

## Legislative Council

Wednesday, 24 March 1982

The PRESIDENT (the Hon. Clive Griffiths) took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

### CONSERVATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

#### *Millstream: Petition*

On motions by the Hon. Peter Dowding, the following petition bearing the signatures of 68 persons was received, read, and ordered to lie upon the Table of the House—

To the Honourable, the President and Honourable members of the Legislative Council in Parliament assembled.

We the undersigned residents of the North West of Western Australia pray that the Government of Western Australia acknowledge:

1. the environmental damage that has been caused to Millstream by excessive pumping for neighbouring towns water supply;
2. the exceptional beauty of this recreation area and its importance to both tourists and residents in the North West.

We the petitioners therefore pray that your Honourable House will give earnest consideration to:

1. ensuring that steps are taken immediately to avoid further environmental decline at Millstream;
2. initiating an independent public inquiry into the water resources of the North West and the current and projected supply of water to the North West towns;
3. ensuring adequate water supply to keep in step with the development and population expansion of the Kimberley and the North West.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(See paper No. 116.)

### QUESTIONS

Questions were taken at this stage.

### DEPUTY CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES

#### *Election*

The following members were elected as Deputy Chairmen of Committees for the session on motion by the Hon. I. G. Medcalf (Leader of the House)—the Hons. R. J. L. Williams, I. G. Pratt, and R. Hetherington.

### COMMITTEES FOR THE SESSION

#### *Election*

The following sessional committees were elected on motions by the Hon. I. G. Medcalf (Leader of the House)—

- (a) Standing Orders Committee—The Hons. R. J. L. Williams, I. G. Pratt and R. Hetherington.
- (b) Library Committee—The Hons. W. R. Withers and R. Hetherington.
- (c) House Committee—The Hons. A. A. Lewis, R. J. L. Williams, L. D. Elliott and R. T. Leeson.
- (d) Printing Committee—The Hons. H. W. Gayfer and F. E. McKenzie.

### BILLS (2): INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

1. Companies (Co-operative) Amendment Bill.

Bill introduced, on motion by the Hon. I. G. Medcalf (Attorney General), and read a first time.

2. Machinery Safety Amendment Bill.

Bill introduced, on motion by the Hon. G. E. Masters (Minister for Labour and Industry), and read a first time.

### ADDRESS-IN-REPLY: THIRD DAY

#### *Motion*

Debate resumed from 23 March.

**THE HON. P. G. PENDAL** (South-East Metropolitan) [5.28 p.m.]: A matter that I want to raise in this Address-in-Reply debate relates to the recent release of a discussion paper sponsored by the Australian Foundation on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, a paper entitled, "Social Policies on Drugs: Alcohol, Cannabis, and Heroin." I say at the outset that I am astounded at some of the contents of that paper, and by extension, I am equally astounded at some of its conclusions and recommendations.

As members are aware, the national workshop which produced the paper comprised some very able, esteemed, and distinguished people,

including Mr Justice Michael Kirby of the Australian Law Reform Commission. I cannot escape the suspicion that their conclusions were not based on the calm sifting and evaluation of facts but on some sense of hopelessness on their part that if one cannot swim against the tide one may as well give up the fight and allow the tide to become one's master. I say that for good reason.

On page 3 of the discussion paper the participants in that national workshop deal with the recommendations on cannabis. One recommendation was, "That possession of cannabis for personal use there be no criminal offence" but, in the next breath, it goes on to recommend that, "research be conducted . . . to establish more closely patterns of use . . . and the health consequences as a result of . . . occasional, regular or heavy use." That is an extraordinary state of affairs. On the one hand, an eminent group of Australians advocates decriminalisation of the use of cannabis and, on the other hand and in the same breath, they advocate studies to see how harmful are the effects of that drug. By advocating more research, the group admits that it simply does not know the effects of the use of marihuana. Indeed, it seems that no-one really knows the answer to that question.

A publication entitled *A Citizen's Guide to Marihuana in Australia* is available to members. The authors are two prominent academics who say quite categorically that, "It is not known whether long continued use of cannabis causes permanent personality changes." Despite that, the same eminent group of Australians recommend, in the discussion paper to which I referred, the decriminalisation of the use of the drug.

I am equally appalled at the implications of the contents of a Press statement issued at the same time as the discussion paper. On page 2 of the statement the comment is made that, "On present medical knowledge, the group believes marihuana (cannabis) is possibly less harmful than alcohol and tobacco, and it could not accept the intolerable social costs related to prohibition." They describe the intolerable social costs as criminal syndicates and corruption.

I ask a more relevant question: What about the intolerable social costs relating to decriminalisation? The working party itself cannot deny the possible social costs or consequences because it has already admitted the need for greater research to understand what would be the consequences of freely available cannabis. With perhaps misplaced good intentions, the group is falling into the same trap as the authors of the guide to which I referred.

The authors of that publication quoted the results of a 1974 British survey of some 500 marihuana users. The results show that 356 people reported being able to give up the use of cannabis without any difficulty, but what they did not say is what happened to the other 144 people, one-third of the group surveyed. It would be clear even to Blind Freddy, with comments of the kind I make, that I personally reject the recommendations contained in the latest report of the working party. I see absolutely no argument in support of decriminalisation. As long as I am a member of this Parliament and the present admitted uncertainty surrounds the effects of marihuana, I will never give my vote for decriminalisation of its use.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: When you say "decriminalisation", does that mean that you would make it legal to smoke it?

The Hon. P. G. PENDAL: No. I am using the definition the working party used.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: It was a genuine interjection. I wanted to know.

The Hon. P. G. PENDAL: I realise that. Their definition of "decriminalisation" is that it should no longer be a criminal offence to use the drug.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: But that does not mean you would make it legal?

The Hon. P. G. PENDAL: I am using their yardstick, that "decriminalisation" means the removal of the sanctions on its use, which is a proposition I cannot accept. I refer to remarks made by a spokesman for the Road Trauma Committee of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in New South Wales. Dr Robin Higgs was dealing with the problem of what he calls the marihuana motorist and said this—

Marihuana is a powerful agent which affects the body in many ways. What the full range of these consequences will be can only be guessed at. There remains considerable scientific uncertainty surrounding the effects of marihuana.

