

State that they had reluctantly been compelled to reduce the price for lemons from £20 a ton to £17 a ton.

In the last day or so we have been talking a great deal about the increased cost of production and what these increases mean to industrialists and the primary producer. I have just mentioned this case regarding lemon production to show all is not well with the lemon industry in Western Australia. What we fear is that a worse tragedy would occur if the factories did not dispose of their processed product and were unable to continue paying even £17 a ton. If they closed down and ceased to buy any further supplies of lemons, it would be a real tragedy to the lemon-growers of Western Australia because there is over 50 per cent. of the lemon production still on the trees.

On motion by Mr. I. W. Manning, debate adjourned.

House adjourned at 6.12 p.m.

Legislative Council

Tuesday, the 23rd August, 1960

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The PRESIDENT took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

WAR SERVICE LAND SETTLEMENT

Improvements to Perillup Property

- The Hon. J. M. THOMSON asked the Minister for Local Government:

Further to my question on Wednesday, the 17th August, 1960, relating to a contract let by the

War Service Land Settlement Board for scarifying, etc., on a property at Perillup—

- was the contract let to a parents and citizens' association;
- as indicated in the reply to No. (2) of my previous question that settlers are required to do a further 100 acres at their own expense, will the settler be credited with the amount for such work when his final valuation is made;
- if the reply to (b) is "Yes" what will this amount be?

The Hon. L. A. LOGAN replied:

- Yes.
- No.
- See (b).

DEATH OF MRS. M. J. WHITE

Investigation of Circumstances

- The Hon. F. R. H. LAVERY asked the Minister for Mines:

On the 29th November, 1957, a motion was agreed to by the Legislative Council to investigate the circumstances of the death of the late Mrs. M. J. White—

- Was the inquiry required by the Legislative Council in fact conducted?
- If so, what was the decision on each of the 10 points of the query enumerated on page 3842 of *Hansard* Vol. 3 of 1957?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

Apart from the inquiry conducted by the Commissioner of Public Health already referred to in the House by the honourable member and reported in *Hansard* Vol. 3, 1957 page 3837 *et seq.*, no further inquiry has been held pending action to be taken by the honourable member as suggested by the chairman of the Nurses Registration Board in his letter dated the 30th January, 1958, as per Legislative Council File 7/336, 1957.

TRAFFIC ACT

Reinstatement of a Subregulation

- The Hon. E. M. DAVIES asked the Minister for Mines:

Will the Government give urgent consideration to the reinstatement of subregulation (3) of regulation No. 126 made under the Traffic Act, 1919, such subregulation having been revoked on the 6th October, 1959? I make this request

in view of the subjection of drivers of certain omnibuses to the dangers of oncoming traffic by the revocation of the sub-regulation mentioned.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

This matter was recently the subject of considerable investigation, following which it was considered that there was no necessity for retention of the regulation.

HALL'S CREEK

Investigation of Mineral Resources

4. The Hon. W. F. WILLESEE asked the Minister for Mines:

Mention was made during the Governor's speech of an increased staff in the geological section of the Mines Department for the purpose of appreciating Western Australia's mineral resources. Would the Minister give consideration to an early investigation of the Hall's Creek area of this State when this increased staff is obtained? If so, what would he consider a reasonable future date for such work to commence?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

A detailed programme for the geological survey section, when expanded, cannot be prepared until the reorganisation—which will take several months to complete—is well on the way. The

senior position has already been advertised, and others will be advertised after this appointment is made.

The Hall's Creek area will then be considered, but no likely date of any investigation of same can be given at this stage.

PETROLEUM ACT

Permits and Leases

5. The Hon. H. C. STRICKLAND asked the Minister for Mines:

(1) Under the Petroleum Act, how many—

- (a) permits to explore;
 - (b) licenses to prospect;
 - (c) petroleum leases;
- are at present held?

(2) What is the area of each holding?

(3) Who is the holder of each area and from what dates have they been held?

(4) On which holdings are the holders operating or have operated deep drills?

(5) On what date did the holders of Exmouth Gulf areas cease deep drilling?

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH replied:

(1) (a) 30;

(b) 43;

(c) Nil.

(2), (3), and (4)—

LIST OF PERMITS TO EXPLORE AS AT 19/8/1960

No.	Holder	Area (Sq. Miles)	Date Granted	Date Transferred to Present Holder
27H	West Australian Petroleum Pty. Ltd.	52,000	23/10/1952	....
29H	Do. do.	31,100	23/10/1952	....
106H	Westralian Oil Ltd.	11,800	29/3/1955	....
127H	Gulf Oil Syndicate	13,800	29/3/1955	....
133H	Jacksons Explorations	15,750	3/9/1957	....
134H	Exoil Pty. Ltd.	12,600	10/12/1958	28/7/1959
135H	Do.	12,600	10/12/1958	28/7/1959
136H	Do.	12,450	10/12/1958	28/7/1959
137H	Do.	12,300	10/12/1958	28/7/1959
138H	Do.	12,250	10/12/1958	28/7/1959
139H	Do.	12,200	10/12/1958	28/7/1959
142H	Hawkstone Oil Co. Ltd.	5,200	9/4/1959	5/5/1959
143H	Exoil Pty. Ltd.	12,000	28/7/1959	28/7/1959
144H	Frome-Broken Hill Company Pty. Ltd.	16,700	17/8/1959	....
145H	Do. do.	12,950	17/8/1959	....
146H	Do. do.	13,000	17/8/1959	....
147H	Do. do.	12,850	17/8/1959	....
148H	Do. do.	12,600	17/8/1959	....
151H	Hackathorn Oils Pty. Ltd.	14,200	8/2/1960	....
152H	Do. do.	11,650	8/2/1960	....
153H	Do. do.	13,050	8/2/1960	....
154H	Davis, David Llewellyn	13,800	9/2/1960	....
155H	Do. do.	13,800	9/2/1960	....
156H	Hunt Oil Company & Placid Oil Company	12,450	11/7/1960	5/8/1960
157H	Do. do.	12,600	11/7/1960	5/8/1960
158H	Do. do.	12,800	11/7/1960	5/8/1960
159H	Do. do.	12,800	11/7/1960	5/8/1960

