

time to time advise the Minister respecting the steps that should be taken in regard to the training of medical students within such hospitals.

The personnel of the proposed advisory committees are set out clearly in the Bill. Different personnel would be on the advisory committees that would be dealing with the training of medical students in mental hospitals as compared with those that would be dealing with students being trained in public hospitals other than mental hospitals. Hospitals that would be regarded as public hospitals under the proposed Act would be public hospitals as we know them today, infectious diseases hospitals, mental hospitals, tuberculosis hospitals and the Princess Margaret Hospital for children. It would not necessarily follow that every one of those hospitals would subsequently be declared a teaching hospital. Under the legislation, hospitals which would be declared teaching hospitals would be those recommended by the University Senate, and it would depend upon their judgment which of those hospitals would in due course become training hospitals for medical students.

The Bill has been prepared after considerable discussions between representatives of the Medical Department, the British Medical Association, the Senate of the University of Western Australia and other interested organisations. It is unanimously agreed by all concerned that this Bill will set up the machinery to enable the teaching and training of medical students in hospitals to be carried out efficiently. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

On motion by Mr. Ross Hutchinson, debate adjourned.

### ADJOURNMENT—SPECIAL.

**THE PREMIER** (Hon. A. R. G. Hawke—Northam): I move—

That the House at its rising adjourn till 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday, the 25th October.

I think members will know the reason for this arrangement. The Kwinana Oil Refinery is to be officially opened by His Excellency the Governor-General next Tuesday afternoon. Ministers will be attending and some members of the Opposition will also be present. Consequently, it would be extremely difficult for the House to be in session on Tuesday afternoon.

Question put and passed.

*House adjourned 6.6 p.m.*

## Legislative Council

Tuesday, 25th October, 1955.

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The PRESIDENT took the Chair at 7.30 p.m., and read prayers.

### LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

On motion by Hon. H. Hearn, leave of absence for six consecutive sittings granted to Hon. H. K. Watson (Metropolitan) on the ground of private business.

### BILL—PENSIONS SUPPLEMENTATION ACT AMENDMENT.

#### *Standing Orders Suspension.*

**THE MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST** (Hon. H. C. Strickland—North) [7.35]: I move—

That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as is necessary to enable the Bill to be passed through all stages at the one sitting.

Question put.

The PRESIDENT: As the passing of this motion necessitates an absolute majority, it will be necessary to have a division.

Bells rung; House divided.

The PRESIDENT: I have counted the House, and there being an absolute majority of members present and voting in favour of the motion, I declare the motion carried.

Question thus passed.

#### *Second Reading.*

**THE MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST** (Hon. H. C. Strickland—North) [7.38] in moving the second reading said: This Bill follows the motion with which we have just dealt, which was necessary

in order that the measure might be passed through the House at the one sitting. The urgency in regard to this Bill is due to the fact that complementary legislation will have to go through the Commonwealth Parliament before the end of its present session, if possible, and the latest indications are that that Parliament is likely to rise by the end of this week—

Hon. J. G. Hislop: I take it this has nothing to do with next Saturday?

The MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST: I do not think it has any implications in relation to next Saturday. In 1953 Parliament passed the Pensions Supplementation Act which provided for increases in the pensions paid to retired Government employees under the Superannuation Act of 1871, the Government Employees Pensions Act of 1948 and the Superannuation and Family Benefits Act of 1938.

As members are probably aware, those pensioners fortunate enough to benefit under the 1871 and 1948 Acts made no contributions themselves. There are now only one or two officers still in the Government employ who are eligible on retirement to benefit under these two schemes. The 1948 Act caters mainly for ex-wages employees who were not covered by the Act of 1871. The 1938 Act is, of course, the contributory scheme which now involves the great bulk of Government salaried and wages employees.

In view of the increased cost of living, the Government has agreed, following representations from a number of organisations, to again increase the pensions payable under the three Acts—this time by £26 per annum. All pensioners, including widows, will receive this increase. No provision is made in this Bill for an increase in children's pensions as very few, if any, children's pensions are paid under the 1871 and 1948 Acts. Widows receiving pensions under the 1938 Act will obtain increases for children as a result of an amendment to that Act.

The principal Act expires next year. Advantage will be taken in 1956 to again review pension payments, and any decision reached may be influenced by possible improvements in Commonwealth social service benefits, and the Commonwealth means test.

The reason for this is that a number of persons who were previously State employees, and who transferred to the Commonwealth, are entitled to the increase proposed in the Bill. A condition of their transfer was that they did not lose any State pension rights. The Prime Minister has promised, as soon as this Bill is passed, to introduce the necessary complementary legislation in the Commonwealth Parliament. As the Federal Houses rise soon, the matter is urgent.

Another amendment proposes to give the Superannuation Board discretionary power as to whether a pension should cease if the pensioner obtains employment in the service of the State. Occasionally pensioners obtain a few hours' work a week cleaning schools or at part-time night watching, etc. It is not considered that pensions should cease in such cases, apart from the fact that from the administrative side it is not worth while adjusting the small over-payments involved.

I ask members to be good enough to pass the Bill through all stages tonight. Little more can be said except to emphasise its urgency as it affects those few pensioners who were transferred to the Commonwealth service. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

HON. C. H. SIMPSON (Midland) [7.43]: This is a measure to which we can all give our blessing. The first step to correct the payments made to pensioners under the old 1871 Act was taken by the McLarty-Watts Government in 1948, when the pensioners were granted an increase in the rates they were then receiving. Going back to the beginning, a few who were in the Public Service at the time when a new superannuation scheme was introduced in 1938 elected to remain under the old 1871 Act because, in their opinion, it was more profitable for them to do so.

However, with the increase in the cost of living, and the increases that have been made in the pensions rates under the superannuation scheme, the amounts that they received were greatly out of line. I well remember that when the pensions were increased by £2 10s. 0d. a week, there was some inquiry as to whether the pensioners' widows, children or other dependants might be able to receive benefits the same as those paid under the contributory scheme. It was felt that there should be some slight increase, but only slight, if only to mete out a measure of justice to those who had contributed to superannuation schemes all along. The increase was limited, therefore, to the actual pensioners, but they certainly did benefit by that increased amount.