If that is so, why is it that any of us would set out to give a legal facility and even encouragement to tens or hundreds of thousands of Australians in respect of using a drug which till now they may well have avoided using out of the fairly healthy fear that they would be caught and prosecuted?

The citizen's guide confirms it when the authors say, "If drugs are readily available they will be used and the number and variety of reasons for their use will be legion."

Some experts have gone even further than the moderate quotations I have used. The United

Nations has a Narcotics Control Agency. In its report last year that agency rejected categorically the view that cannabis was a soft drug and warned, in dealing with its critique, against increased risk of cancer as well as psychotic disturbances and a danger of reproductive disorders from its use.

The Hon. Peter Dowding: Salt does that to you as well.

The Hon. P. G. PENDAL: That could be the case also. Even if we are prepared to fall back on the argument that we can condone the use of alcohol and tobacco, I suggest that is not an argument at all. It is a convenient and comfortable diversion from the real argument. Every member here knows the dangers associated with cigarette smoking or alcohol abuse. As a member of this House who will freely admit to being hooked on tobacco—

The Hon. D. K. Dans: Who is that?

The Hon. P. G. PENDAL: —myself—I have no intention of ever using my vote to allow the current uncertainty associated with marihuana to be unleashed into the community. With those comments, I support the motion.

**THE HON. A. A. LEWIS** (Lower Central) [5.38 p.m.]: In supporting the motion, I congratulate Mr Kelly on his election to this place and Mr Oliver for his Address-in-Reply speech with which I thought the Leader of the Opposition dealt with a little levity last night. I intend to deal with the Leader of the Opposition's comments later on. I am sure the resignation of Mr Olney brought a sadness amongst many of us because we found him to be a very fine colleague, a man that one could talk to at all times, and I am sure he will do this place justice in his new position in the courts.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: His seat is still occupied.

The Hon. A. A. LEWIS: Mr Olney made a fine contribution in this place and he will make a far bigger contribution in his new office. Mr Skidmore retired from the other place and recently purchased land in that magnificent country around Walpole, and he is going to live in my electorate. I do not know if he will run my campaign!

The Hon. R. G. Pike: I would not hold your breath!

The Hon. A. A. LEWIS: Mr Skidmore was *persona non grata* with the ALP when he left this place and may think I am a satisfactory alternative. The other retirement, of course, was Sir Charles Court, who will go down in the

history books as one of the great Premiers and Ministers in this State. I am not saying that I always agreed with him either privately or in public, but he is one of those people who has contributed a great deal to Western Australia and deserves praise for his job on behalf of the State.

Since I last had an opportunity to speak to the House, the south-west and the great southern was hit by massive floods. I will not name anybody as a saviour during this time. The Government reacted a little slowly to the situation in respect of decision making; although members of the Government moved in very quickly. We must consider this matter for the future and see if we can speed up our assistance.

The number of people who contributed during the floods and worked for the benefit of the community was huge. I am sure Mrs Piesse would agree that if we started naming people we would go on and on.

The Hon. W. M. Piesse: Absolutely!

The Hon. A. A. LEWIS: The interesting thing is to look at the losses, especially stock losses, that were sustained and to consider the fact that under the Federal and State emergency relief agreement the people concerned are allowed to borrow only \$20 000 at a reduced rate of interest. When we consider that some farm owners lost \$200 000-worth of stock, this \$20 000 loan seems very paltry. The Government should negotiate with Canberra to get a greater loan in exceptional circumstances. It is not the farmer's fault that the floods came onto his property, but probably the fault of all of us.

The Hon. Graham MacKinnon probably has done more about this matter than anyone else in latter years, with the imposition of clearing restrictions to stop this happening in the future. The farmers, through no fault of their own, have lost a lot of stock. It is the responsibility of both the State and Federal Governments to help them out of the position they are in. I see no reason why a series of poles cannot be put down in streams and rivers, with markings at metre or half-metre intervals so that information may be passed between farmers on the streams. For example, if the stream comes up to one metre north of Bill Withers' farm, we know it will come up to six metres on Robert Pike's farm.

In the Collie area the Public Works Department has installed a series of posts. I believe these should be installed right throughout the areas in the south that are susceptible to flooding. Then the emergency services would know the heights that the waters are likely to reach and preparations could be made

accordingly. This was an extremely interesting exercise, and I commend the PWD on its work. A ring was drawn around Collie, and the people were told the areas that would be flooded if the water rose to a certain height five miles upstream. The forecast was completely accurate. It would be very wise to institute such a system State-wide.

I was interested in the Governor's comments about the economy in the beginning of his Speech. He particularly emphasised improving the viability of small businesses. Just last night I received a telephone call from the proprietor of a fuel depot and he said, "We now do not just have to license our truck, including a special licence because we cart fuel, but also we must license the tanks on the truck." If that policy is looking after the viability of small businesses, it is a policy I would prefer the Government not to follow.

I have written to the Chief Secretary about the fees paid by the Darkan Golf Club. About five years ago the licence fee was \$5 per annum. This has risen to \$50 per annum, and now the licence holder has to pay another \$25. So in five years the fees have risen from \$5 to \$75 per annum, and I feel that is a little rough on a golf club in a small town.

I would like to congratulate the Government on a job it has done, and I believe this morning it was all systems go for the gymnasium at the Manjimup High School. I am sure Mrs Piesse will be pleased to hear that—it is only four years since we were promised the money for this gymnasium!

Again, just a few years too late, the Government has closed the Boyup Brook-Katanning railway line. I have been putting forward a proposal to close the line for a very long time—for some 14 years at least I have been suggesting that this freight business should be taken over by road transport. So now I have my wish, but if every wish I make takes 14 years to come true, I will not get through much work. In regard to this closure, I sound a note of caution. The local carriers—the people who operate businesses in the towns on that line—should be licensed for 12 months. In this way it will not be possible for the large haulage firms to take over them.

