

paid under the section mentioned by me covering the period from 1966 to the 18th November, 1969. In my view, it will also be liable to refund the tax paid for the period subsequent to the 18th November, 1969, because I cannot, in the existing circumstances, see the Commonwealth succeeding where it has already failed.

**SIR DAVID BRAND** (Greenough—Treasurer) [9.04 p.m.]: I simply want to say that the States—and, doubtless, the Commonwealth—will seek the advice of the best legal authority available in the Commonwealth. I am no lawyer and, therefore, I am bound to rely on the best legal advice that can be obtained in respect of any decision to be made. It must be extremely clear to everybody who thinks sensibly on this matter that the States must act together. Whether one State introduced legislation a year or a month earlier than another State does not matter; the decision will be based on the same principle.

If Western Australia has to refund a little further back than some other State, this will be done, of course. Nevertheless, the overall decision will have to be taken by the States as a group, for several reasons. Firstly, I refer to the immense amounts of money involved. Secondly, there is only one way through which the States can get relief if the legislation is once more rejected in the Senate; that is, through the Commonwealth aid which was promised by the Prime Minister at the last election. That is where the matter rests.

As far as I am concerned, I repeat that I am very anxious indeed to have some final decision made, but I believe it is best left until something definite comes from the Commonwealth on this matter.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time and transmitted to the Council.

*House adjourned at 9.06 p.m.*

## Legislative Council

Wednesday, the 12th August, 1970

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

### QUESTIONS (13) : ON NOTICE

#### 1. CLOTHING REPAIRS

##### *Allegation Regarding Charges*

The Hon. R. F. CLAUGHTON, to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that recently an overseas visitor was charged \$100 for alterations to trousers?

- (2) Is he also aware that the visitor has now left the State without the clothing referred to in (1) above?
- (3) As this matter must reflect badly on the State's reputation, would the Minister undertake to have the allegations investigated?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

- (1) An article which appeared in the "Weekend News" of the 8th August, 1970, and to which this query appears to refer, was brought to my notice as a result of this question.
- (2) No, I am not aware that this is so.
- (3) It occurs to me that this is a problem which has arisen between the parties concerned, and over which I have no control.

#### 2. WORKERS' COMPENSATION *Pneumoconiosis Medical Board*

The Hon. J. J. GARRIGAN, to the Minister for Mines:

- (1) During the year ended the 30th June, 1970, how many applications for workers' compensation, pursuant to Section 8(1) (d) of the Workers' Compensation Act, were referred to the Pneumoconiosis Medical Board?
- (2) How many men were examined by the Board during this period?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

- (1) Statistics in this respect are maintained on a calendar year basis. During 1969, there were 345 applications, including 150 new claimants and 195 reviews.
- (2) All of the above applicants were examined.

#### 3. *This question was postponed.*

#### 4.

### MINING

#### *Iron Ore Royalties*

The Hon. H. C. STRICKLAND, to the Minister for Mines:

- (1) What royalties were received for the last financial year from—
  - (a) Mt. Goldsworthy;
  - (b) Mt. Newman;
  - (c) Hamersley Iron; and
  - (d) Australian Iron and Steel Ltd.?
- (2) Are these amounts for a full year?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

- (1) (a) Mt. Goldsworthy—  
\$2,287,889.82
- (b) Mt. Newman—  
\$2,966,029.89
- (c) Hamersley Iron—  
\$6,941,137.10
- (d) Australian Iron and Steel Ltd.—\$638,817.44
- (2) Yes.

5. **TRAFFIC***Speed Check Control*

The Hon. CLIVE GRIFFITHS, to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Has any action been taken on my suggestion in August last year that the Government investigate the result of the system of traffic control adopted in Queensland by the Premier, Mr. Bjelke-Petersen, in January, 1969, whereby he instituted a "show the uniform" campaign and advertising of the location of radar-operated speed checking points?
- (2) If so, what are the results of the investigation?
- (3) If the reply to (1) is "no"—
  - (a) is the Government going to make these inquiries; and
  - (b) if not, for what reason?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

- (1) No, it was not considered necessary.
- (2) Answered by (1).
- (3) The practice of hiding behind hoardings, around street corners, under trees and so on, in order to catch traffic offenders, referred to by The Hon. Clive Griffiths and recorded in *Hansard*, is not adopted by the Police Department in this State. All traffic patrolmen in uniform, whether on motor cycle or in patrol car, have been instructed they must confine their activities to the carriageways and be clearly visible at all times. Over recent years, police cars used for this purpose have been increasingly marked and also have a blue flashing police beacon attached to the top of the vehicle.