As to further amending the legislation, it is proposed to allow a pensioner to earn something in addition to his pension. I have always been of the opinion that there should be no interference with the right of a pensioner to earn as much as he possibly can. I know that, during the war, many retired railwaymen who were receiving pensions were called back into service when it was very difficult to get trained men. They gave their services; but they found that when they came to collect their pay, the amount of pension they were receiving was deducted from the allowance granted to them for the work they were performing. Yet those men

could have been employed by Boans—immediately opposite the railway station—and could have received full rates of pay plus their full pension. To me that has always seemed to be a defect in the pensions scheme.

I have always regarded a pension paid at retiring age as the fulfilment of a contract between the employer and the employee in the same way as one would take out an endowment policy to mature at a certain age. When the retiring age is reached, I think the contract should be completed as between employer and employee. At the same time, whilst holding that view, I am naturally in sympathy with that clause in the Bill which gives pensioners the right to earn money over and above the amount they receive under the ordinary existing scale of pension. I support the Bill.

**HON. SIR CHARLES LATHAM** (Central) [7.47]: I support the Bill. It is a long time since these people received their pension rights. All the Bill proposes is to maintain the purchasing value of the pension originally granted to them.

**Hon. J. G. Hislop**: What do they get under the 1871 Act?

**Hon. Sir CHARLES LATHAM**: It varies according to the amount of money they were earning on retirement. However, when one considers the amount of pension granted, it is extremely small; and all we propose doing is to maintain the value of the pension as it was.

**Hon. J. G. Hislop**: Is that being done by this increase?

**Hon. Sir CHARLES LATHAM**: Yes, just about. The Commonwealth Government also pays pensions to those people who were transferred to its service. The pensioners concerned are fairly aged, and I hope the Bill will pass through all stages to enable them to receive their increase before the Commonwealth Parliament goes into recess.

**HON. J. G. HISLOP** (Metropolitan) [7.48]: I was interested to hear the Minister say that widows would receive an increase in their pensions, but I would like that confirmed, because I have had one or two requests from widows who rely on this pension. They were asking that this increase should take place. Therefore, I sincerely trust that they will receive the increased amount.

**THE MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST** (Hon. H. C. Strickland—North—in reply) [7.49]: The reception to the Bill is gratifying. As has been explained, this proposed increase is something that is due to those people to bring their pensions to somewhere near the value of money in the days when the pension was first granted. Although the Bill does not set out to increase their pensions to that

extent, it is proposed to grant another increase upon increases that have been made from time to time. Also, these pensions can be increased only by a small margin; otherwise they would conflict with payments made under the Commonwealth Social Services Act. I understand that the Bill provides some relief for widows. It is satisfactory all round.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

*In Committee, etc.*

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

Bill read a third time and *passed*.

#### **BILL—TRUSTEES ACT AMENDMENT.**

*Second Reading.*

**HON. A. F. GRIFFITH** (Suburban) [7.54] in moving the second reading said: This is a very small Bill which aims at setting up, in two instances, machinery to enable trustees to apply to the court to do that which they think best in the interests of beneficiaries of an estate, but which they are precluded from doing as the Act stands. At present there is no machinery for a trustee to apply to the court for permission to do certain things which he might consider to be of benefit to all parties concerned.

The first provision in the Bill amends the section in the Act which deals with authorised payments. It is suggested that a trustee should be permitted to apply to the court for consent to provide a beneficiary with a home financed from trust moneys, where it is considered that would be in the best interests of the beneficiary. The second provision seeks to give the trustee an opportunity, if he considers fit, to apply to the court in certain circumstances to vary an annuity according to the circumstances of the trust and the money values of the day. I do not think there is any real necessity for me to say anything further regarding that particular provision.

The present inflationary trend has, of course, altered the value of money. Where a beneficiary was in receipt of an annuity amounting some years ago to a certain sum, the value of that annuity, in terms of purchasing power, is now considerably less than it was previously. In certain circumstances it is desirable that trustees should be entitled to apply to the court to vary the amount of an annuity. It is emphasised that this clause gives the right to the trustee to make application, and not to any person in receipt of an annuity; so that the situation would not crop up that where a beneficiary thought he was entitled to a greater amount, he could make application in his own right. The application must be made by the trustee of an estate.

Those are the two simple amendments in the Bill. I believe they will bring about better operation of the Trustees Act in respect of the two matters I have mentioned. I feel confident that the Bill will receive the support of all members. It has been pointed out that the short title, "This Act may be cited as the Trustees Act, 1955," is not quite correct. It should read, "This Act may be cited as the Trustees Act Amendment Act, 1955." I ask that the Clerk be directed to make the correction. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

On motion by Hon. L. Craig, debate adjourned.

**BILL—LOCAL AUTHORITIES, UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
MEDICAL SCHOOL APPEAL  
FUND CONTRIBUTIONS  
AUTHORISATION.**

Returned from the Assembly without amendment.

**BILLS (5)—FIRST READING.**

- 1, Administration Act Amendment.
- 2, Roman Catholic Bunbury Church Property.
- 3, University Medical School.
- 4, Superannuation and Family Benefits Act Amendment.
- 5, Zoological Gardens Act Amendment.  
Received from the Assembly.

**BILL—JUNIOR FARMERS'  
MOVEMENT.**

*Second Reading.*

Debate resumed from the 18th October.

**HON. A. R. JONES** (Midland) [8.2]: I moved the adjournment of the debate so that I might study the provisions of the Bill and consider its ramifications. I did this in order to ensure that it will not in any way hamper the movement as we know it today. Having studied the Bill and made inquiries, I have come to the conclusion that it is a very good measure. The movement, which has been functioning for 20 years, has passed into the adult stage, and this Bill will enable the junior farmers to exercise more control than they were able to do previously. This is as it should be because, if a movement such as this is hamstrung, it will never function as a great organisation ought to do.

We look to this movement to provide some of our future leaders, and no doubt it is living up to the expectations of those who fostered its inauguration 20 odd years ago. For this we have to thank Mr. Young who has for a number of years been the guiding star. In the past, the movement has been under the control of the Education Department; and while good

work has been done, it has not thrived in some parts as it should have done. The members of the movement consist mainly of young people engaged in the primary industries, and the guidance should to a great degree come from the side of the primary industries.

The Bill provides for the setting up of a council; and of the persons to be appointed ex officio, one shall be an officer of the Department of Agriculture and one an officer of the Education Department. Then there are to be several nominee councillors representing the Institute of Agricultural Science, the Farmers' Union, the Royal Agricultural Society, the Country Women's Association, the Perth Chamber of Commerce, the Advisory Committee of the Federation of Junior Farmers' Clubs and three nominees of the federation. Such a council should make it possible for the movement to obtain results.