The main thrust of my speech relates to a matter raised last night by the Leader of the Opposition. In a fairly inadequate speech he put great stress on the fact that Goldsworthy Mining Ltd. and certain unions had "done a deal". He did not put it in quite such frank terms, but he tried to blackmail the House and to get stuck into the Minister over his handling of certain other problems by referring to this deal. The Leader of

the Opposition missed the point about what that deal would do to small businesses. By arranging a sweetheart deal with the unions, Goldsworthy Mining Ltd. has upped the price that every country garage and country dealer has to pay for its labour. Already these people are paying \$20 or \$30 more a week for labour than are their city colleagues. This premium must be paid to get tradesmen to go to the country.

I would like to quote at length from a very good submission which was put to the Federal Government about the problem of businesses in the country. The submission is from the Farm Machinery Dealers Association and it reads as follows—

In tendering a submission on Agriculture, my Association believes that for too long Agriculture has been thought of in Australia as tilling the soil and raising stock.

It is our contention that the total agricultural business situation in this country is interwoven and dependent one section upon another. In the past dealers have farmers in their own area get substantial benefits from Government, covering such things as taxation, subsidies on fertilizers, assistance to marketing etc., when the dealers themselves with as much capital or more involved in rural areas, employing usually more staff, get no help or very little. This submission will put forward some ideas that could be advantageous to Government, if they are looking to maintain a strong country business representation. There are a few background points that should be stated first:

1. In many country towns the dealer is the biggest employer of labour after Government in that town.
2. The dealer and his staff being permanent (Government employees being liable to transfer) are the stabilizing influence on the town and usually the people around whom the many facets of rural life are built i.e. sports clubs, Rotary, Apex etc.
3. This Association has some 600-700 members and as yet, being only two years old as a National body, hasn't reached its peak. However, on figures already obtained from our membership by survey, the Association averages per member:
  - (a) Over \$1½ m. turnover per annum
  - (b) Employs 10 staff members
  - (c) Has an investment of at least \$300 000

- (d) Owns at least 2 houses in the towns they operate in
- (e) Owns or leases back a premises in that town
- (f) Employs 1½ apprentices

It would appear from those figures that dealers represent what Government often call small business. Usually the dealer principal has started the business from scratch and built it up, gaining year by year a greater knowledge of all the engineering facets of the machines he sells, greater management and accountancy skills and a terrific ability to roll with the punches whether they come from seasonal conditions, manufacturers or Government.

What has happened to Dealerships in the last few years to affect their viability:

1. Interest rises have affected profits in many areas.
  - (a) Floor plan costs have risen dramatically. To carry a machine over from one season to the next (i.e. harvesters, hay balers, combines, ploughs etc) has seen the whole profit margin disappear due to floor costs.
  - (b) Debtors have risen in dollar volume and borrowings to cover these debtors are uneconomical.
  - (c) Parts prices have risen with or faster than inflation and borrowings have to be increased again to give a full service to the farmer client.
2. Costs of machines have risen dramatically and so the dealer's deposit against floor plan has increased.
3. Wages of tradesmen have risen throughout all areas but usually dealerships have to pay a loading for tradesmen in rural areas.
4. Government costs, telephone, electricity, rates and taxes continue to make up a greater percentage of overheads than before.

Given that Government is interested in reducing production costs of agricultural products, as many dealers as possible should be kept in business. If they are not, the service cost per machine for parts and labour from a distant city or regional town will increase dramatically as will the down time for the farmers involved.

What can be done for rural dealerships? The Association stresses "rural" as there are

some city based dealers who probably should not be included in the following recommendations for reasons that are obvious.

Basically the suggestions I make for dealers run along the lines of what has already been provided for their farmer clients.

1. Provision by the Commonwealth Development Bank or the Resources Bank of funds for floor plan and machinery hire purchase. There could be a possibility of setting up a totally different financial arrangement for agricultural machinery and an example of this is the way the South African Land Bank finances machines. This is, or at least was, the last time the writer saw it in operation, at bank interest, seasonal payments over the estimated life of the machine. This helps both the farmer and the dealer but would probably cost in the vicinity of \$700m. in the first year to just service the Association's dealers. The scheme could be introduced State by State after surveying dealers in that State. The savings by dealers and farmers could be as much as 15% of this amount.
2. A bond system for dealers who have a good year so that in times of seasonal problems they can draw on the bond.
3. Volume discount for services such as telephones, postage, electricity etc., the dealers of course being far greater users than the majority of rural people.
4. Faster depreciation rates on the premises and houses they own in the country town or towns they operate from.
5. Help with transport and accommodation costs for their apprentices on block release courses.

In summary the Association asks only for what is already given to other members of the rural community:

1. Finance at Bank overdraft rates to run their business.
2. An investment bond opportunity so that any profits need not be taxed in that year.
3. Volume discount on Government services (in some spheres it already applies to larger business).
4. Depreciation rates comparative to farmers.

5. Help with the extra burdens country apprentices create.

The Association is not looking for subsidies, handouts or undue Government interference, but for a change in the finance system to allow their members to borrow on the same terms as their clients the farmers, and basically as business in the city borrows.

It hurt me to hear the Leader of the Opposition make so much of the Goldsworthy agreement last night. Obviously he could not care less about what happens to small business, as long as his union friends are covered completely and utterly by some sweetheart deal arranged by big employers of labour. He is not interested in the small businessman or tradesman who goes into the country. God forbid that the Labor Party with men of that mentality should ever get into office because agriculture is still producing over half the foreign exchange of this country. I hope that the Leader of the Opposition does not try to pull the wool over the eyes of members of this House with that sort of thing again.

In the few minutes left to me I would like to draw the attention of members to an article which appeared in the *Daily News* of Tuesday, 15 December 1981. It was written by John Murphy and it is headed, "Your pay really does go further". I do not imagine any Labor member would like to quote from the article at length. It sets out the prices for different items from 1948 to 1981, and it shows the increase in the average weekly wage. I urge members to look at this article and when I hear complaints about the poor down-trodden worker, in future I will refer the complainant to this article and challenge him to deny its authenticity.

Finally, I note from a Press statement which was issued by the Deputy Premier on 21 February that the State Government will accept in part the report of the Select Committee inquiring into National Parks relating to the Army land at

Rottnest. What the Government has not done as yet is to accept the fact that there is a need for that Army land to become a national park. Many things should be done at Rottnest, and the only way to achieve them is by making the Army land a national park. I have just spent a fortnight on the island checking out various matters.