LIST OF EXISTING LICENSES TO PROSPECT AS AT 19/8/1960

No.	Holder				Area (Sq. Miles)	Date Granted	Deep Drilling	
							No. of Holes	Total Depth (ft.)
39H	West Australian Petroleum Pty. Ltd.	....	....	....	186.473	22/12/1954	....	....
40H	Do.	do.	do.	....	160.52	22/12/1954	....	....
41H	Do.	do.	do.	....	133.841	22/12/1954	....	....
42H	Do.	do.	do.	....	192.179	22/12/1954	....	....
44H	Do.	do.	do.	....	195.361	22/12/1954	22	22,488
45H	Do.	do.	do.	....	180.093	22/12/1954	....	....
46H	Do.	do.	do.	....	188.973	18/11/1955	....	....
51H	Do.	do.	do.	....	191.396	20/6/1957	1	1,413
52H	Do.	do.	do.	....	190.458	7/10/1957	1	7,636
53H	Do.	do.	do.	....	195.558	17/12/1957	1	6,664
54H	Do.	do.	do.	....	197.867	8/5/1958	2	16,437
55H	Do.	do.	do.	....	196.032	15/7/1958	1	4,720
56H	Do.	do.	do.	....	200	23/2/1959	2	11,504
57H	Westralian Oil Ltd.	....	....	....	195.984	30/9/1959	....	....
58H	Associated Freney Oil Fields No Liability	....	....	....	120	28/10/1959	1	6,001
59H	Do.	do.	do.	....	113.418	28/10/1959	1	9,072
60H	Do.	do.	do.	....	113.232	28/10/1959	....	....
61H	Do.	do.	do.	....	112.528	28/10/1959	1	9,828
62H	Do.	do.	do.	....	112.477	28/10/1959	....	....
63H	West Australian Petroleum Pty. Ltd.	....	....	....	117.687	30/9/1959	19	71,997
64H	Exoil Pty. Ltd.	....	....	....	188.512	13/11/1959	1	1,719
65H	Do.	....	....	....	200	13/11/1959	1	1,282
66H	West Australian Petroleum Pty. Ltd.	....	....	....	200	19/1/1960	1	5,429
67H	Do.	do.	do.	....	199.437	21/4/1960	1	8,101
68H	Do.	do.	do.	....	195.121	18/5/1960	....	....
69H	Do.	do.	do.	....	175.143	18/5/1960	....	....
70H	Do.	do.	do.	....	192.811	18/5/1960	....	....
71H	Do.	do.	do.	....	187.057	18/5/1960	....	....
72H	Do.	do.	do.	....	194.744	18/5/1960	....	....
73H	Do.	do.	do.	....	188.671	18/5/1960	....	....
74H	Do.	do.	do.	....	186.012	18/5/1960	1	12,915
75H	Do.	do.	do.	....	190.765	18/5/1960	....	....
76H	Do.	do.	do.	....	192.889	18/5/1960	1	10,144
77H	Do.	do.	do.	....	196.224	18/5/1960	....	....
78H	Do.	do.	do.	....	189.684	18/5/1960	1	4,080
79H	Do.	do.	do.	....	198.750	18/5/1960	4	14,034
80H	Do.	do.	do.	....	188.941	18/5/1960	....	....
81H	Do.	do.	do.	....	193.350	18/5/1960	....	....
82H	Do.	do.	do.	....	198.133	18/5/1960	3	4,365
83H	Do.	do.	do.	....	193.104	18/5/1960	1	1,500
84H	Do.	do.	do.	....	187.411	18/5/1960	4	27,095
85H	Do.	do.	do.	....	187.032	18/5/1960	1	3,858
86H	Do.	do.	do.	....	188.953	18/5/1960	....	....

(5) The 6th February, 1958.

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY

Eighth Day

Debate resumed from the 18th August.

THE HON. R. F. HUTCHISON (Suburban) [4.40]: Lately I have noticed a reluctance to grant reasonable help or pensions to ex-servicemen. Many applications have been made to me to help get pensions or other assistance for servicemen who have tried, at considerable inconvenience, to get assistance from the Repatriation Department. Mostly they are told that their condition is not war-caused. In my opinion, as a woman, any man who has served his country in a world war is entitled to consideration. We see returned men in their fifties and sixties who have no specific disablement mentioned in regard to their pensions, but those men

would be troubled with war-caused ill-health. A man who served his country in time of war, under the conditions that exist at such a time, is entitled to some consideration, without his qualifications being too great, from the Commonwealth Government, through the Repatriation Department.

I know a man who has a lung complaint, and he was months trying to get work. The authorities at Hollywood Hospital would not engage him, although he had been in and out of the hospital for months, because they said his complaint was not directly war-caused. His complaint, as I understand it, would be caused through his being gassed. He might not have been gassed very badly, but the condition worsens as time goes on. Any man who served in the front line under the conditions that applied in

France, as my brother served, gave ten years of his life voluntarily to his country; because I would say that such service would take ten years off his life.

The Repatriation Department could be much more lenient towards these men; if a returned soldier has a sickness that cannot be helped, a pension should be granted to him more easily than it is today. Some of these men have married, even for a second time, and they have their wives and families at home, and the time for us to look after them is when their health fails in later years.

I wish to mention again that there has been a heavy rise in water rates; and this seems to be very unreasonable. I daresay this subject will be developed by other members, so I will not do more than voice my protest at this increase being made in the rates so soon after the increase made by the previous Government. I wish to express my pleasure at the drainage scheme that has been put into effect in the Bedford district; it has been a great comfort to the people there.

I would like to know why the Minister is so silent about the large resumptions threatened in the Belmont area for the Perth Airport. I hear men say that we should not stand in the way of progress, but I am speaking on behalf of the women and families in the Belmont district, and also for the Hawkevale home for handicapped boys. A few nights ago I attended a ball where I saw some of these lads; and that home is a godsend to those adolescents. But now, just when they have settled down and are going nicely, I believe the resumptions will hit them badly.

When the Welshpool resumptions were made, the Government took over a scattered area, but in close proximity to a railway which could not well be pushed out. Then the Minister went around whipping up meetings. I remember attending one meeting where the feeling was running high because he had told his own version of the story and the people in the district were quite hostile. I have not whipped up anything in regard to this resumption myself, but this is a serious matter.

There is a deep silence on the part of the Minister; and he is not trying to protect any of the people who have homes there. Those people have been settled in the district for a fair while; and it is a new and growing suburb. The houses are new; they are not old places or slums. But the Government is going to resume this big piece of land there for the jet airlines.

The Hon. H. K. Watson: That is the Federal Government.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: I know; but I am talking of the resumption of land that is to be made by this Government.

The Hon. H. K. Watson: No; the Federal Government.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: I understand that is correct.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You are not only wrong about that, but you are also wrong about the accusations you are making.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: About the Minister whipping up meetings? No, I am not.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Yes, you are.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: I was well in the fight in connection with it.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: You are in every fight.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: If I am wrong about the resumptions, and the responsibility is on the Federal Government, then I shall protest about the matter to that Government through this Parliament; and I will protest further to the Federal Government later. It is a pretty awful thing to make these resumptions in a built-up area in a new district. At great expense, we brought a man here to lay out a plan for the city, but no notice is being taken of his plan, because it stands in the way of what the Government wishes to do. The airport will be for all time, and the question of these resumptions could well be looked into again. I was wondering why the Minister was so silent about the matter; I did not know it concerned the Federal Government; I thought the State had to make the resumptions.

I have received several letters of protest from residents of South Perth on the new developmental project that is envisaged for the South Perth foreshore. Those people are concerned about that part of the riverfront being taken up by private enterprise for the specific purpose of establishing clubs and other places of entertainment. They consider that the encroachment on the land by such a private company will be for the benefit of privileged groups only, and that very soon the area will be denied to the public in general. One woman told me that she got a shock when she saw a notice outside the South of the River Yacht Club which read, "Private road—keep out." This is the sort of restriction on the general public that should not be allowed, or otherwise the position will get out of hand.