As the Government will be making certain money available to the organisation for its general purposes, such as the payment of officers who will do the organising work, the Government should have a say in what is happening. The Crown Law Department always insists that, where the Government provides funds for any organisation, the Minister must have a say. I believe that some members of the junior farmers consider that the Minister, under the Bill, will have too much say, and that the junior farmers will be restricted in running the organisation; but I think those members are looking on the gloomy side, because the Minister is not likely to interfere in a way that would hamper the activities of the movement, provided of course that it was kept on an even keel.

The Bill provides that the Minister shall from time to time appoint a councillor as chairman. A council under the chairmanship of a junior farmer may not be desirable, and I think it would be better if the Minister were left free to select a member of the council to take the chair. I have no doubt that the Minister would be guided largely by the council members.

The functions of the council as set out in the Bill are to assist in giving effect to the purposes of the Act, and to formulate and tender advice to the incorporated body called the Western Australian Federation of Junior Farmers Clubs in all aspects of its activities, with power to review and amend programmes, and to suggest programmes of activities of that body. I believe that it is wise to grant the power to review. If a council were set up without being empowered to review and amend programmes, it would not be satisfactory because, although the young people might have the capacity to work and organise, it does not follow that they would always be right. Therefore I consider it well that they should be advised in the formulating of the programme.

The few objections that have been raised, I think, are not of sufficient seriousness to jeopardise the passing of the Bill. Mr. Logan attended a meeting of the council at the week-end and has some recommendations to make when the Bill reaches the Committee stage.

I commend the Government for having introduced the Bill. I believe that it will prove to be of considerable assistance to the movement. I feel sure that the Minister will not interfere with the council provided it is doing a good job.

Hon. J. G. Hislop: Can you tell the House what they really do and how they function?

Hon. A. R. JONES: The object of the clubs is to sponsor and encourage amongst youth the study of agriculture and farming, and foster an appreciation of rural life and the continuance of education and the practice of the ethics of good citizenship and intelligent use of leisure. I think that covers the activities of the movement.

Hon. J. G. Hislop: How are the clubs formed?

Hon. A. R. JONES: The practice is for someone who is interested, such as the local branch of the Farmers' Union pasture group or some other body, to form a club if there are sufficient young people available. An executive member of the body sponsoring the inaugural meeting would take charge until the branch was properly formed. Then it is its responsibility to provide adult advisers to attend junior farmers' meetings. The objects are to raise their standard in the sense of education, in the practice of agriculture, and in social life; and to this end, they arrange debates on various subjects and hold social evenings.

Hon. C. W. D. Barker: Are they political?

Hon. A. R. JONES: I believe that they encourage everyone to express his views. It is their belief that no one should refuse office but should accept the positions with good grace. The appointee occupies the position for only a limited time, and then someone else is chosen, so that as many as possible may gain experience in presiding over the activities of the club. The club having been formed, the members join up with the zone council with which other districts are associated. The council meets a few times during the year and holds an achievement day at which there is a section for each branch, and each branch exhibits its work and reports on its activities and progress for the year. They have tractor-driving and various other competitions throughout the day, and then the final of the debating competitions that have been held throughout the year. That is followed by a social evening, which usually takes the

form of a dance. So, all in all, provided it does not become too social, I believe it is a fine movement.

However, it is an organisation that calls for guidance, because club members are limited by age; they must be not more than 25 years of age and not less than 14 years of age. I am not too sure of the minimum age limit, but I think I am right in saying it is 14. So it can readily be seen that when a club is first formed it needs a good deal of guidance from seniors. In the first instance, these seniors are provided by the sponsoring club; and if this Bill becomes law, the council will ensure that the junior farmers' organisations are given all the guidance necessary.

Hon. J. G. Hislop: Have they an annual membership fee?

Hon. A. R. JONES: Yes; but it is only a small sum.

The Minister for the North-West: It is 2s 6d.

Hon. A. R. JONES: They run various types of functions and they may even conduct bazaars and things like that in order to collect money to meet travelling expenses necessary to enable members to travel from place to place in the carrying out of their organised work.

I feel that the Bill is a good one; and seeing that it can be said they are now out of the adolescent stage, this measure will enable them to conduct their own affairs. The council would be able to select advisers, and I think it would be a good idea to get a general officer to help conduct affairs rather than to have the officer from the Education Department. I understand that the department is still prepared to find organisers if they are wanted. The organisation is free to dispense with the services of these officers at any time; they are not bound to continue with the departmental men; but as soon as the movement dispenses with an officer's services, he can return to the position he previously held in the department.

I am sure that members can vote for this measure with confidence. After 12 months or two years, some amendments may be required, and an amending Bill can then be introduced. However, in the main, I think the person who drafted the Bill did a remarkably good job, and I trust that members will vote for the second reading.

HON. SIR CHARLES LATHAM (Central) [8.18]: I am pleased that the Government has introduced the Bill, because, this youth movement has been a most useful one. I only wish members could go to the country districts to see some of the annual field days that are conducted. The field day held at Wickepin is a particularly good one, and there the young people are shown the correct methods of soil conservation. This is useful to them. Periodically, the movement selects one or

two young people to go abroad. A young fellow named Rose went to Great Britain and America and, while in the United States, made several broadcasts of his experiences. He visited the dairying and other agricultural areas, and the movement generally will benefit from his experience. A man in the South-West was sent to the Old Country for six months under a Nuffield scheme.

Tours like that will enable these young people to bring back new ideas, which will be of considerable benefit to the State. I should say that this movement is one of the best of its kind that has been started, at least since I took up farming, and I think members might feel pleased to know that these people are willing to accept the responsibility of running their own affairs.

One of the best ways of teaching young people is to make them accept responsibility when they are young. In that way they have an opportunity to correct their defects; it makes them use their imagination and gives them confidence, which is of considerable benefit to them in later years. I can remember an incident where a man who had a young family died and the responsibility of the family devolved on a young lad of 15. He had to run the farm and assist his mother to look after the family.

Last week-end I went out to the farm and that young man, who is now 30 years of age is still working the property, with the assistance of his mother. I was pleased to see what they had done. They have electric light in the home, even though it is an isolated place in the backblocks; and, although there is no water laid on, there is adequate provision for water supplies on the farm. The stock were in good condition; and, even though it has been an extraordinarily good year, the farm is well kept and that is all due entirely to the work that that young man has put into it.