The Hon. Peter Dowding: In the course of your parliamentary duties?

The Hon. A. A. LEWIS: Yes, and I hope that the Hon. Peter Dowding will pay for it.

I was struck by a number of aspects of the island. For example, the roads have to be repaired. The poles which have been erected at Thompson Bay so that boats can be tied up could only have been the idea of an idiot. They have ruined the whole bay and no thought has been given to the sense of beauty there. I am worried by many aspects of Rottnest Island and they can only be looked after by a service such as the National Parks Authority. Until such time as we can look after our own "A"-class reserves, we have no right to ask the Federal Government for the Army land there. Once we have created the area as a national park, the Federal Government is duty bound to give us the Army land on Rottnest Island.

I support the motion.

Debate adjourned, on motion by the Hon. G. K. Kelly.

**ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE:  
SPECIAL**

**THE HON. I. G. MEDCALF** (Metropolitan—Leader of the House) [6.01 p.m.]: I move—

That the House at its rising adjourn until Tuesday, 30 March.

Question put and passed.

*House adjourned at 6.02 p.m.*

## QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

### RAILWAYS: FREIGHT

#### *Revenue*

10. The Hon. D. K. DANS, to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

(1) For the financial year ended 30 June 1981, what was the annual revenue received by Westrail for each of the following commodities—

- (a) alumina;
- (b) bauxite;
- (c) iron ore;
- (d) mineral sands;
- (e) nickel;
- (f) copper;
- (g) gypsum;
- (h) salt; and
- (i) woodchips?

(2) What were the average haulage distances for each of the above commodities?

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS replied:

(1) and (2)

| REVENUE (\$)   | AVERAGE HAUL<br>(kms) |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| (a) 5 662 751  | 92                    |
| (b) 6 265 704  | 50                    |
| (c) 12 804 462 | 499                   |
| (d) 6 175 172  | 155                   |
| (e) 4 999 674  | 864                   |
| (f) 182 472    | 645                   |
| (g) 1 229 190  | 370                   |
| (h) 968 158    | 347                   |
| (i) 3 985 027  | 157                   |

### FISHERIES

#### *Offences*

11. The Hon. TOM McNEIL, to the Minister representing the Minister for Fisheries and Wildlife:

Would the Minister advise what penalty was incurred by the processing boat known as the "vacuum cleaner" for fishing offences committed during 1981 and 1982 whilst operating in the Lancelin area?

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS replied:

The licensee of the processing boat to which I assume the member is referring has been served with summonses for alleged offences on 6 December 1980

and 18 May 1981. Due to a series of adjournments the courts have not yet made a decision in either case.

### INDUSTRIAL TRAINING: SPECIAL TRADE TRAINING UNIT

#### *Activities: Reduction*

12. The Hon. D. K. DANS, to the Minister for Labour and Industry:

Will the Minister clarify the precise reasons as to why the activities of the special trade training unit are to be significantly reduced?

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS replied:

The special trade training unit was originally established on a temporary basis to provide administrative support for the implementation of intakes of apprentices under the special trade training programme. The unit's administrative activities are now reduced, as the majority of intakes under the programme are now in training and the monitoring of the training is undertaken by departmental field staff.

### HOUSING: STATE HOUSING COMMISSION

#### *Relocation Assistance*

13. The Hon. R. HETHERINGTON, to the Minister representing the Minister for Housing:

I have been informed that, when the State Housing Commission wishes to relocate families whose numbers have diminished, the commission is prepared to pay either the cost of moving the furniture, or the transfer of the telephone. Will the Minister ensure that such people are informed of this policy as a matter of routine when the SHC suggests such relocation?

The Hon. R. G. PIKE replied:

In a situation where a family moves from large to smaller accommodation by commission request the commission will pay all reasonable expenses resulting from the transfer.

All tenants are advised of the concessions in negotiations prior to the transfer.

## IMMIGRATION: IMMIGRANTS

### *Resource Projects*

14. The Hon. D. K. DANS, to the Minister for Labour and Industry:

- (1) Does the Minister's department, or any other department, monitor the use of new migrant labour for resource projects, particularly in the north of the State?
- (2) If so, does the Minister have any information on this matter?

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS replied:

- (1) and (2) No.

## TRANSPORT: PERTH AIRPORT

### *International Passengers: Delays*

15. The Hon. P. H. LOCKYER, to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

What steps are being taken to alleviate the considerable delay for incoming international passengers at Perth Airport?

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS replied:

Three points should be made in preface to this answer—

Perth Airport is owned and operated by the Commonwealth Government and the State has limited direct influence on the nature of the operation;

the delays of up to 90 minutes which are experienced in clearing an incoming international flight are not at odds with those experienced elsewhere in Australia or at many places overseas;

when international aircraft movements depart from schedule and coincide at Perth Airport some unavoidable additional delays have been experienced.

In specific answer to the question, the Commonwealth has over the last 12 to 18 months doubled the size of the clearing facility for incoming international travellers.

It has also made the commitment to build a new international terminal for the airport, operational by 1984-85 and capable of handling four B-747 aircraft simultaneously.

The State will continue its strong representations to ensure that the size and timing of this commitment are fulfilled, and that in the interim, the existing international facilities work as efficiently as elsewhere.

## TRAFFIC: MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE TRUST

### *Deficit*

16. The Hon. J. M. BERINSON, to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government:

What was the estimated surplus or deficit of the Motor Vehicle Insurance Trust for the six months to 31 December 1981?

The Hon. R. G. PIKE replied:

I am advised that the estimated deficit of the Motor Vehicle Insurance Trust for the six months to 31 December 1981, is \$8 594 821.

## ELECTORAL

### *Enrolment Cards: Rejection*

17. The Hon. PETER DOWDING, to the Chief Secretary:

- (1) For any period for which the information is available, what percentage of electoral enrolment cards were rejected by the Electoral Department in respect of—

- (a) metropolitan;
- (b) agricultural; and
- (c) northern

seats by reason of improper witnessing?

- (2) How many electoral enrolment cards were involved in total, and what action was taken by the Electoral Office in respect of them?

The Hon. R. G. PIKE replied:

- (1) Statistics of claims rejected on the grounds of incorrect witnessing have been taken out for two periods—

- (a) 9 November 1981 to 14 December 1981;
- (b) 15 December 1981 to 28 January 1982.