A year or two ago I heard the Melbourne Town Planner say that Perth, of all the capital cities of Australia, had an unequalled opportunity because it had the advantage of 50 years' experience of the mistakes made by those other capital cities in regard to town planning and city beautification. The Swan River is our greatest asset from an aesthetic point of view. We have no high mountains or snowclad slopes which some of the other States have. We have the hot, sparse out-back areas; but these disadvantages are

outweighed by the beautiful environs of Perth. Now is the time for planning to make the best of this natural asset; and we should not allow any private company to encroach on public land. Even municipalities should not be permitted to encroach on land in any way that would deprive the general public of its use.

There is no more beautiful sight, especially in the summertime, than to see the many groups of sporting bodies and youth clubs at play on the expanse of grassland on the Esplanade. This is something we should guard very jealously. We should ensure that there are no breaks in our foreshore drives. Further, the river front should not be cluttered up with private jetties, as is often seen in the coves of Sydney Harbour; although, I must admit, that stretch of water is much larger than the Swan River.

The people who have sent me these protests about the South Perth foreshore development have also pointed out a report that Bunbury might get a £200,000 beach hotel. It is proposed to build it on a camping area. Although I am aware that such a hotel will prove a useful facility for the district, I hope that commonsense will prevail. I have a note here which says that the closed site of Rocky Point is an "A" class reserve which would have to be regazetted before planning could begin on the hotel. The council has applied to the Premier to have this done before the end of the year. I hope the Government will keep that in mind, and that it will do everything it possibly can to protect the interests of the public of Western Australia when these community projects are planned to be built on our few beauty spots, especially those close to the Swan River. Kings Park and the Swan River are two of the finest heritages that we have in this State, and we should do everything we possibly can to preserve them.

Some time ago I brought before Parliament a petition regarding a crosswalk at Milne Street, Bayswater. I know that the hue and cry has abated since the Police Department placed a pointsman there at peak periods. However, the other day I was in this area and I saw a child narrowly escape being hurt. The road is hilly, and a motorist has difficulty in seeing the crosswalk when approaching it. In my opinion, the best plan would be to have a subway established at that point because this would make the crossing perfectly safe. There is a large growing population in that area of Bayswater. I still think a subway could be placed there at very little expense; and, if this were done, it would give peace of mind to the mothers and other residents in the vicinity.

Another thought I am bringing forward for the consideration of members of Parliament is in regard to the standard of films that are used on TV shows during the children's sessions.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: Hear, hear!

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: The standard of TV films for children is nothing short of shocking. I am amazed at this. There must be plenty of money involved, or it would not continue. For the future welfare of our children, we should use every endeavour to break up this trend. I am trying to evolve a scheme by which I can get people interested in this problem so that they will be more vocal in regard to having something done about it. We talk a great deal about building homes for our delinquent children to ensure that they will not be sent to prison, and yet the TV films that are being shown at present exhibit nothing but violence and shooting.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: And they are sensual.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: Yes, they are sensual all right. They are dreadful!

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: Some of them are terrible.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: We talk about our children being precocious, but it is the parents and the adults that should be held responsible for their misdoings. Instead of drafting the laws we do for the welfare of our children, it might be better if we got down to the basic causes; and one of the first steps would be to do something about banning these shocking TV films for children. Surely we could say, "So far and no further."

I also wish to refer to the poor types of women's sessions that are shown on our local TV channels in the afternoons. One woman said to me the other day, "I was looking at a women's session on TV last week, and they were demonstrating a recipe to cook something and also how to cut out a frock for a girl." This woman said to me, "When I saw this session I thought to myself, 'If this is the best standard they can set for women on TV, in my opinion it is not worth watching.' They talk about women not having an interest in politics and education, but often I cannot even find time to go to the Adult Education Library to borrow a book to find out these things for myself, but I can turn on TV at home."

These TV sessions for women are sent from Sydney, but in my opinion we have oceans of local talent for the TV channels to put on first-class shows for the women of Western Australia. At the moment the TV channels show only one local half-hour show per week, and it is the best of all. I just want to make that protest on behalf of the women. I have heard many women say that they could not bother themselves to turn on the TV shows for women that were sent from the Eastern States because they hold very little interest for them.

The other day Mr. Baxter referred to a publication called *News Review*. I intend to make a brief reference to it, because I take it that I am one of the dreadful hot-headed socialists mentioned in the article headed: "Consumers' Research Group—Caution Urged." This organisation is an absolutely non-political movement. The men who are interested in this group are of high standing. They are University men and scientists, and they are behind this movement for the public good. This scurrilous newspaper has made terrible references about this Consumers' Research Group. Some of the extracts from the article read as follows:—

It is doubtful if a body of amateurs could successfully and in a completely unbiassed manner, adjudicate on such matters of high business principles.

This newspaper should not be permitted to print such comments. It is like a penny dreadful, and like some of the publications which appeared in England classing everyone to whom they were opposed as socialists, red raggers, and the like. This copy of the *News Review* has also these headings: "Public Ownership of Property Increasing," "Trend to Socialisation," "Red Influence in the Brickworks." I wonder where the red influence is at the Armadale brickworks! Socialism is a way of life, and in my view it is the greatest way of life.

On one occasion when I was speaking on the platform at Forrest Place I pointed out that the greatest act of socialism was the introduction of the penny post, which enabled a letter to be sent from one end of England to the other for the cost of 1d. That was introduced in 1664, and it was the greatest advance in the means of communication between the people.

Municipal bodies are not nearly as socialistic as I would like them to be, because adult franchise in municipal elections is not yet recognised here. In the county council elections in England there is adult franchise, but none of the dire calamities which are predicted in respect of the elections in this State has turned out to be a reality in England. We should introduce open thinking on this matter.

When I turn on the tap in the morning to make a cup of tea, I receive a supply of socialised water; and I can use as much as any millionaire neighbour. When a person uses a footpath, he is walking on a socialised footpath. I once told this to someone, and he said he was tired of hearing about the socialised footpath. I told him, "You can walk along the road if you like, but it is still a socialised road." The constant use of the word "socialised" to discredit socialism is stupid. It is amazing to discover what is printed in the newspapers I have before me. I am inclined to believe that the standard of the Press in Australia is the lowest of any in the world.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: How does it compare with that of the *Western Sun*?

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: The *Western Sun* is all right. If the Minister read it his mind would be broadened. I now want to refer to a protest by the Ashfield Progress Association regarding the bus fares to Bassendean. That association wrote to the Bassendean Road Board as follows:—

The above association has written to the railways regarding the increase of threepence single, and sixpence return, on the journey from Ashfield to Bassendean.

I understand there is to be some alteration and the fares are to be levelled out. I hope there will be a sensible levelling out so that the bus passengers will not have to put up with the existing anomaly.