Both he and his mother have done a good job, and I think much of the credit is due to the fact that he had to accept responsibility at such a young age. He was very interested in the junior farmers' organisation when it first started, and derived a good deal of benefit from his association with it. The departmental officers were always available to give help when it was required.

I commend the Bill to the House because I think it is a step in the right direction. These people will be given the responsibility of running their own affairs, and they will be able to absorb knowledge that will be beneficial to them in after years.

**HON. L. C. DIVER** (Central) [8.21]: I, too, commend the Bill to the House. I have had experience as an adult adviser to one of the junior farmers' clubs. As

Mr. Jones pointed out, when a club is first formed, some organisation in the locality must sponsor it. Usually three farmers are nominated to attend the inaugural meeting of the junior farmers' branch, and right from the beginning the junior farmers are taught the correct procedure as regards the creation of a branch. They appoint their own president, secretary and social committee; and after they become established, they conduct debating evenings within their own clubs. Then clubs within different zones conduct debating evenings and the winners of the various zones meet for the finals each year.

These branches also conduct field days, and I think it is at those functions that the main benefits of the movement are demonstrated. Boys and girls are taught good farm husbandry; what good fodder is; how to harvest crops for fodder at the right stage; how to select animals, and the reasons why certain animals are selected for a specific purpose; and how to pick a good sheep, cow, horse, pig, or any other farm animal. They are taught to recognise good wool and, in fact, are shown the whole procedure.

As a consequence, within a couple of years they are able to enter judging competitions; and if an experienced judge disagrees with their results, they can explain to him why they have made a certain choice. Frequently, experienced judges have finished up by saying, "It is only a matter of opinion." That proves that the movement is doing a lot of good, and it means that these young people are being taught along the right lines.

At the majority of our agricultural shows, the members of the young farmers movement act as stewards; but at some of the bigger centres, the older people are still acting as stewards; and I hope that when the Bill becomes law, some effort will be made to see that at these larger agricultural centres, where they have no active junior farmers' movements, the older people who have been acting as stewards will be relieved of the responsibility and the young farmers will be given an opportunity of taking on the work. Where there is an active junior farmers' movement in a country district, there are plenty of stewards to attend to the stock on show day, to assist the judges, and to do the other work necessary at such functions.

It is remarkable that at some of the smaller centres mentioned by Mr. Jones, where there is perhaps a membership of 12 or 15, there are some of the most active junior farmers' branches in the State. Many of these young people are snowed under with work either on their own behalf or on the properties of their parents. Yet they find time to attend branch meetings and many of them do a tremendous amount of research into the various subjects that they debate. I have known of

some of them, after being given a subject to debate, approaching their advisers and saying, "I have been given the task of speaking against this proposal and, quite honestly, I agree with it and would like to speak in its favour." Yet, after a fortnight's research they have been able to speak most convincingly against the proposal, and it has been obvious that they have put a tremendous amount of work into the project.

I trust that the movement will benefit by the legislation, and I agree with previous speakers that probably in 12 months' time it may be necessary to amend it in certain directions. However, only time will tell, and it will be necessary to put it to a practical test. I hope that, in the future, these junior farmers will be given an opportunity to put their theories to the test, and that they will be given the chance to do practical work on their own properties, or those of their parents or on properties on which they are employed.

It is quite easy to talk about the characteristics of a good animal, but it is another matter to be able to say that such and such a line of sheep, when mated with a certain type of ram, will produce a good breed of sheep. The same applies to pigs and all other farm animals. I think the junior farmers should be given an opportunity in this direction, and I commend the idea to the Minister in the hope that he will hand it on to the authorities concerned.

**HON. G. BENNETTS** (South-East) [8.30]: I, too, support the Bill. It was very pleasing to see the great interest taken by juveniles during the Esperance field day on Saturday. There was an attendance of about 500 to 600 people, and a good many young folk were noticeable among those who were present. In particular, I noticed a young girl in the vicinity of 16 years of age, giving a lecture to the visitors concerning different clovers that were grown. Her demonstration and advice were of the greatest possible help to the visitors.

At Merredin I think we have one of the largest clubs in the district; at any rate, it would be on a par with anything in that district. Great interest is shown in that club, which was first called the Youth Club. It is now the Junior Farmers' Club. These clubs provide an opportunity for young people to learn something, and give them places at which to spend their time. The information they derive proves of great benefit to the State's production.

The Government should have a say in the constitution of the movement because it might perhaps get out of control if it were left in the hands of young, inexperienced people. On the other hand, it could be put on the right track and guided by an experienced man from the Government. I heard it said that on Show Day the department experienced a

shortage of men. The young people who belong to the junior farmers' clubs can fill these positions after they have been trained and have listened to lectures given by people like Dr. Dunn and others. The information they derive from these lectures is of great help to them when they come to debate various subjects in their own organisations.

**HON. J. G. HISLOP** (Metropolitan) [8.34]: I think it ill becomes a member for the Metropolitan Province to mention such matters as junior farmers' clubs.

Hon. Sir Charles Latham: It would be very helpful to hear the hon. member.

Hon. J. G. HISLOP: I am grateful to members who have spoken and mentioned the activities of the clubs, not only because it educates me as to how these clubs are conducting their affairs, but because it will also prove useful to those who read "Hansard"; and, strange to say, there are a number of people who do.

The only criticism I have to offer is on the matter of administration. I wonder whether these clubs will, in the end, achieve the purpose they desire by having money appropriated by Parliament, and by being responsible to a department and being guided by an organisation which, in the main, will be governed somewhat by the will of the Minister, through his officers, and through various representatives of outside bodies. I quite agree that it is wise to invite as many young people as possible into clubs of this sort for a nominal fee of 2s. 6d., but I wonder whether that means anything at all to the persons joining the club.

I have had considerable experience in organisations such as the Rotary Club, and I know a good deal about the Apex Club. These clubs have organised themselves and conducted their own business. They have federated, and have attained to world eminence. I wonder whether these junior farmers' clubs would not eventually find themselves in a better position if they raised their subscriptions and asked the Farmers' Union, and farmers generally, to accept responsible office in the organisation; because here is a body which will have a council which is empowered to advise the body known as the Western Australian Federation of Junior Farmers' Clubs. The fact that they are all federated themselves surely means that they are asking for some central organisation.