Only a small number of unmarked cars and plainclothes constables are used, primarily to intercept offending motorists who disregard the regulations; these are most necessary.

The "show the uniform" policy has been adopted in this State for many years.

The advertising of the location of radar operated speed checking points has not been adopted in the metropolitan area as it is felt that any benefit that may be achieved by such advertising would be defeated by those being aware of the area of operation taking all precautions throughout the area, but disregarding regulations when outside the known area. Secondly, if the area was known it would be avoided by the majority of motorists. Offending motorists should anticipate apprehension anywhere, not in specific areas only.

6. **WORKERS' COMPENSATION***Claims*

The Hon. J. J. GARRIGAN, to the Minister for Mines:

- (1) During the year ended the 30th June, 1970, how many applications were made for workers' compensation under Sections 8(1) (b) and 8(1) (c) of the Workers' Compensation Act?
- (2) How many of the above were successful?
- (3) Upon what grounds were the remainder rejected?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

- (1), (2) and (3) There are no statistics available from which the information requested could be obtained.

7. **KARRATHA TOWNSHIP***Government Buildings*

The Hon. H. C. STRICKLAND, to the Minister for Mines:

- (1) What departmental buildings has the Government erected at Karratha township?
- (2) What other buildings has the Government erected at this township?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

- (1) A temporary office for the operation and maintenance of the West Pilbara water supply and the Karratha townsite water supply, sewerage and drainage requirements.
- (2) None. Three houses partly completed are being constructed for the Public Works Water Supply Department.

8. **TAXATION***Allowable Deductions*

The Hon. G. E. D. BRAND, to the Minister for Mines:

As the fee paid to a medical practitioner at a country hospital is an allowable taxation deduction, would the Minister approach the Federal authorities to ascertain whether a similar fee paid to a town clinic operated by a nursing sister, the nearest medical officer being located in a distant town, could also be accepted as a deduction for this purpose?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

Advice from the Federal authorities indicates that the Income Tax Act already provides for the allowance as a deduction of fees paid for the services of a nursing sister in the circumstances described.

9. **BUILDING INDUSTRY***Scaffolding Inspectors*

The Hon. F. R. H. LAVERY, to the Minister for Mines:

In view of the number and types of new building projects under construction, such as factories, offices, flats and residential homes—

- (a) has the Inspection of Scaffolding Branch a sufficient number of trained inspectors;
- (b) is the Minister aware that it is the opinion of tradesmen in this industry that much greater supervision should be employed, but in their belief there are not sufficient staff to effect the necessary supervision; and
- (c) will an inquiry be instituted into the collapse of a large area of roof at a building in the Kewdale area on Monday, the 10th August, 1970, where five men had a miraculous escape from injury and/or possible death?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

- (a) The establishment of the scaffolding inspectorate has been increased each year over the past five (5) years to meet the requirements of trained inspectors.
- (b) The Minister is aware of the need to provide for greater provision for safety in the construction industry, and a new Construction Safety Act of Western Australia is being finalised to meet the requirements of adequate supervision.
- (c) The collapse was reported to the Scaffolding Inspection Branch on Monday, the 10th August, and is already the subject of an inquiry.

## 12.

**NATIVES***Facilities at Beaufort Street Centre*

The Hon. G. E. D. BRAND, to the Minister for Health:

As no ablution facilities exist at present at the Aboriginal Centre situated in Beaufort Street, Perth, for native persons, visiting the metropolitan area from the northern portions of the State, will the Minister have an investigation made in order that immediate action can be taken to supply an ablution block for the use of these visitors, and also the local people if required?

The Hon. G. C. MacKINNON replied:

The Aboriginal Centre is neither owned nor administered by the Department of Native Welfare and I have received no request for financial assistance for this purpose.

My understanding is that the management of the centre has, very laudably, set itself the task of arranging for these improvements.