When the present Government was returned on the 26th March last, Mr. Brand made a report to the people of Western Australia. I have considered this report, and I can only call it "window dressing." I have considered the actions of this Government, but I find that up to date it has achieved nothing. It has talked a lot. In *The West Australian* of the 26th March, 1960, an advertisement, entitled "Report to the People of Western Australia by the Hon. David Brand," appeared in which the following is stated:—

At the time you elected us, Western Australia was experiencing a period of mark time in which the people were beginning to lose confidence in the ability of the State to attract necessary private enterprise.

I have read the newspapers, but beyond the promises made by the present Government it has achieved nothing, nor has it taken any step for the benefit of Western Australia. There has been much camouflaging by the Government about the employment position in this State. There are many people out of work here, but according to Press reports there is supposed to be a building boom. That exists nowhere else but in the newspapers. I can say that many people are out of work.

Each day as we read the newspapers, we find that the price of some commodity has risen. Presumably that is as a result of the rise in the basic wage. The rise in the basic wage has no chance of conferring a benefit on the worker without its being swallowed up by increased prices. It is as well for the people of this State to know the real position; and that position is not as reported in *The West Australian*. It is all very well for the Government to put in an advertisement like the one I have just referred to, but the Government should back up its claim by actions.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: That is "boloney."

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: That is what I wanted to say. There is a move on for the provision of accommodation for

single women. I could not attend the conference of the Single Unit Flats Committee, but I understand the Minister for Housing was present. However, I have a copy of the minutes of that conference. Now that the acute shortage of housing accommodation for single women is recognised, I urge the Minister to give serious consideration to the provision of single unit flats.

About a year ago I was speaking to a senior sister of the Mt. Henry Home for women about this very matter. She said, "This is a very important question. I have to retire next year. Where will I live? I have no relatives. Unless I take a room in somebody's house, I cannot get accommodation." A young woman requires more privacy than a man. A man can get by more readily, but a woman requires more facilities. Generally the washing is done for the man, but that is not so in the case of the woman who requires laundry facilities. Therefore the latter experiences more difficulty in finding accommodation in a private household. When I refer to single women, I include widows, deserted wives, and spinsters.

There is a very big need for the provision of suitable housing accommodation for single women. Women do not receive equal pay when they do equal work to that of men. Someone has to provide this accommodation, and I consider the State Housing Commission should be the one. As women receive lower wages than men for equal work, they should not be expected to pay the same rental as men. I ask the Minister to consider this matter very seriously.

I want to refer briefly to the service of women on juries. I am sure members here have waited for my remarks on this matter. The introduction of women serving on juries has been accepted with scarcely a ripple. Initially, a little feeling was whipped up, but now the position of women serving on juries is accepted, and women jurors in this State will be appreciated as much as they are in England. Applications by women for exemption from jury service will continue to be received. That is to be expected because women suffer greater disabilities. These applications will come in until the normal level is reached. I am sure women will make their contribution to the carriage of justice in this State. This Parliament will never need to regret taking this step to emancipate women.

I want to make reference to the progress of the construction of the new Embleton High School. An article on this matter appeared in *The West Australian* of the 13th August, 1960. The proposal to establish the various facilities and courses is to be commended. I am happy to note that this school is being constructed without any party bias. I also commend the Government for that.

I now want to refer to *The Farmers' Weekly* of the 18th August, 1960, in which it is stated that the recent increases in freights and fares could be the last straw. With the proposed rise in rail passenger fares, many families living in the metropolitan area will not be able to afford to take their children on picnics or to the seaside. The working man does not seem to be any better off after a basic wage rise, because the prices of commodities and services seem to increase generally by two or three times as much as the basic wage rise. I hope something can be done to rectify such an anomaly. I can do nothing myself in this House, although I often wish I could, because we are in the minority.

I also want to refer to another newspaper article published in *The West Australian* of the 15th August, 1960, in which it is reported that two insurance experts preferred women drivers. I was pleased to read about that. I have to raise these points in the House, because so seldom are they reported or discussed. These experts said that women drivers were better and more careful than men drivers.

I want to refer to the subject of the adjustment of electoral boundaries and the redistribution of seats. I realise this is a touchy subject at the moment. The Government cannot be proud of having failed to implement the Act; such failure can only reflect discredit on the Government. The committee appointed under the Act for the adjustment of electoral boundaries—it consists of the Chief Justice, the Under Secretary for Lands and the Chief Electoral Officer—is beyond suspicion. It is charged with the responsibility for ensuring the redistribution of seats in this State.

Unless the Government had some very dire intention of gerrymandering the electorates, I am wondering why it did not proceed with the redistribution of seats, particularly when *The West Australian* comments as follows:—

The Government has been evasive about the Opposition demand for a redistribution of Legislative Assembly seats under the McLarty-Watts Electoral Districts Act of 1947.

This was not an Act introduced by the Labor Party or the socialists, but by the McLarty-Watts Liberal-Country Party Government. To continue—

Since the Country Party's election policy included amendment of the Act, the Government had good reason for delay after it came to power, and for revoking the redistribution proclamation which the Hawke Government unjustifiably issued after its defeat.

I do not know why it thinks that; that is not my opinion. The article goes on to say—

But that reason is no longer valid because Mr. Oldfield's switch to Labour has deprived the Government of any

foreseeable chance of mustering the required absolute majority in the Assembly.

It therefore has a duty to comply with the existing law, whether or not the Liberal-Country Party coalition likes the prospect that it may mean another seat for the metropolitan area at the expense of the country. *Hansard* reports of the speeches on the 1947 Act show that redistribution was intended to be automatic, as section 12 plainly suggests.

That is a leading article in *The West Australian*. One would not think this paper would be in favour of a Labor platform; as a matter of fact, it is our grievous enemy. The article continues—

Instead of sparring with the Opposition the Government should say what it is going to do and clear itself of imputations of deceit. For practical reasons it has only about six months left in which to set the redistribution machinery at work. If it went to the next election knowing that the electoral boundaries did not conform to the law it would be guilty of evading its obligations and gerrymandering by default through a stratagem as indefensible as the Hawke Government's sharp practice in the dying hours of its term.

I suggest that the Government should rise above that imputation and get on with the job.

I now wish to refer to the franchise of the Legislative Council. I hope I will not be here too many years crying out on this matter; however, I will endeavour to stay here until something is done about it. I consider this subject has become a public scandal; we have a franchise in this Legislative Council which is more redundant than anything one can find in any other country. The franchise is loaded; and what irritates me most is the fact that it is loaded more against women than men. It is so unequal; and, I repeat, it is scandalous. If a married woman, is living in a rented home and is looking after her children—and these duties are very important—she does not get a vote for a candidate for the Legislative Council; she is denied the democratic right of casting a vote in relation to this House. But if she left her husband, deserted her children, and moved to a rented house on the other side of the same street, she would immediately become eligible to go on the Legislative Council roll. I do not think a more shameful situation can be pointed out.

The Hon. J. M. A. Cunningham: A vote is allowed in New South Wales.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: I recommend the honourable member to read the speech I gave on New South Wales last week, and I suggest he should learn more

about the matter. In New South Wales, no person is allowed to vote for the Legislative Council. The appointment of the Legislative Council is left to a committee. In that State the Legislative Council is elected by members of Parliament.