We are going to have a three-tiered organisation of clubs and a semi-government council to advise them. While I wish this organisation well, and while I applaud what it sets out to do, I doubt very much whether it is wise for these clubs to look for a Government subsidy. Having had experience in other world-wide organisations, I feel that such a body of youths who desire to take up farming eventually, possibly as a means of livelihood, would

be better advised to control their own affairs, and to ask those who are already engaged in the same vocation to assist in their financing; and, through a voluntary organisation, obtain the advice of the people who will now, through the Bill, sit in council above them. I can see a world of opportunity for the Farmers' Union, and for farmers generally, to organise in such a manner that these clubs would be completely autonomous as a federation within their constitution.

I agree with those who feel that a council which can alter a programme of a federation of clubs can become an autocratic body in relation to the functions that these clubs wish to carry out. I merely voice a doubt as to whether these clubs would be wise to have a council sitting above them, appropriating public money which makes them responsible to a department and to Parliament, and which must eventually take from them much of the pride an organisation such as this allows them to achieve.

**THE MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST** (Hon. H. C. Strickland—North—in reply) [8.40]: Dr. Hislop mentioned that there would be a three-tiered administration. That is not absolutely correct. The council to be set up is to comprise a representative group. It is to consist of a member of the Education Department, a representative from the Department of Agriculture, a nominee of the Institute of Agricultural Science, a nominee of the Farmers' Union, a nominee of the Royal Agricultural Society, one from the Country Women's Association and from the Perth Chamber of Commerce, and three nominees of the clubs themselves. So any Government interest in the advisory council would be in a minority.

The movement originated through the Education Department with the object of educating young folk—both in the city and in the rural areas—and teaching them more about agriculture, so that they would become agriculturally-minded and not drift to the city from the country. It was designed to have an opposite effect, of course, on any city clubs by helping them to become agriculturally-minded and assisting junior boys and girls who preferred perhaps to go to the country rather than remain in city employment. It is a very worthy objective. Agriculture is undoubtedly the primary industry and backbone of any State, particularly this State.

Hon. Sir Charles Latham: A very good, healthy life.

**THE MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST**: It is very healthy indeed.

Hon. Sir Charles Latham: The doctor would have been in better condition had he been a farmer!

**THE MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST**: The object of the Junior Farmers' Movement is to instil more agricultural ideas and interest into children today to help them to become agriculturists. Through the various clubs and organisations, they are given a wonderful opportunity of learning every aspect of agriculture. They are able to learn animal husbandry. They attend the Royal Show and watch the judging of livestock; they are able to attend addresses on soil conservation and erosion and on soil fertility; and some of them I have heard on the air have become expert debaters themselves. A number of these are quite young people.

The interchange between countries of junior farmers means the broadening of the minds of those who go overseas and on their return to their various clubs they are able to make available the experience they have gained. The movement has quite a lot to commend it from the aspect of education. Its original intention was primarily to educate young people in agricultural pursuits; so it has a very worthy objective.

A query was raised by Mr. Logan in connection with Clauses 6 and 7 of the Bill. He said that Clause 6 gave the Minister power to make certain directions, and the council was responsible to the Minister. He also said Clause 7 stated that the council is not an agent or instrumentality of the Crown. They seem rather odd clauses, and appear to be in conflict. The following explanation has been provided:—

Clause 6 confers discretion on the Minister to issue to the council directions relating to the purposes of the Act. It is included because, although the measure does not expressly appropriate public money for those purposes, the movement has in the past been assisted through the Education Department and contemplates assistance in the future. As the Minister will be responsible to the people through Parliament, in so far as expenditure of public money for the purposes of the Act is concerned, directive authority is necessary.

Clause 7 states that the council is not an agency or instrumentality of the Crown. This is included because, although the Government is prepared to assist in furthering the objects of the movement, it is prepared to assist only and not to undertake the whole responsibility of furthering those objects. The main responsibility is to be that of the council and those who render voluntary efforts in the cause. By Clause 8 the council is authorised to acquire, hold or dispose of property and to enter into contracts. In doing any of these things it does so in the name of the council itself. If any



claim arises against the council, the claim is against the council itself as a principal, and not against the Crown through the council as agent.

Those are the reasons why these clauses are necessary. Clause 6 was inserted because the Minister is responsible for the assistance given through the Education Department, and it is necessary that he should be able to issue a direction. If the money is not being put to the best purpose, he should have power of direction. Then, to make it quite clear and to leave no doubt about the status of the council, it was necessary to insert Clause 7 to show that it is not an agency or instrumentality of the Crown; and so that, when the movement becomes a corporate body, any litigation that might arise will be direct with the council and not with the Minister or, in other words, the Crown.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

*In Committee.*

Hon. W. R. Hall in the Chair; the Minister for the North-West in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 to 4—agreed to.

Clause 5—Constitution of the council:

Hon. L. A. LOGAN: The junior farmers in the Geraldton district asked me to endeavour to have this clause amended. At their zone meeting they handled this Bill like veterans. They asked me to speak about it in the first place, but I told them to discuss it in their own way and that I would then give a resume. Their desire was to have Subclause (4) altered. This subclause gives the Minister power to appoint the chairman of the council. It was the opinion of the junior farmers at Geraldton that the council should elect its own chairman. Just why the chairman is to be appointed by the Minister, I am not sure. After all is said and done, if the council has to function under a chairman, there is some merit in the suggestion that it should appoint its own chairman. I would like to ask the Minister whether he has any views on the matter.

The MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST: This is an unusual Bill, because it does not appoint a board. In almost every Bill that comes before Parliament for the creation of boards, power is given to the Minister to appoint the chairman. It could be said that this council is something like a board, though it will not manage any Government property.

Hon. L. Craig: It will manage government funds.

The MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST: Yes; but it will not be actually running a Government concern or a public service. But because it resembles a board, and the Government has financial

interests in the movement, it is desirable that the Minister should appoint a chairman. In regard to the junior farmers being able to appoint their own chairman—

Hon. L. A. Logan: Not the junior farmers, but the council.

The MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST: Well, the council. It could be that a junior farmer representative on the council would be appointed.

Hon. Sir Charles Latham: He would be, at times, I should think.

The MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST: I should think he would be.

Hon. J. G. Hislop: It is not likely.

The MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST: In view of the fact that when they reach 25, junior farmers automatically cease to be members of the council, it is most unlikely that a junior farmer would be appointed. I suggest that the right should be left to the Minister to appoint the chairman, because the movement is sponsored by the Government and financially assisted by it, and its objective is the better education of junior farmers in respect of agriculture.

Hon. L. C. DIVER: While I agree with the Minister that perhaps it is wise to leave the Bill as it is printed, I trust that, when the chairman is appointed, consideration will be given to appointing one of those young men who have turned 25 and are in the region of 30 years of age, and who have had quite a lot of experience with the movement. There are four or five of those young men who are very competent indeed, and who would have the confidence of all the junior farmers.

Clause put and passed.

Clauses 6 and 7—agreed to.

Clause 8—Functions, powers and duties of the Council:

Hon. L. A. LOGAN: The junior farmers at their zone council meeting at Geraldton asked me to bring this clause to the notice of the Chamber. They desire to have deleted the words "with power to review and amend programmes." I admit that if the words were struck out, the functions of the council would be broken down to a certain extent. But I want members to realise the feeling of the junior farmers in that area. They have carried this organisation on their own and are jealous concerning it. They do not like the idea of other people telling them how to run their show. They do not mind receiving advice and assistance; but when they draw up their programmes, they do not like the idea of the council having power to amend them.

Probably their fears will prove unfounded, because any alterations made by the council would be for the betterment of the junior farmers themselves. But they asked me to bring this matter before

members, and I said that I would. I am not going to move any amendment, but I want the matter discussed so that they will know that their ideas have been ventilated.

Hon. J. G. HISLOP: Is this not one of the penalties I referred to? I suggest that the Minister could allay some of the fears of the clubs by adding the words "calling for financial aid from the council" after the words "with power to review and amend programmes."

The MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST: I cannot see why the clubs should take exception to this subclause. To delete the words suggested and to take away power to review and amend programmes would be to remove from the council authority which it should retain. After all, the object of the council is to guide these clubs and help them. It is not that there is a desire to use power to restrict them. The reason for the setting up of the council was to correct the trend of the movement. The Education Department, and several well-informed and prominent persons outside the department, thought that the expenditure was not yielding the desired result—in short, the clubs had more or less developed into social clubs in some districts, though not in all.

The advisory committee advised the Minister as to what could be done to arrest this drift; and, after considering all aspects, it suggested this Bill. The proposal came along in 1953, just before the elections, and there was a change of Government; but the wishes of the advisory committee have been carried out. Had there been no change of Government, exactly the same situation would have occurred. A very good reason why this clause should remain as it is, is that it is necessary that the council, once established, shall have power to amend any programmes that may be drawn up by clubs that may not be along the objective line of keeping agriculture prominent.

Clause put and passed.

Clauses 9 and 10—agreed to.

Clause 11—Application of money in the fund:

Hon. L. A. LOGAN: I issue a word of warning in regard to what can happen to the very small funds that the council will have. I understand that the Government is paying £6,000, but the whole of that amount is going in organisation. I am inclined to think that eventually this will become an organisation like a State instrumentality; and, if a secretary is appointed at, say £1,500 a year, that will be £1,500 less that can be spent.

The MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST: I do not hold the same fears. I feel that the council will be a responsible body and will see that the funds are not wasted. It will handle any funds that

come as gifts to the movement. Today the Junior Farmers' Movement numbers 2,000 members—1,200 boys and 800 girls. It is expected that, as a result of the action of the council, more drive will be put into the movement. Should it so happen that the council, or the administrative side, becomes top-heavy, the Minister will have direct control.

Hon. H. Hearn: You will take notice of Mr. Logan's warning.

The MINISTER FOR THE NORTH-WEST: I am not taking notice of his warning; but provision is there to correct anything that might happen in that respect.

Clause put and passed.

Clauses 12 to 16, Title—agreed to.

Bill reported without amendment and the report adopted.

### BILL—COAL MINE WORKERS (PENSIONS) ACT AMENDMENT.

*Second Reading.*

Debate resumed from the 19th October.

HON. C. H. SIMPSON (Midland) [9.9]: I recommend the Bill to the House for acceptance. The Coal Mine Workers (Pensions) Act was instituted in 1943, and the moneys to finance the scheme were provided partly by contributions from the employees, partly by contributions from the employers, and partly by subsidy from the Government. From time to time these contributions and subsidy have been varied. The Bill does not in any way affect the scale of contributions or benefits; all it seeks to do is to rectify certain anomalies that have cropped up in the administration of the fund.

Any period of war service was intended to be included in the qualifying period for entitlement to benefits, but there was no mention of the period spent in national service training. So one amendment in the Bill is to enable the time spent in national service training to be included as qualifying time.

Another thing that was not thought of when the Act was passed was the application of time covering long-service leave. This benefit was one which the coal miners received some time later. The Bill seeks to include that time, and this will bring the fund into line with other super-annuation funds.

Another clause provides that in certain cases there shall be no limit to the earnings of a pensioner. One instance would be a blind person. Obviously his earnings would be small; but, when the conditions of the original fund were framed it was thought advisable to provide that a pensioner should not be allowed to earn more than a certain amount in addition to his pension. However, it was realised that no

limitation should be imposed on a blind person. The same thing applies to pensioners who have taken up market gardening or who own a small shop. In any case, it is difficult to arrive at their earnings, and it was considered that it was a much better plan to exempt them altogether rather than to retain a provision which would be difficult to police.

The final clause is really a machinery provision. The Act requires that the owner of a mine shall deduct certain contributions from an employee. It has been found that, on occasions, it is difficult to collect these contributions, so the Bill now provides that in certain cases the mine-owner shall be exempt from liability in respect of these payments. In another case the Bill provides that where an owner or a mine worker cannot be located, the tribunal may write off certain debts which have accrued to the fund by way of contributions. As the Bill does not provide for extra benefits or contributions, but only seeks to make the Act workable, I recommend that it be accepted.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

*In Committee.*

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

**BILL—LICENSING ACT AMENDMENT  
(No. 3).**

*Second Reading.*

**HON. N. E. BAXTER** (Central) [9.15]: in moving the second reading said: This Bill deals solely with Section 50 of the principal Act, which I believe has become outmoded, because its main provisions were agreed to in the days of the horse and buggy, a few motorcars, and bad roads. Since then an entirely different position has arisen outside the metropolitan area with regard to hotel accommodation.