## 13.

**GIFT DUTY***Value of Comalco Shares*

The Hon. H. C. STRICKLAND, to the Minister for Mines:

Regarding Comalco shares—

- (a) did the company pay gift duty on the shares given to—
  - (i) the Premier;
  - (ii) the wife of the Minister for Mines;
  - (iii) the wife of the Minister for North-West; and
  - (iv) all other persons or institutions;
- (b) if not, why not; and
- (c) if the company has paid the duty, at what price were each of the shares valued in order to assess the duty?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

As far as I am aware and certainly in the case of those persons mentioned in questions (a) (i), (ii) and (iii) no gift of shares took place.

The questions are neither appropriate nor applicable.

**SUPPLY BILL***Standing Orders Suspension*

**THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH** (North Metropolitan—Minister for Mines) [4.48 p.m.]: I move—

That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as to enable a Supply Bill to be taken on receipt of a Message from the Legislative

10. *This question was postponed.*

## 11.

**SHIPPING***North-West Services*

The Hon. H. C. STRICKLAND, to the Minister for Mines:

- (1) With the introduction of L.A.S.H. ships on the north-west coast, does the Government intend to dispense with passenger carrying vessels?
- (2) Will the Minister make a statement on the Government's plans towards shipping services to the north?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

- (1) and (2) The L.A.S.H. type ships will not have passenger accommodation but as they come into service the existing ships will be gradually phased out.

Assembly and to have precedence each day before the Address-in-Reply, and to be passed through all stages at any one sitting.

Question put and passed.

## DEPUTY CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES

### *Election*

On motion by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines), resolved:

That in accordance with Standing Order No. 34, the following members be elected to act as Deputy Chairmen of Committees for the present session, viz.: The Hon. F. D. Willmott, The Hon. F. R. H. Lavery, and The Hon. J. M. Thomson.

## COMMITTEES FOR THE SESSION

### *Election*

On motion by The Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines), resolved:

That, in accordance with Standing Order No. 37, the following members be elected to the Standing Committees for the present Session:—

*Standing Orders.*—The Hon. F. D. Willmott, The Hon. H. C. Strickland, and The Hon. J. M. Thomson.

*Library.*—The Hon. V. J. Ferry, and The Hon. R. F. Hutchison.

*House.*—The Hon. J. Heitman, The Hon. S. T. J. Thompson, The Hon. R. Thompson, and The Hon. J. Dolan.

*Printing.*—The Hon. R. H. C. Stubbs, and The Hon. E. C. House.

### *Assembly Personnel*

Message from the Assembly received and read notifying the personnel of sessional committees appointed by that House.

## SUPPLY 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.

### *Second Reading*

**THE HON. A. F. GRIFFITH** (North Metropolitan—Minister for Mines) [4.52 p.m.] I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

When asking the House to agree to the motion for suspension of Standing Orders to deal with the Supply Bill it has been usual for me to give a brief explanation. The reason I did not do so this afternoon was that I realised I had sat down after moving the motion that stands in my name on the notice paper and therefore I lost the opportunity to make such an explanation. However, perhaps at this point I can thank the House for carrying

the motion and say it is the one that is customarily moved at this time of the year in order that the Supply Bill can be presented, proceeded with early in the session, and given precedence over the Address-in-Reply debate so that sufficient money can be provided for the Government to finance the services of the State.

This Bill proposes the granting of Supply to Her Majesty for an amount of \$180,000,000 in respect of the current financial year, 1970-71. As is normally the custom, the preparation of the Revenue Budget and the Loan Estimates for the current financial year is at present in course and, on completion, they will be presented to the Parliament, together with the respective Appropriation Bills, a little later in the session.

In the interim, the passing of this Bill, as I have indicated, enables the Treasurer to carry on the works and services of the State.

The figure of \$180,000,000 comprises an issue of \$145,000,000 which is sought from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, a further amount of \$30,000,000 sought from moneys lying to the credit of the General Loan Fund, and the remaining \$5,000,000 represents money being sought from the Public Account to enable the Treasurer to make such temporary advances as may be necessary.

While the amounts sought from the General Loan Fund and the Public Account are similar to those which Parliament, at this point, provided last year, the proposed issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund exceeds by \$25,000,000 the amount sought in the Supply Bill of 1969.