The Hon. J. M. A. Cunningham: Women get the vote.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: There are two women in the New South Wales Legislative Council now, but they are elected by Parliament itself; no member of the public is allowed to vote for the Legislative Council of New South Wales. I cannot help it if Mr. Cunningham is so lacking in knowledge, and if he was not present to hear my speech.

However, to return to Western Australia, I am protesting on behalf of the wives. My protest is taking root, and there are a lot of women listening to me. Confining myself to the female sex, if a single woman can take a flat or a house and be allowed a vote, it is shameful to think that women who are raising a family are denied a vote because they are occupying a house while fulfilling their duty to their husbands and children. Should a married woman become a widow, she can immediately apply to have her name put on the Legislative Council roll.

I am pointing out the anomalies in this Act. It has gone beyond the stage of being facetious; it is wrong. And when a thing is wrong, nothing makes it right. I say that the wives of Western Australia are very much wronged through the franchise of the Legislative Council. None of the members who have spoken here has sustained that argument. But I am sustaining it and I say that a married woman, or the mother who is fulfilling her duty in the home, is being denied a democratic right—and she is the one who needs it; she is aware of her children's needs concerning education, health, and so on, yet she is denied a voice.

Hundreds of women protested to me when I recently canvassed in my province. They said to me, "You know, we never dreamed this was so." I said, "It is so, and you should vote." I think it is about time this state of affairs was altered in Western Australia. The Liberal woman is denied the franchise just as much as the Labor woman. It does not matter about political parties; it is a question of wives doing their duty. A married woman is allowed the franchise only if the property is in her own name.

On another occasion, I met a man who wished to put his wife on the roll. I said to him, "She can't get on the roll." The man told me his wife did not own the property, and added, "Madam, when I married my wife"—I will emphasise this for the Hon. Mr. Cunningham—"half of everything I owned belonged to her." I told him, "The Legislative Council of Western Australia says it does not, and

she cannot have a vote at the Legislative Council elections." I shall continue to bring this matter before the attention of the House until something is done about it.

I recently visited Bassendean and saw a family with three returned sons. One had become a widower and was home with his mother; the other two had not married. The mother had the vote, but none of the sons had. They were good enough to fight for their country—even to die for it if necessary—but they could not vote at a Legislative Council election. It is worse when one considers that a man has to be 30 years of age before he can stand as a candidate for the Legislative Council. Fancy that in this generation! I do not think this situation exists anywhere else in the world. A man can become a member of the Lower House at 21, but in the Council he has to be 30 years of age.

The Act is so full of stupid anomalies, the Government should be ashamed that a member has to explain these things. I find it is not possible for more than a little over 50 per cent. of those who vote in the Lower House elections, to obtain a vote in the Legislative Council elections. It does not appear to be democratic in any way. I propose to go on raising this matter; but I am going to do more than that: I will endeavour to force the issue whereby the public can get a more democratic setup in this State. It is very badly needed. I doubt whether the average vote at elections goes above 55 per cent. or 60 per cent. of those who are on the roll; and it drops to 23 per cent. at times. I increased my roll in the Suburban Province to over 40,000. I think the vote for that province at the last election was 42 per cent. Nothing is said about it in the Press.

The Hon. N. E. Baxter: The higher one goes, the smaller the percentage one gets.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Don't take all the credit for that.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: I am not taking all the credit for it. I do not see anything to take credit for in the Legislative Council franchise of Western Australia.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: I am talking about the building-up of the roll.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: The Minister is implying that you put a lot of people on the roll; but you got their votes.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: There were many Liberals who did not vote; perhaps I can take credit for that.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: I can tell you what happened in 1958.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: I now turn to the question of polling booths at the last election. There were 21 polling booths cut out of the Suburban Province, and every booth that could be altered was

altered. It made a tremendous difference and caused hardship; and I assume it was because of this that the vote was so low. There is no trick the Government does not pull in the Legislative Council elections. The country polling booths were almost doubled.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: That is a slur on the Chief Electoral Officer, and you know it. The Chief Electoral Officer controls the polling booths, as you ought to know.

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: He is there to carry out the policy of the Government, and the Minister knows it. It is also a slur on the Minister, and I am accusing him. He knows, and I know, and no-one can put that over me. That is the policy of the Government, and I am surprised the Minister put the responsibility on the department. The department carried out the policy of the Government in power. No-one knows that more than the Minister.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: Don't let the Government pull the wool over your eyes!

The Hon. R. F. HUTCHISON: I feel I have made my contribution to the debate. I am hoping the Government will take notice of these matters. I have asked each Government to give more thought to the preserving of our flora and fauna. Millions of pounds could be brought into this State by preserving the road to Northam, which is a lovely road through the hills. Almost every species of our flora can be grown there; yet every time one travels on the road, one sees trees being cut down right to the roadside.

It would cost nothing, or almost nothing, to preserve a strip two or three chains wide on each side of the road. That would bring millions of pounds into the State because it would be a tourist attraction during the five months' flower season that we have. It is a lovely road, and there is another one which goes right up to the sandplain country near Geraldton; and I understand there is a small reserve up there. It is, however, almost 20 years since I first wrote to members of Parliament on this question of the desecration of our flora and fauna.

We frequently see where employees of the State Electricity Commission and other Government departments have destroyed beautiful trees which have been growing alongside the road. There is no need for it. Surely State Electricity Commission employees could place the light poles a hundred yards further away from the road, instead of pulling down trees all along our highways. It takes a hundred years for a tree to grow to any size, and I think what is happening in this regard is dreadful. I ask the Minister, and members generally, to take a note of what I have said.

THE HON. J. G. HISLOP (Metropolitan) [5.31]: I have already offered you, Mr. President, my felicitations on your assumption to such a high office. Now I extend my felicitations to the new member in the House, and to those who have returned to this Chamber. I trust that when their terms of office conclude they will feel, as I hope all of us will feel, that by our being here the State is a little better place in which to live. I think that is the aim of all of us who come into the House. We are sincere in our approach to problems, and we trust that by our deliberations some improvement will be made in the life of the common man in this State.

I would remind members that no great progress is made in a hurry. All of those who have made progress, except such geniuses as Einstein, have made it by using the tools which are at hand. I can recall a wonderful address given in Winthrop Hall some years ago by Professor Bhabha, the head of the Atomic Commission in India, in which he stressed that point. I can always remember him saying that it would be quite impossible for man to have conquered the speed of the present aeroplane whilst his speed on the earth was that of the bullock cart.

That sometimes brings me a certain amount of solace, because whenever one makes any suggestions it is a long period of time, very often, before they are generally accepted. So I suggest, even to our new member, that he lose not heart if anything which he thoroughly desires to perform in a hurry is not accepted in a hurry; it will be accepted in time.

Everyone in every walk of life in Australia must be concerned at rising costs, and the increases in the basic wage. It seems inevitable that a rise in one produces a rise in the other; and the ordinary man cannot see where it will end. I think all of us really wonder where it will end. It would be interesting if the position could be looked at from the point of view of different people in various walks of life. The small shopkeeper who employs one or two hands must increase the cost of the goods which he sells in accordance with his outgoings. He is one who does not make a fabulous income. The stores which employ an army of people, and which live on money borrowed in quantity from the public, must inevitably raise their costs in order to give some form of justice to all concerned. Likewise the factory must meet with the same conditions.