The percentage rejected was—

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| (a) metropolitan area                     | 18.0   |
| agricultural, mining and<br>pastoral area | 14.5   |
| north-west-Murchison-Eyre<br>area         | 16.0   |
| (b) metropolitan area                     | 15.0   |
| agricultural, mining and<br>pastoral area | 10.4   |
| (c) north-west-Murchison-Eyre<br>area     | 12.2   |
| (2) Total received                        | 14 536 |
| Total rejected                            | 2 224  |

The Electoral Department wrote to all applicants whose claims were rejected, explaining the reason and enclosing new cards for completion.

#### EDUCATION: HIGH SCHOOLS

##### *Como and Kent Street: Capacity*

18. The Hon. R. HETHERINGTON, to the Minister representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) What was the capacity last year of—
  - (a) Como Senior High School; and
  - (b) Kent Street Senior High School?
- (2) How many students have enrolled in these schools in 1982?
- (3) Has this caused problems through overcrowding?
- (4) How many demountable buildings were occupied by students in each of these schools in 1981, and how many are so occupied in 1982?
- (5) What improvements have been made in the resource centres and services to cater for the increased number of students attending each of these schools?

The Hon. R. G. PIKE replied:

I am advised as follows—

- (1) (a) and (b) The capacity of a school fluctuates depending on the ratios of lower secondary students and upper school

students in the enrolment. While schools are at peak enrolments the capacity is enlarged by provision of transportable accommodation. In 1981 the two schools had the following accom-  
modation—

|                                   |      |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| Kent Street SHS                   | 41.5 |
| equivalent full teaching<br>areas |      |
| Como SHS—28.5                     |      |
| equivalent full teaching<br>areas |      |

- (2) Kent Street SHS—759  
    Como SHS—926
- (3) No, the transportable programme is used to prevent overcrowding.
- (4) Kent Street SHS—2, plus 2 migrant education demountables.  
    Como SHS—4
- (5) Both schools have had higher enrolments than the 1982 numbers in the past and there is no need to increase resource provisions at present. Because they have a renewed future as moderately sized schools, an upgrading of services is planned for both schools.

#### EDUCATION: PRIMARY SCHOOLS

##### *Staffing Levels*

19. The Hon. P. H. LOCKYER, to the Minister representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) (a) Which other States calculate their staffing levels by exactly the same method as WA; and
  - (b) how does WA compare?
- (2) Which primary schools in WA have teacher/librarians?
- (3) Will this be extended to all class 1A primary schools in WA?

The Hon. R. G. PIKE replied:

- (1) (a) If staffing levels are interpreted as pupil: teacher ratio, Western Australia believes that only the ACT calculates its PTR in the same way as Western Australia.

Western Australia uses a pupil and staff census to calculate the PTR. Other States (with the possible exception of the ACT) use pay-roll statistics.

Pay-roll statistics may not separate teachers on paid leave and teachers employed in schools, nor teachers who work part-time in schools and part-time elsewhere; for example, regional offices.

The use of pay-roll statistics would lead to lower PTRs than the figure which would be derived from census figures.

Western Australia does not include teachers on leave nor teachers who are not school-based in its PTR calculation.

- (b) On the basis of published statistics which are not entirely comparable, WA's 1981 PTRs are: primary, 21.49, and secondary, 12.89.

The Australian average PTRs for 1982 are: primary, 20.00 and secondary, 12.25.

- (2) The availability of support teachers in primary schools gives the principal the flexibility to assign the duties of teacher-librarian to a number of staff. Teacher-librarians are not designated to primary schools in Western Australia.
- (3) The support teacher programme permits the principal of a IA primary school to assign the duties of teacher-librarian to a number of staff if he wishes to do so.

#### TRAFFIC: MOTOR VEHICLES

##### *Third Party Insurance*

20. The Hon. J. M. BERINSON, to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government:

Since 1970, on what dates have third party premiums been increased and, in each case, by what overall percentage?

The Hon. R. G. PIKE replied:

|                 | per cent |
|-----------------|----------|
| 1 July, 1973    | 20       |
| 1 January, 1976 | 52       |
| 1 July, 1978    | 43       |
| 1 July, 1980    | 50       |
| 1 July, 1981    | 25       |

#### HOUSING

##### *Government Employees' Housing Authority*

21. The Hon. PETER DOWDING, to the Minister representing the Minister for Housing:

(1) Was the Government Employees' Housing Authority approached to consider the acquisition of Karratha lots 2395 or 2396?

(2) If so—

(a) when;

(b) by whom;

(c) for what purpose; and

(d) what was the result of the approach?

The Hon. R. G. PIKE replied:

(1) and (2) An inquiry was made in regard to the acquisition of Karratha Lot 2395 by the Government Employees' Housing Authority; but no finality was reached as the inquirer withdrew.

It has been consistent policy not to divulge matters of a confidential nature in answer to questions of this nature.

#### HEALTH: MEDICAL

##### *Facilities in North-west*

22. The Hon. P. H. LOCKYER, to the Minister representing the Minister for Health:

(1) Is the Minister aware of criticism by a Federal Senator of the medical facilities in company towns in the north-west of WA?

(2) In view of this criticism, is it a fact that a brain surgeon is going to be stationed in Shay Gap?

(3) Will the Minister give a description of specialist facilities in the north of WA?

(4) Will the Minister make this information available to the Federal Senate in Canberra for its information?

The Hon. R. G. PIKE replied:

(1) Yes.

(2) This service can be made available on request for any visiting Federal senator. However, it is not a fact that a brain surgeon will be stationed in any particular place such as Shay Gap.

(3) A list of specialists who visit the north-west follows. Their services are available to all patients whether "public" or "private".