Rising costs and the expansion of Government services call for an increased issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund and the main factor contributing to these rising costs is the continued upward trend in salary and wage rates. Indeed, but for increased Commonwealth grants last year, the Treasurer would have incurred a substantial deficit during 1969-70. Last year's deficit amounted to \$712,000 which, in the circumstances, was considered reasonably satisfactory. Nevertheless, the 1969-70 level of expenditure, which is continuing into 1970-71, gives rise for concern, for we may not assuredly count on supplementary assistance from the Commonwealth during the course of this year. In fact, such assistance is unlikely to be forthcoming in view of the revised grant arrangements which operated from the 1st July last. At this point, there is little I might add in this connection. This is, as I have said, a formal Bill, asking Parliament to grant sufficient money for our estimated requirements, and I commend the Bill to members.

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

**ADDRESS-IN-REPLY: THIRD DAY***Motion*

Debate resumed, from the 11th August, on the following motion by The Hon S. T. J. Thompson:—

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency:—

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

**THE HON. G. W. BERRY** (Lower North) [4.57 p.m.]: I rise to support the motion for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply. I listened with great interest to the Speech by His Excellency the Governor on Opening Day and I would now like to refer to a few matters concerning the Lower North Province, which I represent.

Firstly, I wish to mention the proposed dam on the Gascoyne River to serve the Carnarvon area. I have learnt that the feasibility study relating to the construction of a major dam on the Gascoyne has been unfavourable and this, of course, has caused much concern among the residents of the district. A great deal of hope was placed on the feasibility study being favourable in relation to the upper reaches of the Gascoyne, and possibly the junction of the Gascoyne and Lyons Rivers, and undoubtedly great misgiving must have been felt when the feasibility study turned out to be unfavourable.

Nevertheless, the Government is pursuing its policy in that a feasibility study has been recommended for the lower reaches of the Gascoyne in the Rocky Pool area, and it is also intended to tap the reservoirs of water which appear at different intervals in the sandy bed of the river. It is rather disappointing, of course, to learn, after all this time, that the study was not favourable. Unfortunately these undertakings require a great deal of research and exploration before a dam of major proportions, such as that envisaged in the Gascoyne Junction area, can be constructed.

I hope the feasibility studies that are at present being conducted in the Rocky Pool area will reach a successful conclusion, because it is an ironical fact that water still pours down the bed of the river and empties itself into the sea at Carnarvon. Apart from the pilot scheme that has been constructed to take off some of the water, the major part flows out into the sea.

The irrigation areas of the Gascoyne have not been extended, for the reason that the restricted water is not available

to the producers. It has only been by the grace of God that the river has flowed each year since the drought of 1959, and that the producers have been granted relief from the conditions that existed previously when the river did not flow for at least one summer.

The Carnarvon area is expanding rapidly, and the Government might be prepared to expedite the study that is being undertaken so that some work will be commenced before the river fails to flow. This is an unprecedented era in respect of the flow of the river. Some members might recall that approximately every five years, owing to the vagaries of the weather, the river fails to flow. However, since 1960—and this will be the eleventh successive year—the river has flowed. On the law of averages, there must be a series of bad seasons looming around the corner. I do not wish to bore the House with a discussion on the water position in Carnarvon, but each year it becomes more serious as the population increases and the town expands. So it is with some regret that I bring this matter forward again. I thought that possibly by now some concerted action would have been taken. Perhaps I can rest assured in the knowledge that the necessary work is proceeding with the aim of reaching a satisfactory conclusion.

The next matter affecting the Carnarvon area which I wish to mention—and members will no doubt be aware of it—is that earlier in the year the town suffered from the effects of another severe cyclone. Whilst cyclone *Ingrid* did not deposit very much water in the vicinity of Carnarvon it did considerable damage to the plantations and virtually wiped them out. It is a very serious matter when the banana industry is devastated to such proportions as occurred on this occasion. In this instance I am sure that the growers in the district now appreciate the benefits they were able to obtain from the Banana Industry Compensation Trust Fund; and this was the first occasion when the full benefit of this scheme operated. In view of the deficiency that existed in the fund after the cyclone struck the Government had to provide a considerable amount of money to underwrite the scheme.