If it were like the father with a family, where the increase was equally divided between all members of the family, there would be little to worry about; but it is an unequal distribution, as we all know. I wonder whether it would ever be possible to increase adequately the income of a pensioner to meet rising costs; I wonder whether it would ever be possible with

rising costs, to do justice to the person who believed that he had left his family sufficient to live on at the time of his demise? Such a family could now quite easily be in want, and I doubt whether we could do justice to that family.

There is the man on a small salary who, starting out in life, decides that the old-fashioned idea of buying a home of his own is still good, so that there will be some security for his wife. I doubt whether we could do justice in that case, because as soon as the basic wage goes up the Government is faced with rising costs, and up goes the cost of transport, water, and telephones; and then the local authorities find it necessary to increase their rates, until it becomes a fact that the individual who has put money into a home is facing an expenditure greater than he would have faced had he said, "No, I will not purchase a home. I shall seek Government aid and look for a State-owned house."

What a travesty to look at for the future! It is a depressing outlook, and one which means a completely altered way of life. Yet on the other hand for one political party—I do not mind which party it is—to blame the other is most unjust and unwise, because no-one has been able to offer any solution to this problem. If one were to criticise the other, it would be very much like the heathen who, in his blindness, bows down to wood and stone. It is a difficult problem which no-one in our time has been able to solve.

The Hon. R. F. Hutchison: It is man-made, so it can be man-cured.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: If we go back to the very early days we realise that there has been inflation of a slow character all through history. The penny bought a lot more two hundred years ago than one could ever imagine. I think I have stressed in this House before that at the fall of the monasteries in the time of King Henry VIII, the giving of a £5 a year bonus, or whatever it might have been called at the time, to the individual would allow that person to live in reasonable comfort; and one of £150 a year to an abbess meant that she could maintain the whole of her retinue and buy a farm on which to live. What could we do with it today?

There are those who believe that a Government must borrow money, but that it can never pay it back at a value equivalent to that which it had when it was borrowed. In other words, the Government must repay in inflated money; and there appears to be some sense in that argument. There have been periods in the world when inflation has remained hidden from view. There was a period in Queen Victoria's time when money was coming in from abroad in large quantities, and when conditions remained unchanged. But when a nation begins to expand, such as our own

is doing, the public appears to adopt a completely altered viewpoint in relation to its demands upon the Government. Everyone looks for an added income but, at the same time, if anything is required in the way of public works the first move is immediately to the Government source.

All of us look for something better. The motorists want better roads; the aeroplane companies want bigger airports; the traveller wants bigger and faster aeroplanes; the shipping companies want bigger ports; and the seamen want better conditions.

The Hon. R. F. Hutchison: It is only a matter of economics.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: So we go on in this strain, all looking to the Government to provide so much.

The Hon. R. F. Hutchison: But it is the people who pay.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: There has been a considerable stress of opinion that the institution of high taxation during the Chifley regime was the cause of rising costs generally in Australia. There is a considerable mass of opinion which believes that that was inevitable; and, in a fast-growing country such as this, there has to be tremendous Government spending. I am not at all certain that any of us even mentally approaches the end of this problem. I believe that high taxation certainly dried up the springs of human giving. There is no doubt that hospitals are now in a different category of public institutions because of the fact that private persons can no longer contribute to these institutions as they did previously.

I think the Government itself is beginning to realise this, and it is evident by the ever-increasing list of organisations the contributions to which are deductible from income. I was pleased to see the other day, from the Budget tables, that the Post-graduate Federation of Medicine, a truly altruistic body in Australia, was one which had been added to the list. We can see the Government's viewpoint in allowing those bodies which are doing a public service to receive contributions of this character; and, in a mild way, the Government is overcoming disabilities which have arisen from high taxation.

One of the great difficulties which the man in the street has in understanding this question of economy, especially political economy, is the way all Governments have begun to believe that his money is much more wisely spent by a Government than by him. It takes a lot of understanding because, whereas the individual might be tempted to save, a Government is tempted to spend. We find even at this stage the solution offered by the Federal Treasurer is to increase our taxes and the cost of goods in certain categories, and yet there is no attempt to curb Federal expenditure.

I do not know whether we would be better off with a change of Government, because we find Mr. Calwell objecting to all this money being spent on the huge buildings one sees being erected in the East, while the Government cannot erect sufficient schools, and hospitals, etc. Accordingly, in my opinion, he would visualise still higher taxation. So it will continue; the circus will go on. It looks as if we go round and round without any possible way out of this maze. No one hopes more than I that some day we will see a halt to this crazy pattern.

Whether this is because we as a people are expanding so rapidly, or because money is pouring in so fast that we can afford this higher standard of living, I do not know. One might be prepared to accept that as an answer were it not for the fact that there is no chance, as we see it at the moment, of any halt being called to the position. If that answer were correct, it would mean that we would suddenly find ourselves expanding no longer; and I cannot see that happening in Australia for many years to come.

Had I been a migrant who on arrival in Australia had made his way to this Chamber in the early stages of this debate, I would have made up my mind in a hurry to leave Western Australia and go East, because of the amount of pessimism and the rumours of difficulties of employment that lay around the corner. As a migrant, these would make me hurry away. I doubt whether all this pessimistic outlook and discussion is the way to bring migrants to this country. I do not think we are justified in imagining that this State is not going to make progress in a grand way. I find it very difficult to understand one or two of the things that have been said. For instance, Mr. Ron Thompson said, "I was not speaking of the men dismissed from the workshops; I will deal with that later." This suggested that men had been dismissed from the workshops; and yet within a few minutes two other speakers admitted that there had been no dismissals.

One of the matters I wish to criticise is the statement to the effect that Eastern States' interests have sent their representatives to approach men in the workshops here in an endeavour to persuade them to go East. It looked to me as if this was associated with possible dismissals. I would point out that that would naturally follow in any circumstances, with the Eastern States progressing at the rate they are. There has always been this interstate traffic in personnel seeking employment. I think it is well known that we look to the Eastern States, and abroad, for people to fill posts here. In almost every walk of life we have lost men from Western Australia to the Eastern States, and abroad, where they feel they can get better conditions. We cannot blame them.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: Our salaries are lower than theirs.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: This traffic will continue so long as the unequal distribution exists between East and West. I do not know how many members have been in Melbourne in the last three or four months; but I can assure those who have not been there, that they would be staggered by the number of buildings being erected in that city. They are not small buildings, either.

I made inquiries from the City Development Association, and I learned what was being undertaken, or was in the process of being done. I discovered that in the heart of the City of Melbourne itself building to the value of £60,000,000 was in progress. Apart from this, there is a programme of expenditure of £16,000,000 a year visualised for the next five years. This is a colossal building programme, even for a city the size of Melbourne.

