for a number of years and they will be very well received indeed when they eventuate.

I notice that Esperance is to receive a groyne which could be of help to the yachting fraternity; and, having seen that, I thought I should emphasise the need for such a facility in my own area of Cockburn Sound. In the Press recently we read of a Perth councillor saying it would be an advantage to have such a facility at North Beach; and, while not wishing to dampen his hopes, I would point out that Cockburn Sound would be a natural and delightful harbour for the provision of facilities for large yachts. The time must be drawing close when it will be necessary to set aside funds for the servicing of yachts at Rockingham.

Anyone who is interested in yachting on the Swan would realise that the danger point is increasing for yachts on the river, and Cockburn Sound would be a wonderful place for this sport to be enjoyed.

Mr. Norton: What about houses instead of groynes?

Mr. RUSHTON: Last year there was a flash flood which created problems in the rural areas stretching from Armadale right through to the back of Rockingham. This indicated the need for additional

drainage, but it also showed—as the member for Merredin-Yilgarn would be aware—that the work carried out, particularly in the last year or two, has been very advantageous; and an extension of this work would bring further relief in regard to the problems that arise as a result of a tremendous flow of water from the hills country.

The people in this area will be seeking additional attention to this problem from the Minister, and I think their request will be for extra emphasis to be placed on the main drainage system. Naturally the provision of loan funds will be the controlling factor, but the matter will have to be given more thought in the years ahead.

During the year we had the pleasure of seeing the Minister for Works open a sewerage works at Armadale. I feel this will be the forerunner of tremendous development in that area. The member for Beeloo mentioned a university, and I am sure these works will permit of the establishment of industry, housing, and a university, to mention but a few items.

In the hills country particularly, and also in Rockingham, there is a considerable effluent problem. I notice the member for Swan has mentioned this from time to time. I am told that in recent years in South Australia, a township by the name of Berri has introduced a method of handling this matter. The reason I mention this is that the cost factor is so much in favour of what is being undertaken. We can quite easily inhibit our future housing development if we do not find the answer to the costs involved in deep sewerage.

The plan submitted to me shows that septic tanks are used in the normal way; they are sealed; and the effluent is transmitted to central points and then pumped to disposal areas, which obviates the necessity for the build-up of deep drainage and associated work. It would be of advantage to the area I represent—and to that represented by the member for Swan—if this work were undertaken. I certainly will be very interested to see how we can handle the problem.

There is also provision for reticulated water in the township of Jarrahdale. This will bring tremendous benefits in its wake, because up till now Jarrahdale has drawn its water from the neighbouring brook. This has always presented difficulties. The people of Jarrahdale have seen water supplied to the city in great quantity, and they are certainly interested to see whether they will be able to enjoy the benefits of this reticulated water scheme.

I am sure that in the years to come we will see this township grow. I think we will all agree that Jarrahdale has tremendous beauty; and, in the years to come, I have no doubt that family life will prosper and this will, in turn, bring better

schools and the provision of other facilities.

The next item I have listed is the need for schools. Naturally we are all interested in the activities of the schools in our electorates; and the first one that comes to my mind is the senior high school at Armadale, where we have seen a tremendous growth in the provision of science rooms and ordinary classrooms. The most pressing need at the moment is the provision of housing for the teaching staff. Numbers at the school have increased considerably and, at this point of time, there is one room of not great dimensions being used for housing the large teaching staff.

It has been suggested that a new library could be provided at this school—one with additional facilities in keeping with modern times—and the present library used to house the teachers. I have looked with interest at the lists of works to be carried out this year and I hope that money will be provided for this purpose. If not, I would emphasise that it is something which should receive a high priority because of the need to adequately house the teaching staff at that school.

In the Armadale-Kelmscott area there has been the greatest housing growth of all time. This is bringing about a tremendous influx of families and children; and I see the need for the building of a new primary school in the area between Armadale and Kelmscott. I am aware that provision has been made for the siting of this school and, to my mind, a start on the initial building should be made very shortly.

There has been the provision of classrooms at many schools; more are needed this year; and the department is aware of the stresses and strains throughout my electorate in this regard.

Rockingham is seeking the building of a high school, which will be very necessary as time goes on. The reason the department would not make an immediate start was because a high school at Rockingham would split the Medina High School numbers, making them too small to be economic and for the spread of subjects. The time will shortly arrive—and I think the Minister will keep this before him—as the numbers grow and the housing development envisaged comes to fruition, when there will be a need to commence a high school at Rockingham.

I wish to touch briefly on the hospital situation in my electorate. Those members who travel to the south of the State will have some idea of how beautifully situated is the memorial hospital at Armadale-Kelmscott.

Mr. Jamieson: How is the board going now?