At the time some of the growers were discontented because of the time it took for the money to be paid to them; that is, from the time the damage was sustained to the time the growers received their cheques. Some criticism was levelled at me because of the delay in the payment of compensation, and at the Government for not finding a more efficient method to make the payments available more promptly. However, payment was made and in due course there were many satisfied people in Carnarvon. This was brought about as a result of the passage of legislation in this Parliament some years ago to provide a means of supplying some money

to the growers to enable them to carry on when their district suffers from the effects of a severe cyclone, as occurred on this occasion.

Unfortunately the advent of a cyclone and the destruction of the banana crops bring about an increase in winter production; and this year the growers are not enjoying the prices that they received in other years when the season was a normal one.

It is interesting to note that recently when some market representatives from Perth were in Carnarvon they stated that the prices received for winter produce had not changed virtually over the last 20 years. The prices have remained much the same as they were then. Of course, today there are the added costs which are incurred in all of our agricultural production. Although the produce from the Carnarvon district does not have to compete on world markets we must realise that the impact of high costs is definitely felt by the industry established there. Particularly when so much depends upon winter production to help the growers over the period when bananas are out of production the impact of high costs is felt in the extreme.

Another matter affecting my province which I wish to refer to is the supply of electricity by the various undertakings in some of the remote areas. In many of these centres the existing plant has become worn out and has to be replaced. When the plants are replaced in most instances the supply is changed from direct current to alternating current; and for this purpose it is necessary to purchase new engines and equipment.

It is also necessary for most of the houses to be rewired, because the existing wiring is not of a sufficiently high standard to cope with an A.C. supply. Requests have been made to the Government for some form of subsidy to be made available to these electricity undertakings and to the people of the particular areas, because in these places no means are available to increase the sale of power as the population is static. In fact, generally the population is declining. So, it becomes a rather heavy burden on the residents of the towns who have to bear the cost. In some cases I say they have to bear an exorbitant cost for the supply of electricity. I hope the Government will be able to see its way clear to make some form of subsidy available to these centres.

A further matter I wish to raise relates to the disadvantage at which children who desire to undergo higher education are placed. When a child is sent away to obtain higher education at a suitable school, apart from the cost involved it also results in the family unit being broken up. Often we find that the children seem to drift away from their parents while they are away at school.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: They do that when they are at home.

The Hon. G. W. BERRY: Yes, but at least when they are not away they have a home to go to. When the child is at home he does not face the problems associated with great distances, such as he does if he is away from home, or a different environment. This is not an easy problem. I cannot offer any solution or remedy except to say that perhaps more consideration could be given to the cost factor when children are sent away to receive higher education.

One other matter I wish to refer to concerns the 26th parallel. This parallel has become the yardstick for entitlement to allowances and concessions. As I have stated before, this is an imaginary line drawn across the State, dividing Zone A and Zone B, which determines income tax concessions. It is also the yardstick used by the State to determine whether or not a disability exists in relation to the payment of allowances and to the conditions under which the people in those areas live. I think the State should disregard the 26th parallel when it determines the question of remoteness from—I take it—the metropolitan area.

When the line was drawn across the State it was probably meant to draw the attention of the people to the northern parts of the Commonwealth, as distinct from the southern parts which were the more settled areas. In the case of the Eastern States perhaps this line was not as apparent as it was in a State as vast as Western Australia which extends about 1,000 miles from east to west. Our State is at a disadvantage when a line is drawn across from east to west to segregate the northern part from the southern part, in order to determine the disabilities suffered by people living in the remote areas. The distance between where some of the people in my province live and the metropolitan area is greater than the distance between where the people are located above the 26th parallel and the metropolitan area.

So I make an appeal to the State authorities to reshape their thinking in respect of allowances and conditions applying in remote areas, and not to make a determination based solely on the 26th parallel as the yardstick.

I now refer to an event which will take place on the 22nd of this month; that is, the opening of the sealed road between Perth and Meekatharra. The sealing of this road is something which, no doubt, has been advocated for many years by the people living in the northern regions. Now it is a fact that the bitumen road extends from Perth to approximately 50 miles north of Meekatharra. This is another milestone in the history of the State. The bitumen road extends some hundreds of miles north of the metropolitan area.