One sees buildings being erected in Sydney, but these are nowhere near the magnitude of the buildings being constructed in Melbourne. I believe the answer lies in the fact that the East is receiving, and will continue to receive as long as it is in its present position, a greater number of migrants than we have ever thought of. I believe the drop in the number of migrants coming into this State in the last five years, or so, has tended to slow down progress in Western Australia. The migrants have gone over to the Eastern States, and this accounts for the rapid growth of those States. There is no doubt that a migrant does not necessarily take a job which might be filled by an Australian. Migrants create employment because they require a large number of individuals to look after them. They must be fed and clothed; they must be provided with shoes, and so on.

This feeding and clothing of the migrants must inevitably provide work for those people already in the country. I would say that the tremendous influx of population from Europe to the United States in the middle of the last century made it the powerful nation it is. I think we should get back to the stage of asking for an increase in our migration quota, even to the point of some sacrifice being made by every citizen of this State.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: We have asked for an increase.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: We should first find employment for those who are already here.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: Ever since I have been in this State, I have seen periods of rise and fall. A peak of progress is reached, and before very long we find ourselves going down the other side of the hill; and we remain in the doldrums for a period of years. We then find something untoward happening which takes us up

to another peak of progress and again over the other side in a very short time. So it goes on.

When the Kwinana Refinery came along, an amount of £40,000,000 was spent. One felt that this tremendous expenditure would be of great benefit to Western Australia; we all felt we were on the upgrade. But what happened? As soon as the spending on Kwinana had come to an end we again found ourselves in the trough.

The Hon. R. F. Hutchison: Because we could not absorb the work force there.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: I believe we must develop a type of administration which will permit of a continuance of progress over a period of years. I am sure that the attitude of mind adopted by the Minister for Works is the correct one, because I, for one, can visualise the new works of British Petroleum taking a certain length of time; then as it finishes there is to follow the establishment of the paper mills. This industrial progress will thus continue over a period, and if we persist in our attitude of endeavouring to secure industries for this State it must be to our ultimate interest.

The Hon. R. F. Hutchison: Why sack hundreds of men?

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: The honourable member made her speech without any comment from me at all.

The Hon. R. F. Hutchison: There was no reason to put off so many men from the Public Works Department.

The PRESIDENT: I would ask the honourable member not to interject.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: Accordingly, if we have a continual establishment of industry in this State, we will not again see that rise and fall in prosperity which sets us back so badly. When we find ourselves in an economic trough as the result of a setback, we lose good workmen to the other States because there is no work for them here. They cannot be blamed for seeking employment where conditions are better. But they must be encouraged to look to this State for their employment; and they can help in its progress.

A number of remarks have been made about the water rates, and I think I must join with everyone else in deploring the need for raising the rates at this time. We must all realise, however, how important water is to the community. Unfortunately, we had a very dry summer last year with the attendant restrictions; and it was only after last summer that the rates went up.

One must visualise, however, that as this city of ours grows, we will need to sink dam after dam in the hills; and we may

have to sink smaller dams and connect them in some way to enable them to hold any waste water. If it is possible—and Mr. Porteous seems to think there is every chance of this in the near future—to convert salt water into potable water, some of our problems may be solved. I do not know, however, whether the cost of converting salt water to potable water would be any less than that of sinking more dams and piping the water to, say, Geraldton. I have no idea what the comparative costs would be.

One of the factors that interests me in the conversion of salt water is that it would seem that this conversion would have to be done out at sea; because I believe that South Africa—where they do actually convert salt water to potable water—is faced with the problem of eradicating the residual salt that is left on the land.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: It costs them a lot of money.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: Mr. Porteous thinks it can be done for 2s. or 3s. per 1,000 gallons. Whatever the cost, I cannot visualise its being done on land, because as the process continues mountains of salt will be left on the land, thus denuding the affected area of its productive qualities.

So it seems to me that we may have to adopt the method employed by the Americans in securing their oil from the sea; we may have to build platforms and ensure that the salt which is a waste product is poured back into the ocean. One of the factors in this State's economy which I think must receive priority, is the conservation of water; or, alternatively, the conversion of salt water into potable water. No matter what is contemplated, something must be done to lessen the cost of electric power. We all know that we do not possess the huge water supplies which are a feature of the United States, nor have we the cheap power that they enjoy. In none of our homes would one see what one would see in an American home; that is the curiosity written on the face of the hostess if one happened to turn off one of the lights; because the Americans do not consider that cost at all. It is a very different problem over here.

The man who will be deserving of all the praise we can give him is the person who can find some occupation that will employ all those people living in Collie, and yet permit us to obtain coal at the cheapest possible rate. Like everybody else, I fully appreciate the difficulties which face Collie. But the man who can devise a scheme which will bring to Collie an industry that will maintain it as a town, and employ all those who now live there, and, at the same time, permit us to get coal at the cheapest rate, will render a great service to Western Australia.

Perhaps in the future it may be possible for us to dispose of our electric power on a similar basis to that in the Eastern States where storage tanks for hot water are heated during the night at very low cost, so that people can use the water during the day.

There is no doubt whatsoever that in this State the cost of a hot water service is generally far too high. If we reach a stage where air conditioning, both for summer and winter, is a popular item, we will need a tremendously increased electrical supply; but it surely would be a very costly business at the present rate.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: Electricity is 1s 3d. a unit at Esperance.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: When it is as costly as that, it is prohibitive; particularly if one modernises a home in the way I have suggested.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Our first difficulty is to try and avoid further increases in electricity, having regard to existing conditions.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: Quite so.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: We have to get the co-operation of everybody to try and do it. That is the problem before us at the moment.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: I would like now to turn to an agricultural subject and speak for a few minutes about milk. I trust sincerely that when the Minister reviews the present position in which the board is no longer able to prosecute for under-standard milk, he will not simply decide to restore that power to the board, but will entirely review the whole position of the supply of milk in this State, together with its administration.

For a long time, in this House, I have been advocating that milk be no longer bought on a gallonage basis but on a fat basis, or a total solids basis. It has been found in recent times that the estimation of total solids is purely an analysis after drying and dehydrating in a simple form. It would be possible to estimate the value of the milk, and the value to the producer. It would also establish his return from the depot on the basis of total solids.

It has been said that this is totally impracticable, but I assure members I have received this advice from one who is essentially a practical person and that no method, whether it be on a fat basis or a total solids basis, should be overlooked in any legislation which is brought down. If an inquiry is needed into the question of which is the most practical method, let us have it.

There is a very interesting article, which I suppose every member of the Country Party has read, in *The Journal of Agriculture*, written by Dr. Snook. He points out that in this problem there are certain

aspects one must consider, and that breed, feeding, health of the animal, and the season all have some part to play in the production of milk.

I think it will be interesting if I quote a few facts from Dr. Snook's article and point out that under our present regulations, milk for human consumption must contain at least 8.5 per cent. solids-not-fat, but in most lists published—I take it elsewhere—it is 8.8 per cent. or 8.9 per cent. This percentage has diminished all over the world because of the popularity of the Friesian breed, which barely satisfies the minimum standards. I believe this popularity has been based entirely upon the purchase of milk on a gallonage basis.