## (4) Yes, if the Federal Senate requests this information.

## Visiting Specialists—North-West.

## Gascoyne Region:

|               |                      |          |  |
|---------------|----------------------|----------|--|
| ENT           | Dr R. Bond           |          |  |
| Gynaecology   | Dr R. Giles          |          |  |
| Medicine      | Dr P. Allen          |          |  |
| Ophthalmology | Sir Charles Gairdner | Hospital |  |

|              |                 |  |  |
|--------------|-----------------|--|--|
| Paediatrics  | Dr L. Hu        |  |  |
| Rheumatology | Dr D. Langlands |  |  |

## Pilbara Region:

|               |                                      |  |  |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| ENT           | Dr S. Dean                           |  |  |
| ENT           | Dr P. Goh                            |  |  |
| Gynaecology   | Dr B. Mendelawitz                    |  |  |
| Gynaecology   | Dr P. Hugo                           |  |  |
| Gynaecology   | Dr A. Kingsbury                      |  |  |
| Gynaecology   | Dr C. Douglas-Smith                  |  |  |
| Medicine      | Dr D. Watson                         |  |  |
| Medicine      | Dr M. McComish                       |  |  |
| Ophthalmology | Dr D. Candy                          |  |  |
| Orthopaedics  | Royal Perth Hospital Consultants     |  |  |
| Paediatrics   | Dr T. R. Henderson                   |  |  |
| Rheumatology  | Dr C. E. Bayliss                     |  |  |
| Psychiatry    | Mental Health Services Psychiatrists |  |  |

## Kimberley Region:

|               |                                  |  |  |
|---------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| ENT           | Dr J. Sunderman                  |  |  |
| Medicine      | Dr L. Prendiville                |  |  |
| Ophthalmology | Royal Perth Hospital Consultants |  |  |
| Orthopaedics  | Dr M. Tiller                     |  |  |
| Paediatrics   | Dr T. R. Henderson               |  |  |

## GOVERNMENT VEHICLES

*Kununurra: Charge*

## 23. The Hon. PETER DOWDING, to the Minister representing the Minister for Works:

(1) What is the charge for M & P E vehicles made available from M & P E pool in Kununurra on—

- daily rate;
- any mileage rate; and
- any additional charges?

(2) Is there any charge for the vehicle being left for collection at the airport?

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS replied:

(1) (a) and (b) The charge for mechanical and electrical branch vehicles from the Kununurra pool for use for Government purposes is based on the distance travelled subject to a minimum daily charge.

| The rates are:                           | Rate/Km | Minimum Charge/Day |
|--|---------|--------------------|
| Sedans/Utilities/Vans/<br>Station Wagons | 24c     | \$12               |
| Landrover, Hi Lux                        | 35c     | \$17               |
| Toyota                                   | 38c     | \$19               |
| Toyota Station Sedan                     | 39c     | \$19               |
| Holden 1 Tonne Flat Top                  | 29c     | \$14               |

These vehicles are not available for non-Government purposes.

- The only additional charge is for the cost of petrol used.
- (2) The charge for delivery to or collection from the airport is \$16 each way.

## RESEARCH STATION: WOKALUP

*Programme*

## 24. The Hon. V. J. FERRY, to the Minister representing the Minister for Primary Industry:

(1) In respect to the Wokalup Research Station—

- what type of research is being undertaken;
- are any changes in existing programmes being contemplated;
- are any new initiatives being contemplated; and
- what is the area of land available to the research station?

(2) (a) Are there any plans for acquiring additional land for the research station; or

- are there any plans to dispose of any land now held by the research station?

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS replied:

(1) (a) The annual research report for Wokalup Research Station 1980-81 is tabled.

(b) No specific changes are contemplated. Extension of the pasture species and pasture nutrition work is planned.

- (i) Spraying Kikuyu pasture and reseeded legumes.  
(ii) Initiation of a dryland dairy experiment with supplements including protected proteins.  
(iii) New high rainfall clover species evaluation.

(d) 960 hectares, of which 65 can be irrigated.

- (a) No.  
(b) No.

*The paper was tabled (see paper No. 117).*

COURTS: OFFICIAL PROSECUTIONS  
(DEFENDANTS' COSTS) ACT*Orders for Costs*

## 25. The Hon. J. M. BERINSON, to the Attorney General:

In each of the past three years—

- How many orders for costs were made pursuant to the Official Prosecutions (Defendants' Costs) Act?

(2) What was the total cost of payments pursuant to the Act?

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF replied:

- (1) This information is not readily available without making contact with all relevant courts and searching appropriate files.
- (2) Payments have been made under section 9(a) of the Official Prosecutions (Defendants' Costs) Act as follows—

12 months to 30/6/80—\$72 321  
 12 months to 30/6/81—\$100 571  
 1/7/81 to 28/2/82—\$66 623.

Additional payments may have been made pursuant to section 9(b) of the Act by local government or other statutory bodies.

**MEAT: WA MEAT COMMISSION**

*Membership*

26. The Hon. V. J. FERRY, to the Minister representing the Minister for Primary Industry:

Would the Minister please advise the names, expiry dates for terms of office, and category of representation, of the members of the WA Meat Commission?

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS replied:

| NAME             | EXPIRY DATE | CATEGORY OF REPRESENTATION |
|------------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| F. Hamilton      | 30/6/83     | Producer (Chairman)        |
| A. J. Webster    | 30/6/82     | Marketing Experience       |
| J. Ware*         | 30/6/83     | Meat Industry              |
| B. K. Smart      | 30/6/84     | Financial Management       |
| M. A. J. Cameron | 30/6/82     | Producer                   |
| J. Craig         | 30/6/84     | Government                 |
| J. S. Crisp      | 30/6/83     | Producer                   |
| J. A. Thomson    | 30/6/82     | Producer                   |

\*Mr Ware has recently tendered his resignation as of 30 June 1982 due to transfer in employment.

**COURTS: COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRES**

*Funding*

27. The Hon. F. E. McKENZIE, to the Attorney General:

- (1) Is the reported statement correct whereby the Community Legal Centres received a significant boost in Federal Government funding in the 1981-82

Federal Budget, and that Western Australia received none of the \$400 000 made available to the States because it has no Community Legal Centre?

- (2) If "Yes", and as the Director of the Legal Aid Commission has said in the 1980-81 Legal Aid Commission report that there is no particular reason why there should not be a Community Legal Centre in this State, will the Minister explain why we haven't one?

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) By their very nature, individual community law centres can develop only as the result of initiative and action on the part of members of the particular community concerned. The Legal Aid Commission can encourage the establishment of such centres, but it cannot initiate them. Likewise, the Government should not itself attempt to set up such centres—to do so would be a denial of the very concept upon which they are based.