While on the question of roads, I would like to refer to the road from Minilya to Exmouth. As members know, considerable development is taking place at Exmouth. There is the United States Naval Communications Base, Harold E. Holt, which is now well established, and 26 miles south of Exmouth there is the Learmonth airfield which is being considerably upgraded. I understand some millions of dollars are being spent on a substantial development programme to upgrade the aerodrome so that it can cater for V bombers, or any other type of aircraft now in service, and even those which are expected to be in service in the future. However, some 80-odd miles of dirt road still remain between the Minilya turnoff and the town of Exmouth, and with the extension of the R.A.A.F. airfield at Learmonth it might be an appropriate time to seek further defence money from the Commonwealth to upgrade and seal the section of road to which I have just referred.

Even if the State is not able to get any money from the Commonwealth for this purpose, I hope it will embark on a programme of upgrading this section of the road and that the road will be progressively sealed, and at an accelerated rate. There is quite a big population at Exmouth and the township is growing. These people deserve a better road from the main North West Coastal Highway to the town itself.

In passing, there is one small item to which I would like to refer because it rather intrigues me—I refer to the system of teaching mathematics which is at present in operation in our schools. When my daughter comes home with maths problems I find it extremely difficult to know where to start. In some cases I can arrive at an answer which agrees with that given at the back of the book, but I am afraid that my system and that used by my daughter are so vastly different that one just does not know what goes on. No doubt the same sort of problem exists in other homes today, but I have heard that at one school, either through the efforts of the local P. & C. association, or as a result of the headmaster, classes are conducted for parents who have young children at the school. At these classes the parents are given instruction in the new method of teaching mathematics so that the parents, in turn, can help their children at home.

The Hon. L. A. Logan: It is a matter of going back to school.

The Hon. G. W. BERRY: It is an extremely wise move and I thoroughly commend it. As the Minister said, it is a matter of going back to school.

The Hon. J. Dolan: You have an excuse now for not knowing what you should have known years ago.

The Hon. G. W. BERRY: Yes. This is a new system of teaching mathematics and I think it could be said that some members

of the teaching profession are only just one jump ahead of the class—they learn in the morning what they have to teach in the afternoon because the system is such that the teachers themselves have to learn all over again.

I mention that in passing because it is a changing method in changing times. My father helped me when I went to school because, basically, the system had not changed and I, in turn, was able to help some of my children with their mathematics today. I learnt that two and complete change with the teaching of mathematics today. I learnt that two and two made four, but I never knew why that was so. Apparently, with the new system, the children learn that two and two can only make four.

I thank members for listening to what I have had to say and I hope I have not bored them in referring to the problems of my electorate. I support the motion.

**THE HON. J. G. HISLOP** (Metropolitan) [5.20 p.m.]: I would ask you, firstly, Mr. President, whether I am in order in referring to certain communications which I have had from members of the teaching profession through their union. Should I discuss these matters on some other occasion?

The PRESIDENT: Will the honourable member please repeat the question?

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: I have received certain communications from the State School Teachers' Union and I have no desire whatever to refer to them if this is not the time and place to do it. Never before as a member have I had so much information forwarded to me by one particular body. A great deal of emphasis has been placed on certain aspects of education.

The PRESIDENT: If the honourable member wishes to know whether he can address the House and refer to the material he has before him, I would advise him that he is speaking on the Address-in-Reply to the Governor's Speech and, therefore, he can speak on any subject he wishes.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: Thank you, Mr. President. Never in my life have I had so much information sent to me from one particular body, and I shall do my best not to overlap. The first communication I have is from the Mt. Marshall Branch of the State School Teachers' Union of Western Australia (Inc.), and it reads as follows:—

- (1) Recent experience has highlighted the lack of funds required to provide satisfactory accommodation for modern education; therefore this meeting of teachers demands that State and Federal Governments provide sufficient finance to ensure adequate accommodation for all educational needs.

(2) This meeting of teachers calls on the Federal and State Governments to provide sufficient funds to ensure that all Australian children receive equality of educational opportunity. In particular, as today's education demands text books and equipment beyond the means of many parents, that all Governments provide these necessities so that all children receive a full and rewarding education.

(3) This meeting of teachers impresses upon the Federal Government the need for increased financial assistance to the States so that sufficient primary and secondary teachers are available to bring class sizes to a reasonable level and cater for children's individual differences. To achieve this—

(a) Conditions of service must be improved so that teachers are working in surroundings and with equipment appropriate to the needs of quality education.