Mr. RUSHTON: It is non-existent, but there is a very active ladies' auxiliary which

is doing good work. It has worried me for some time that the surroundings were not suitable to the building and the site. It was in my mind to interest the two adjacent R.S.L's. and the local citizens to plan in conjunction with the hospital administrators the beautification of the grounds, more or less as a memorial garden. However, due to the energetic work of an administrator at the hospital, who is a very keen gardener, there has been a tremendous lift in the appearance of the grounds; and I hope this will continue. I am not keen on the olive grove planned on the southern side of the garden area, and I trust other trees will be planted so that the hospital will have one of the most glorious settings anywhere in the State.

In the provisional list for 1969-70 there is included a hospital to service the Rockingham-Medina area. All members will agree that when this is provided it will take some of the pressure away from the Fremantle area; and, with the housing development that is taking place there, the provision of the hospital is becoming more urgent. I am pleased to see the provision of this hospital is being faced up to at an early date.

There was an interjection in regard to housing. I would make the comment that in my electorate there has never been so much housing provided as in the Armadale-Kelmscott and Rockingham-Safety Bay areas, and just over the border at Medina-Calista. All members will agree that the housing which has taken place at Medina and Calista is of a high standard and is very desirable. When the services for the Rockingham area are provided, I hope we will see the provision of a tremendous number of houses there. It is planned to provide for a big population to service industry there.

Last, but not least, I would mention the question of a second university. Last year many members laid claim to the siting of this university, but I think all will agree there is a precedent for placing a second university at a place with a name like Armadale. All we have to do is change the "i" as it is in New South Wales to "a" and we have the siting. Without being facetious, I base my thoughts on the fact that this university could be placed where we have a heavy density transport service. I say this because there is already a railway. Much greater emphasis should be placed on providing facilities which generate high densities along a high capacity transport route; and a university should be built in proximity to the railway line.

If planning in future years is to mean a great deal, consideration should be given to this aspect. When at an earlier stage, the high school was built at Armadale, I felt the reason was the economics involved. The workers at that time could proceed into the metropolitan area and the return trains could bring back students.

I think this process should continue. We have seen the build-up of industry in the Welshpool and Maddington areas; and a university and other utilities of this nature, which generate a high density, could well be sited somewhere along this railway, which is capable of carrying a tremendous number of people, quickly and efficiently.

A railway is capable of transporting something like 50,000 people an hour; buses something like 15,000 an hour; and there is a much lower carrying capacity for private vehicles. To my mind, the area about which I have been speaking has a tremendous potential for providing a facility like a university, and the powers that be who are charged with the responsibility of choosing a site for a second university should have every regard for the placing of it somewhere along that railway line.

It has been a pleasure to look through the Loan Estimates prior to my coming here to see what progress this Government has made with the items on which it has placed emphasis, in accordance with its stated policy when it was elected to power some nine years ago.

Progress

Progress reported and leave given to sit again, on motion by Mr. Graham (Deputy Leader of the Opposition).

House adjourned at 9.10 p.m.

Legislative Council

Wednesday, the 11th October, 1967

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

WOOD CHIP AND PAPER PULP INDUSTRIES

Development: Tabling of Sample Sheets

THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH (North Metropolitan—Minister for Mines) [4.33 p.m.]: In view of the current interest being shown in Japanese negotiations with Western Australian firms for the development of a wood chip export industry as a preliminary to the production of paper pulp in this State, I ask permission to table two samples of paper made in Japan by the Kokusaka Pulp Industry Co. Ltd. in pilot plant tests using equal parts of karri, jarrah, and marri timbers.

One sheet has been left blank and the other shows a sample of offset printing to demonstrate it can be satisfactorily used for printing.

The sample sheets were tabled.

QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE STANDARD GAUGE RAILWAY

Spur Line to Coolgardie

The Hon. R. H. C. STUBBS asked the Minister for Mines:

Will the Minister inform the House whether a feasibility survey has been made, or is to be made, by the Railways Department of a proposed route for a spur line to Coolgardie from the new standard gauge line?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

The honourable member was kind enough to give me some indication of this question. A thorough examination of this proposal was made when the route of the standard gauge line was decided upon. It was resolved that provision of a spur line to Coolgardie could not be justified. Since that time nothing has eventuated which would cause this decision to be reversed.

QUESTIONS (7): ON NOTICE BREAKING AND ENTERING, AND VANDALISM

Incidence in Albany Highway Premises

1. The Hon. C. E. GRIFFITHS asked the Minister for Justice:

- (1) With reference to my question on Wednesday, the 4th October, 1967, relating to offences to premises in Albany Highway, does the Minister consider the number of offences to be excessive in a period of one year?
- (2) Will he explain precisely what type of regular patrols are made by the Police Department?
- (3) Do such patrols extend through a full 24 hours each day?
- (4) In view of the large number of culprits that have not been apprehended in the period referred to, will urgent consideration be given to increasing the existing precautionary measures, or instituting some other method, in an attempt to protect these premises from further unauthorised entry, and reduce the subsequent losses that are being sustained by businessmen in this area?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

- (1) Considering that these offences extend over a distance of five miles of the busiest shopping and commercial area in the district, the figure of 118 offences over a year is not excessive.
- (2) and (3) The information will be supplied direct to the honourable member.