Community law centres should serve the needs of their communities, but they must perforce spring from a desire for them by the community and action on the part of its members to set them up in the first place.

**LAND: NATIONAL PARKS**

*South Coast: Additional Areas*

28. The Hon. F. E. McKENZIE, to the Minister representing the Minister for Conservation and the Environment:

The former Minister for Conservation and the Environment, in reply to a letter to the Editor of *The West Australian* newspaper on 4 July 1980, in reference to the South Coast National Park, indicated that he was awaiting the report of the Legislative Council Select Committee on National Parks before defining boundaries, etc. The Committee's report has been available since 30 September 1981, and makes specific recommendations with respect to the proposed South Coast National Park. Will the Minister advise—

- (a) whether any additional areas will be dedicated to the park;

- (b) what those areas are; and
- (c) when will they be gazetted?

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS replied:

- (a) to (c) Consideration is being given to what further areas might be included in the national park.

#### LAND: NATIONAL PARKS

##### *South Coast: Leasehold Land*

29. The Hon. F. E. McKENZIE, to the Minister representing the Minister for Conservation and the Environment:

In *The West Australian* of 1 December 1980, the former Minister for Lands was quoted as saying that more land "might become available (for inclusion in the South Coast National Park) after the current review of lease-hold land in the area"—

- (a) when is this review due to be completed;
- (b) what land is covered by the review; and
- (c) who is undertaking the review, and under what terms of reference?

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS replied:

- (a) to (c) A working group consisting of officers from the Departments of Lands, Agriculture, Conservation and Environment, Fisheries and Wildlife, and a co-opted member from the National Parks Authority, carried out a review of leasehold land which may be affected by proposals for the South Coast National Park.

The group's recommendation will be taken into account when consideration is being given to what further areas might be included in the national park.

#### LAND: NATIONAL PARKS

##### *South Coast: Funds*

30. The Hon. F. E. McKENZIE, to the Minister representing the Minister for Conservation and the Environment:

With reference to the South Coast National Park, will the Government make sufficient funds available to—

- (a) enable the National Parks Authority to completely manage the park; and

- (b) purchase areas of freehold land within the park as they come onto the market?

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS replied:

- (a) and (b) The National Parks Authority is prepared in its 1982-1983 Budget submission estimates for the management of the D'Entrecasteaux National Park (South Coast National Park) including funds for the purchase of some freehold land currently within the park. The Government will consider the proposals during the framing of the overall State Budget.

#### EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT: AGNEW CLOUGH LTD.

##### *Wundowie Vanadium Plant*

31. The Hon. D. K. DANS, to the Minister for Labour and Industry:

In view of the decision by Agnew Clough Ltd. to close the vanadium plant at Wundowie, I ask—

- (1) Was any alternative employment offered by Angew Clough Ltd. to the reportedly 90 workers retrenched?
- (2) What form of assistance was afforded the 90 retrenched workers, by the Minister's department?

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS replied:

- (1) Alternative employment was offered to six employees but they all declined the offer.

A further three employees who were retrenched have since been offered re-engagement which two employees accepted.

The company was not able to offer alternative employment to the remainder of workers retrenched.

(2) A senior departmental officer visited the vanadium plant and liaised with the Manager of the Northam Commonwealth Employment Service to provide advice and guidance to employees requiring re-location.

(2) Is the implication given by the Minister in his reply to my question last night, that he might make use of such a special force at a later date, an intended one?

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS replied:

(1) When I referred to "volunteers", I meant volunteers in the sense that those people volunteered to carry out a job that was necessary in the interests of the public. I have no doubt of that necessity. When we talk about a paramilitary exercise, certainly some organisation was needed. We had to organise transport to move those people—

The Hon. D. K. Dans: You used the word "operation", not "exercise".

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS: It was an operation, if the Leader of the Opposition prefers it that way. The organisation was necessary to bring about the events at the time. I would not call the people "strike breakers". I call them "volunteers"—

The Hon. Peter Dowding: At \$100 a day, I would be there, too.

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS: They were there voluntarily, in the public interest. They were concerned about the situation, as the Opposition should have been. Judging by the mirth of members on the other side, I gather they were not interested in the problem. As far as a paramilitary exercise is concerned, I discount that.

(2) The Government has a responsibility to react in serious situations. In this particular case, public health was threatened. The Government did not like having to take the action it took. I hope that common sense will prevail in the future. However, if it does not prevail and if the events that occurred in the linen strike were to be repeated in another area, and the public health was to be threatened, no doubt the Government would again give consideration to similar action.

## ELECTORAL: ROLLS

### *Federal and State: Variation*

32. The Hon. PETER DOWDING, to the Chief Secretary:

What variation of enrolment numbers between the State and Federal Rolls does the Minister regard as acceptable, and what level of under-enrolment on the State Roll compared with the Federal Roll does the Minister regard as unsatisfactory?

The Hon. R. G. PIKE replied:

The answer to this question could be revealed only after an exhaustive entry-by-entry comparison of Commonwealth and State rolls. Allowance would have to be made for variations in qualifications for enrolment. It would also have to be established whether the Commonwealth total represented under enrolment, full enrolment, or over enrolment.

## QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

### HOSPITALS: LAUNDRY AND LINEN SERVICE

#### *Strike: Use of Strike Breakers*

13. The Hon. D. K. DANS, to the Minister for Labour and Industry:

This question relates to the Minister's use of the words "a special force" when talking about strike breakers at the time of the laundry workers' dispute.

(1) Does he agree that his choice of words to describe this paid volunteer group in using the phrase "a special force" and referring to the Government "mounting an operation" has a paramilitary flavour about it?

### HOSPITALS: LAUNDRY AND LINEÑ SERVICE

#### *Strike: Use of Strike Breakers*

14. The Hon. D. K. DANS, to the Minister for Labour and Industry:

- (1) If the circumstances that he has just outlined arose, would he use the special force to which he referred on a future occasion?
- (2) Is it normal to call a person who is to receive \$100 a day a "volunteer"?