(b) More teachers' colleges and hostels must be built to cater for all potential trainee teachers.

(c) Potential trainee teachers must be offered allowances such as to attract them to the teaching profession.

(d) Trained teachers must be paid salaries in keeping with their professional status so as to retain them in the teaching service.

The next communication I wish to read is from the Collie branch. It is as follows:—

(1) This meeting of teachers calls on the Federal and State Governments to provide sufficient funds to ensure that all Australian children receive equality of educational opportunities. All Governments to provide funds to allow text books to be provided for each child to receive a full and rewarding education.

(2) This meeting of teachers impresses upon the Federal Government the need for increased financial assistance to the States so that sufficient primary and secondary teachers are available to bring class sizes to a reasonable level and cater for children's individual differences. To achieve this—

(a) Conditions of service must be improved so that teachers are working in

surroundings and with equipment appropriate to the needs of high quality education.

(b) More satisfactory teachers' colleges and hostels must be built to cater for all potential trainee teachers.

Then there is a reference to trained teachers being paid salaries in keeping with professional status in order to retain them in the teaching service; and further, that Governments should provide the funds necessary to supply equipment required by the department for satisfactory teaching of subjects in schools.

The next communication to which I wish to refer is from the Esperance branch of the union. It is as follows:—

(1) That as facilities in primary schools are totally inadequate, problems of education should be investigated from primary upwards, rather than from Tertiary downwards.

(2) That all new schools be fully equipped with equipment essential for modern education and that existing schools be brought up to this standard.

(3) This meeting of teachers calls on the Federal and State Governments to provide sufficient funds to ensure that all Australian children receive equality of educational opportunity. In particular, as today's education demands text books and equipment beyond the means of many parents, that all Governments provide these necessities so that all children receive a full and rewarding education.

(4) This meeting of teachers impresses upon the Federal Government the need for increased financial assistance to the States so that sufficient primary and secondary teachers are available to bring class sizes to a reasonable level and cater for children's individual differences. To achieve this—

(a) Conditions of service must be improved so that teachers are working in surroundings and with equipment appropriate to the needs of quality education.

(b) More teachers' colleges and hostels must be built to cater for all potential trainee teachers.

(c) Potential trainee teachers must be offered allowances such as to attract them to the teaching profession.



- (d) Trained teachers must be paid salaries in keeping with their professional status so as to retain them in the teaching service.

Now I come to a place where the people have been having some difficulty—I refer to Jerramungup. I shall be as brief as I can. The letter states—

- (a) Conditions of service must be improved so that teachers are working in surroundings and with equipment appropriate to the needs of quality education.
- (b) More teachers' colleges and hostels must be built to cater for all potential trainee teachers.
- (c) Potential trainee teachers must be offered allowances such as to attract them to the teaching profession.
- (d) Trained teachers must be paid salaries in keeping with their professional status so as to retain them in the teaching service.

The next one is from the Stirling branch, sent from Mt. Barker. It reads—

- (1) This meeting of teachers calls on the Federal and State Governments to provide sufficient funds to ensure that all children in Australia receive equality of educational opportunity. As today's education demands text books and equipment beyond the means of many parents, that all Governments provide basic necessities to ensure that all children receive a full and rewarding education.
- (2) Recent experience has highlighted the lack of funds required to provide satisfactory accommodation for modern education; therefore this meeting of teachers demands that State and Federal Governments provide sufficient finance to ensure adequate accommodation for all educational needs.
- (3) This meeting of teachers impresses upon the Federal Government the need for increased financial assistance to the States so that sufficient primary and secondary teachers are available to bring class sizes to a reasonable level.

The next is from the Pilbara branch, and it says—

- (1) That this meeting deplores the proposed continued use of demountable classrooms at the Port Hedland Junior High School and Cooke Point Primary School as they are unsuitable for the conditions of the North West.

- (2) We acknowledge the lack of male teaching staff employed by the Education Department in country schools. (At Port Hedland only 3 male primary teachers for 640 children.)

- (3) This meeting of teachers calls on the Federal and State Governments to provide sufficient funds to ensure that all Australian children receive equality of educational opportunity. In particular, as today's education demands text books and equipment beyond the means of many parents, that all Governments provide these necessities so that all children receive a full and rewarding education.