One of the provisions of this measure would give the Licensing Court full discretionary power in regard to hotel accommodation in country areas. As the Act stands at present, the court has not very wide discretionary powers—

Hon. Sir Charges Latham: I wish it would use the powers it has.

Hon. N. E. BAXTER: The court is up against an obstacle in that regard because, if it enforced the provisions of the Act, many small hotels would have to close up because no one would want them. The licensees of some small wayside inns, and even houses with a publican's general licence could not, from the profit derived from their bars, afford to run their houses on the lines visualised by some people. The general idea of the public is that all hotels are goldmines. I have had at least as much experience in this line as any other

member of this Chamber—if not more—and I can assure the House that, far from being goldmines, many a country hotel is a severe headache to the licensee.

Hon. C. H. Simpson: All goldmines do not pay.

Hon. N. E. BAXTER: I assure the hon. member that not all hotels pay. The first provision in the Bill seeks to delete that portion of the original Act which makes it mandatory for the Licensing Court to insist that every hotel shall provide two sitting-rooms and two sleeping-rooms ready and fit for public accommodation, as well as stable accommodation for six horses and a supply of provender. I do not think one would find six horses in some country towns, and so it is ridiculous that that provision should remain in the Act.

The Minister for the North-West: You would see perhaps 60 horses in Fitzroy Crossing.

Hon. N. E. BAXTER: I repeat that it is ridiculous that a publican should have to provide stabling and provender for six horses when he should be providing garage accommodation for motorcars. I do not think anyone is better qualified than the Licensing Court to exercise discretion in such matters. I do not claim that the present Licensing Court is all that could be desired—or its predecessor, either—but if we have such a court, we should give it power to decide what is necessary in this regard for hotels outside the cities of Perth and Fremantle. A further provision of the measure seeks to give the Licensing Court power, on application from a licensee, to grant the right not to provide accommodation; in other words to declare the hotel non-residential so that it becomes more or less a beer house—

Hon. G. Bennetts: Plenty would apply for that.

Hon. N. E. BAXTER: Perhaps; but the decision would be entirely in the hands of the Licensing Court, which, after examining all the relevant facts and the requirements of the district, would reach its decision. In York there are four hotels which provide approximately 50 beds per night; and I do not think that, on the average, 10 of them would be occupied. That is a waste of money and a drain on the resources of the publican who would like to improve his premises. Many country towns are in the same position as York, and I think a similar state of affairs exists on the Goldfields, where I believe the accommodation provided would be perhaps 10 times that required.

Hon. L. Craig: Some of it would not be used because it is so bad.

Hon. N. E. BAXTER: That is so; and this measure would help overcome that position by giving the court power—

Hon. Sir Charles Latham: It has the power already, but will not use it.

Hon. N. E. BAXTER: The Bill seeks to give the Licensing Court power to decide what hotel accommodation is required in a district and then see that it is provided. If a big influx of people were expected during the round, at Kalgoorlie, for instance, the court could instruct the hotels to provide accommodation and meals over that period. If a hotel employs only a cook, waitress and housemaid, the wages bill is at least £30 a week; and it would need a lot of guests to cover that cost, to say nothing of the cost of the food, and so on. Licensees should not have to incur all this unnecessary expense.

The last provision in the measure is for the licensee of premises declared non-residential to pay an additional fee of £150 per annum. He would gain a certain advantage by not having to run his house at a loss as regards accommodation, and so would be in a position to pay the extra fee, seeing that he might have been losing £400 or £500 on the accommodation provided.

Hon. L. Craig: Should not the fee be left to the Licensing Court?

Hon. N. E. BAXTER: No; I think the fee should be set by Parliament, and we could reconsider the position on the recommendation of the court after 12 months' experience of the measure. The £150 would be paid into a trust account, from which the Licensing Court would have power to make a payment to the hotel which was forced to provide accommodation even though it was not an economic proposition. In that way the court could equalise the position to a great extent.

Members familiar with the Goldfields know how the many clubs that have been established there have taken a great deal of trade from the hotels. Parliament in its wisdom agreed in the past that the Licensing Court should have power to grant licences to clubs. I do not know of a single club in the country that has to provide accommodation; and yet they are allowed to trade on more favourable terms than those of the hotels, which are put to far greater expense, and have to provide facilities much beyond those provided by the average club. In spite of that the hotels are forced to continue making accommodation available although it is a losing proposition.

About five years ago, and prior to that, the gross profit on bulk beer was between 107 and 135 per cent. During the past five years that has dropped to 69 or 70 per cent. That sounds a considerable profit; but it must be remembered that the gross profit on bottled beer is 18 per cent. and the overall bottle sales of most hotels—Wine, whisky, and other spirits—is about 23 per cent., bringing the average gross profit down to about 50 per cent.

or a little less. During the same period there has been at least one increase in excise duty as well as several increases in the wholesale price of beer, both bottled and bulk. The Water Supply Department—where it provides a water service—has increased its charge in some instances by 350 per cent. In the hotel I was running at Beverley, the water rate in 1951, when I took over, was £21 per annum. Within a couple of years it was £120. Similar increases occurred with road board rates which, in fact, became almost double.

However, the price charged to the public was not increased in the same proportion as those increases or the basic wage increases, with the result that when price control was relinquished in this State, the publicans were in an extremely invidious position. They could have increased the price of beer; but members know what happened at Geraldton and Norseman when such a move was attempted. A great hue and cry followed.

Increases in the price of beer and other liquors sold to the public which had been made over the years do not approach the increases that have been made in the prices for food, clothing and other commodities. The result is that the hotel trade, as far as accommodation is concerned, has gone into the doldrums. Licensees have found that the returns from the bar do not permit them to maintain the house side of the hotel in a way that they would like. The public often say, "Oh, it is all very well, but they are making plenty out of it." But members need only examine the books of any country hotel and they would realise the true position for themselves.

Hon. F. R. H. Lavery: How many licensees would let one have a look at their books?

Hon. N. E. BAXTER: I am quite sure that many licensees in the country would welcome an examination of their books by the hon. member. If he cares to do so, he can peruse the books which I kept whilst I was in the trade over the past three years. He would find that a severe loss was made every year. I am not in the business now, but I know what happens. Licensees are fed up to the teeth of people saying, "We cannot get a meal or we cannot get this or that." People should know what country licensees are up against, and it would then be realised why they cannot provide everything the public expects from a country hotel. I heard one person complain about a hotel in Mogumber. One might say that it is "away out in the sticks." The only trade that hotel would do would be in the bar. The same applies to other places, apart from Mogumber. I do not say that the Act should be amended to grant non-residential licences to hotels in a place such as Narrogin.