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS replied:

- (1) and (2) Those people volunteered to do a job. Whether with payment or not, they volunteered to do a very special job. The Leader of the Opposition may like to call them a special force, but certainly many people in my electorate volunteered to participate in this exercise. The response was excellent and the Government quite easily could have put 1 000 people to work if it had asked the public generally. We had people who were prepared to do the work and who were prepared to put their names at the ready. Should the necessity arise again we would take the same action.

The Hon. D. K. Dans: When did you tell them about the \$100? Did you tell them to go along and volunteer for \$100 a day?

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS: No, I did not.

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! If Opposition members wish to proceed with the facility of questions without notice I suggest they give the Minister an opportunity to answer the question without interjection, otherwise we will not proceed any further with questions without notice.

The Hon. G. E. MASTERS: I ask that members place on notice any further questions on this subject.

### CULTURAL AFFAIRS: ART GALLERY

#### *Country Tours*

15. The Hon. PETER DOWDING, to the Chief Secretary:

- (1) Is the Chief Secretary aware that his Government caused a cessation of country tours for Art Gallery acquisitions and exhibitions?
- (2) In view of the lack of access to such important cultural material in the north of Western Australia, will he ensure any such tours are reinstated so that the people of the north are given access to these important cultural activities?

The Hon. R. G. PIKE replied:

- (1) and (2) I have not had notice of what is a very detailed question without notice. If the member expects a proper answer I ask, as a matter of courtesy, that he put the question on notice.

### HOUSING

#### *Government Employees' Housing Authority*

16. The Hon. PETER DOWDING, to the Minister representing the Minister for Works:

My question relates to question 21 today.

- (1) Was the approach to the Government Employees' Housing Authority to consider the acquisition of Karratha lot 2395 an approach made by or on behalf of the member for Pilbara requesting the Government Employees' Housing Authority to acquire his premises in Karratha?
- (2) Was the approach discontinued on advice from the Government Employees' Housing Authority or some other Government body or officer that to further the negotiations or to acquire the property in such circumstances would be improper?

The Hon. R. G. PIKE replied:

- (1) and (2) As the question originally was incorrectly designated, to conform with the courtesies of the House, and because of the nature of the question, I ask that it be placed on notice.

**ELECTORAL**

*Enrolment Cards: Witnessing*

17. The Hon. PETER DOWDING, to the Chief Secretary:

I hope the Minister has had enough practice by now to answer my question. My question is directed to him in respect of his portfolio and relates to the electoral laws of Western Australia.

Since the State of Western Australia is the only State requiring the restricted range of witnesses witnessing an enrolment card for an elector registering but not transferring enrolment, will the Minister say whether this provision will be repealed and, if not, what the purpose is of retaining the restricted class of witness?

The Hon. R. G. PIKE replied:

I ask that the question be placed on notice.

**TRAFFIC: MOTOR VEHICLE  
INSURANCE TRUST**

*Deficit*

18. The Hon. J. M. BERINSON, to the Chief Secretary:

I ask my question without any great expectation of getting a response. As the Chief Secretary has been designated to administer the Motor Vehicle Insurance Trust Statute, he will no doubt be aware that the accumulated deficit of the MVIT as at 30 June 1981 was estimated at \$52 million, compared with an \$11 million surplus only four years earlier. From the figures provided by the Chief Secretary today, the position was \$8 million worse in the six months to the end of December. Given that alarming deterioration in the trust's financial position and the fact that the accumulated deficit is very close to a full year's premium income, is it a fact that an increase in third party premiums of almost 100 per cent is now inevitable if the trust is to remain solvent, let alone able to meet the normal insurance standards in respect of reserves?

The Hon. R. G. PIKE replied:

It was not 15 minutes ago that I informed the member that at the present

time the Motor Vehicle Insurance Trust is still under the jurisdiction of the Minister for Local Government and will be transferred to me some time in the future. That should clear up a question that I thought the member clearly would have understood. As far as the detailed question is concerned, if members want to ask me questions without notice which require a great deal of detail, I will consistently ask them to put those questions on notice, as I do with this question.

**TRAFFIC: MOTOR VEHICLE  
INSURANCE TRUST**

*Deficit*

19. The Hon. J. M. BERINSON, to the Chief Secretary:

I preface my question by explaining that I did not mean to suggest in my last question that the Chief Secretary was already responsible for the MVIT. I was referring to my understanding that it has been indicated by the Premier that the Chief Secretary is to be responsible for the trust in the near future. My question is directed to the Chief Secretary in his capacity as the Minister representing the Minister responsible for the MVIT and also in his capacity as a member of Cabinet.

- (1) Would he agree that it is the duty of all members of the Cabinet, and particularly that of a member of Cabinet in this House representing the Minister in charge of the MVIT, to be aware when a State instrumentality of that importance is, in every ordinary commercial sense, bankrupt?
- (2) Would he not agree that in his dual capacity as representing the Minister for Local Government and as a member of Cabinet he has the responsibility at least to know that much and be able to respond to a question on that basis?

The Hon. R. G. PIKE replied:

I refer the questioner to Standing Order No. 154 and I ask that his question be ruled out of order on the basis that it contains arguments and inferences about



the status of a State Government instrumentality and therefore is not a proper question; neither is it framed in the proper way.

The PRESIDENT: Order! I ask the Hon. Joe Berinson to put the question on the notice paper. I will read it at a subsequent time and give a ruling.

**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT:  
THE HON. PETER DOWDING**

*Question without Notice*

20. The Hon. PETER DOWDING, to the Chief Secretary:

I ask my question without much hope of success.

*Point of Order*

The Hon. I. G. MEDCALF: In my view it is quite out of order for members to make imputations against a Minister when

asking a question. I ask that the question be ruled out of order.

The PRESIDENT: I ask the honourable member to withdraw that imputation if he wishes to proceed with his question. If the honourable member sits there with an amazed look on his face suggesting he does not understand what I am saying, I will repeat it: If the honourable member wishes to pursue his question without notice he should withdraw the inference he has made about the attitude of the Minister when replying to questions without notice.

The Hon. PETER DOWDING: In all conscience I cannot withdraw what I said because I believe it to be the Minister's attitude as displayed today.

*President's Ruling*

The PRESIDENT: Then I rule that you will not ask any further questions without notice.