I shall reduce the number of quotations, because I do not want to over-emphasise the one point.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: There are 36 of these letters in all.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: The next is from the Lake Districts branch, and it says—

- (1) This meeting of teachers calls on the Federal and State Governments to provide sufficient funds to ensure that all Australian children receive equality of educational opportunity. In particular, as today's education demands text books and equipment beyond the means of many parents, that all Governments provide these necessities so that all children receive a full and rewarding education.

The balance of the letter has been read previously. The next is from the Donnybrook branch, and it reads—

- (1) This meeting of teachers calls on the Federal and State Governments to provide sufficient funds to ensure that all Australian children receive equality of educational opportunity. In particular, as today's education demands text books and equipment beyond the means of many parents, that all Governments provide these necessities so that all children receive a full and rewarding education.

I shall keep the quotations as few as possible.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: The letters are all very similar indeed.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: The Northam regional branch says—

- (1) This meeting of teachers calls on the Federal and State Governments to provide an indexed scale of district allowances to be paid to teachers in all country schools to create a situation where teachers are attracted rather than conscripted to these schools

thereby alleviating the shortage of willing, experienced teachers in country areas and equalising educational opportunity.

- (2) This meeting of teachers impresses upon the Federal Government the need for increased financial assistance to the States so that sufficient primary and secondary teachers are available to bring class sizes to a reasonable level and cater for children's individual differences.

A letter from the Mt. Marshall branch reads as follows:—

- (3) Recent experience has highlighted the lack of funds required to provide satisfactory accommodation for modern education; therefore this meeting of teachers demands that State and Federal Governments provide sufficient finance to ensure adequate accommodation for all educational needs.

The letter from the Augusta-Margaret River branch reads—

- (4) This meeting of teachers impresses upon the Federal Government the need for increased financial assistance to the States so that sufficient primary and secondary teachers are available to bring class sizes to a reasonable level and cater for children's individual differences.

I think the last two extracts I have read mutually stress the problems. The Augusta-Margaret River branch continues to say—

To achieve this—

- (a) Conditions of service must be improved so that teachers are working in surroundings and with equipment appropriate to the needs of quality education.
- (b) More teachers' colleges and hostels must be built to cater for all potential trainee teachers.
- (c) Potential trainee teachers must be offered allowances such as to attract them to the teaching profession.
- (d) Trained teachers must be paid salaries and allowances in keeping with their professional status so as to retain them in the teaching service.

The letter from the Bunbury regional branch says—

- (1) That this meeting of teachers re-asserts demands for a full independent national enquiry into all aspects of non-tertiary education.
- (2) That more be done to develop the most important natural resource—our children.

- (3) This meeting of teachers calls on the Federal and State Governments to provide sufficient funds to ensure that all Australian children receive equality of educational opportunity. In particular, as today's education demands text books and equipment beyond the means of many parents, that all Governments provide these necessities so that all children receive a full and rewarding education.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: It seems that the motions have been carried right throughout the country.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: Absolutely, I have not read them out in full, because I do not want to over-emphasise the point. The next is from the Nelson branch, and it reads—

- (1) That the Federal Government take over the responsibility for teacher training as a matter of urgency.
- (2) Recent experience has highlighted the lack of funds required to provide satisfactory accommodation for modern education; therefore this meeting of teachers demands that State and Federal Governments provide sufficient finance to ensure adequate accommodation for all education needs.

Further, it says—

- (4) This meeting of teachers impresses upon the Federal Government the need for increased financial assistance to the States so that sufficient primary and secondary teachers are available to bring class sizes to a reasonable level and cater for children's individual differences. To achieve this—
  - (a) Conditions of service must be improved so that teachers are working in surroundings and with equipment appropriate to the needs of quality education.
  - (b) More teachers' colleges and hostels must be built to cater for all potential trainee teachers.

The PRESIDENT: Order! I draw the honourable member's attention to the fact that the quotations are bordering on tedious repetition. It would be better to give only a few samples.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: I accept that, Mr. President, and I shall retire. I merely wished to indicate the situation which exists throughout Western Australia.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. F. R. White.

*House adjourned at 5.42 p.m.*