Hon. L. C. Diver: Would you place the Mogumber hotel on a subsidy of £350 a year?

Hon. N. E. BAXTER: That is the maximum figure. If members consider that it should be made the maximum, they can grant the Licensing Court power to reduce it to apply to hotels in places such as Mogumber.

Hon. A. F. Griffith: Would the trust fund amount to very much?

Hon. N. E. BAXTER: No; it would not be a great deal. But it would be sufficient to defray part of the loss that some small country hotels suffer.

Hon. A. F. Griffith: What ideas have you on the amount that the trust fund might reach?

Hon. N. E. BAXTER: I have no idea. Discretion would have to be left with the Licensing Court as to what premises it would declare non-residential.

Hon. A. F. Griffith: There would have to be many non-residential premises so that a worth-while amount could be placed in trust.

Hon. N. E. BAXTER: The grant is to be distributed by way of subsidy to those places to which the court says, "You must provide for accommodation in your premises." The object is to defray the losses incurred by small country hotels. Payments from this trust fund would in no way meet the total loss made by any such hotel, but it would assist those to whom the court says, "You must provide residential accommodation here for travellers." It could then say, "We will assist you by granting a subsidy to you from this fund."

I will illustrate another aspect of the hotel trade which has been brought about by the advent of fast motor travel and good roads. The average brewery, whisky, wine or any other traveller, generally leaves Perth on Monday and makes his first stop for the night at Narrogin. He then carries on and stops at Katanning on his way to Albany. He would stop at the same hotels on his return to Perth. The hotels which are situated between those large centres do not get any of this trade, because a traveller's aim is to complete his trip half-way through the week so that he may be able to return to Perth before the following week-end. That is what is happening in the country, and that is why it is not a paying proposition for some country hotels to provide accommodation for travellers. I trust, therefore, that the House will give the Bill its full support. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

## BILL—MARKETING OF BARLEY ACT AMENDMENT.

### Second Reading.

Debate resumed from the 20th October.

HON. L. A. LOGAN (Midland) [9.37]: Actually, the Bill has only two objects. The first is to pay to the trustees of the Soil Fertility Research Fund the contributions made by barley growers of 1d. per bushel which at present are being received by the board. It is proposed that this money shall be used for research purposes. I do not think any member will take exception to that phase of the Bill, so I do not intend to dwell upon it.

The second object of the measure, however, may cause quite a deal of discussion, and there may be some members who will not be too happy about it. I will therefore try to impress upon such members the necessity for this portion of the Bill, which seeks to extend the tenure of the W.A. Barley Marketing Board for another 20 years.

The board was first formed in 1946, so it has been in operation for nine years, but only for three-yearly periods by the grace of Parliament. Under the Act, the board has been made a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal. Surely if it is granted such power, it is nonsensical to provide that its tenure shall be for only three years. The board also has power to buy and sell and enter into any contracts, etc.

Hon. L. Craig: It is voluntary, is it not?

Hon. L. A. LOGAN: No; it is compulsory. Again, under Section 29, the board can become a shareholder in any incorporated company by the acquisition of shares, or enter into any agreements with any person, etc. It seems strange that Parliament should see fit to grant such wide powers to this board and yet restrict its life to only three years. Consequently the barley growers' section of the Farmers' Union has asked that its life be extended for 20 years to bring it into line with the Bulk Handling Act which provides that the tenure of Co-operative Bulk Handling Ltd. shall expire in 1975.

Although it is not provided for in the Act, Co-operative Bulk Handling has always endeavoured to handle the product grown by the barley growers. The growers must pay for the provision of these facilities, so surely it is only right that the life of this board should be extended sufficiently to enable the contributions by the growers to be made over a number of years. Surely it is too much to expect the barley growers to pay in three years for any installation established for their benefit. That is the reason why the life of this board should be extended for a further 20 years.

Hon. C. H. Simpson: That will mean that this legislation will terminate at the same time as the legislation dealing with Co-operative Bulk Handling?

Hon. L. A. LOGAN: Yes. It not only applies to the payment for the installations for the handling of this product, but it also applies to the way the production of barley has been extended to date. In this respect the W.A. Barley Marketing Board has done an extremely good job. It has been endeavouring to improve the quality and yield of the six-row Atlas variety. Also, as a result of its investigations, it has made excellent strides in regard to another strain called Beecher. If the results it has obtained to date continue, this will prove to be one of the best means of improving not only the quality, but also the yield of barley grown in this State. The results obtained to date are very encouraging and the reports that have been received from overseas, where the barley has been sent for testing, have also been extremely favourable.

So it will be seen that the Barley Board is not a body that is just waiting for its period of three years to expire. It has taken upon itself these various responsibilities in the hope that Parliament will see fit to continue the legislation from time to time. However, it must be realised that for this board to function properly some guarantee of continuity is necessary, and that is the reason why the Bill is before the House today.

This year is the first in the history of barley growing in Western Australia that has seen a surplus of two-row barley used for malting purposes. Up to date we have had to rely on South Australia to fulfil the requirements of the maltsters. But now we have reached the stage where two-row barley can be exported. I commend the growers on their attitude in this respect, because six-row barley is a much better yielder than two-row barley in the majority of the growing areas of the State, though there may be one or two areas where two-row barley can be better grown. The growers have seen the wisdom of producing the article which can be consumed on the home market, and I commend them for that attitude.

At present, Co-operative Bulk Handling is building new bins in the Nyabing area because more barley is grown there than wheat. Those new installations have to be paid for. They are to be paid for by the barley growers themselves, and there is need for the extended period for the operation of the Act to enable the payments to be spread over the years.

I make these points because I have heard a certain amount of opposition to the period proposed in the Bill. I ask members to give consideration to them. If at any time the method of the marketing of barley is to be changed and some

other method is to be evolved over the years, there will not be much trouble in amending the Act to allow that to be done. Where the method is functioning well as it is at present, it is only right that the Barley Board should be given the opportunity of looking after the future of the industry as far as possible. I support the second reading.

On motion by Hon. L. C. Diver, debate adjourned.

*House adjourned at 9.48 p.m.*

## Legislative Assembly

Tuesday, 25th October, 1955.

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The SPEAKER took the Chair at 7.30 p.m., and read prayers.