The Hon. N. E. Baxter: The standard is subject to regulations.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: Dr. Snook pointed out that in summertime the Friesian herds yielded milk with a range in value for solids-not-fat of 8.45 per cent. to 9 per cent. The bulk milk was quite satisfactory, but the margin of safety was inadequate. In the wintertime the milk from these Gippsland Friesians fell to a range of 7.7 to 8.6 per cent. for solids-not-fat. He says later on that the Jersey herd, which averaged $2\frac{1}{2}$ gallons of milk per cow daily throughout the year, never yielded bulk milk with less than 9 per cent. solids-not-fat or less than 4.4 per cent. butterfat. The Guernsey was a little less; but the Friesian produced a greater quantity of milk on the lower amount of total solids-not-fat.

I have always been interested in this problem, and I doubt very much whether one can get from a cow what the cow does not receive. It is believed that if a good cow does not receive an adequate intake of food—that is, if the cow is not nourished—it will produce less milk, but will maintain its normal standard of fats and total solids-not-fats. Therefore, when a cow is under-nourished, it means that a smaller production will be obtained. If we are going to do anything at all to maintain a standard, we must realise that at certain times of the year, under certain conditions, and probably in certain places, it will be necessary to supplement the feeding of the cow.

I have made it my business to talk to a number of people who buy milk in bulk, and they, apparently, have no trouble in regard to the quality of the milk they purchase because they refuse to take milk from a producer who does not measure up to standard. However, there are some people who do not go to that amount of bother.

The Hon. A. L. Loton: What do you mean when you say "measure up to standard"?

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: The milk measures up to the standards laid down in the regulations for butterfat and total solids-not-fats. These people experience no difficulty at all so long as they maintain the attitude I have mentioned.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: We are supposed to have a high standard of milk on the goldfields, yet the cows feed on scrub, trees, and a little handfeeding.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: I do not intend to continue speaking about this subject indefinitely, because I believe that some time during the session a measure will be introduced into this House in connection with the difficulties that exist at the moment. However, whoever has the authority to handle milk must have the authority to lay down a required standard for it. If some people say that a cow will produce a certain amount of milk in accordance with the way it is fed, we are justified in saying that the introduction of a standard is essential. But, that is only one part of the problem. It does not cover the rest.

I believe an alteration in the basis of purchase would be of great benefit to everybody in the industry. While I was in the Eastern States I did not have time to make inquiries, but I believe a milk war has taken place there and some changes have already been made. As a result, cream is now mixed with gelatine, and the mixture is given a fancy name. This has been accepted both by the department and the public. I believe that if we purchase our milk on a butterfat basis, we should lay down a standard which we think is essential, and then allow the depots to remove the excess butterfat and use it for butter or as a coffee cream. A butterfat mixture of 12 per cent. to 20 per cent. makes a good cream which can be used in drinks.

This would open up new trade for the industry. Our standard need not be as high as in the past, because all of us know that it is not because of the fat content that we drink milk. In fact, I do not think it would be wise for children to drink milk from Jersey or Guernsey cows, as it contains a high fat content. Therefore, we could easily bring our butterfat content down to 3 per cent., allowing the excess to be removed and used for other purposes.

The Hon. F. J. S. Wise: You would bring the Friesians in then.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: The other questions that must arise are those of the sale of milk and of licenses. These must come into the picture when the new legislation is introduced.

In the few minutes left before the tea suspension I would like to say a few words in regard to the tendency which exists in

business today. I refer to takeovers. Some thought should be given to the little man, who is graced in literature by the name of the "Corner Shop"—a man who gives great service to the community. I think he will continue to render a great service. Therefore, I suggest he be given longer hours in which to keep open his shop. Whilst we might control the hours of work of any individual employed in that shop, we should give the owner a greater range of goods to sell, and allow him a greater scope in his service. If we do not do this, the corner shop will quickly disappear. There are many people who, at the end of their working day, desire to purchase for their evening meal, or for their supper, small perishable goods from the corner shop; and if we allow these shops to disappear, the people to whom I have referred will feel that loss.

There was a humorous instance in New South Wales recently where one could buy four boxes of matches and it would be all right, but if one bought five boxes of matches one contravened the Act, because five boxes of matches came under a different category. Some of these anomalies exist within our own State. With the onset of self-service stores and supermarts, unless something is done for the small man he will be in danger of disappearing from our economy; and I do not think that would be very wise.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: A lot of them have closed in Kalgoorlie lately on account of the chain stores.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: One of the things I have noticed recently is that some of the small shops are not opening until later than usual in the morning—about 9.30 a.m. or 10 a.m. This is possibly to enable them to maintain their business for a longer period without the aid of assistants. I stress the point that these small shops must be taken into consideration in the light of the ever-increasing self-service stores and supermarts. After the tea suspension I would like to refer to the question of petrol supplies.

Sitting suspended from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: I do not think motorists can be satisfied today with the conditions which exist for obtaining petrol after hours; and I believe certain alterations are necessary to the Act. It is clear that when the measure was passed there was no power vested in the Minister to alter any of the rosters presented to him; and that is an alteration which is essential. Almost every Bill which we pass in this House gives the Minister concerned a chance of reviewing the action of the committee or board appointed under the Act; yet in this case the Minister is powerless to do anything. That is the true position as it is at the moment; and we should review this legislation and give the Minis-

ter an opportunity to look at the conditions. After all, he has not only the interests of the petrol-sellers at heart but also the interests of the general public.

It is essential that in the centre of the city, at least, there be some permanent area to which people may go for petrol. It should be necessary for the person who sells petrol around the clock to provide adequate parking space and be able to satisfy the needs of the motorists using that parking area. I leave it to the discretion of the Minister to decide whether one or two areas should be so allocated; this would depend on the rate at which the city grew. One cannot imagine in any way whatever that the city is adequately catered for by having a garage open in James Street on the other side of the line.

On Sunday, I with some others, took a journey around the outer part of the metropolitan area. We went down North Lake Road until we came to the junction of the Armadale and Fremantle roads, after which we drove to Armadale along the back road. We saw a number of private petrol establishments but none was open. Although admittedly we did not pass through the actual business centre of Armadale, we did go through Armadale, but we did not find a petrol station open until we got to Gosnells. That was a considerable distance, probably about 40-odd miles, with not a garage open. That may be understandable in the country areas, but I do feel that in the heart of a busy city there should be some place which is open so that motorists may know that there they can obtain the petrol. It is up to us to study the present state of affairs and realise that we should provide better facilities for the motoring public.

The subject about which I am going to speak now is one which I have mentioned before. I intend to broach it again, and in some detail, because of the speech of Mr. Davies the other evening. He referred to a court decision in regard to the compensation granted to a child in relation to his father's income. I join in the protest that in our present situation a child should be subject to such an imposition. I have studied the Workers' Compensation Act over a number of years, and I believe that what I am going to say must appeal to some people.

The incident which spurred me into thinking about this subject again was the death of the four men in the disastrous fire at Mayanup some years ago. The accident brought to my mind the total inadequacy of the Act when applied to the relatives of those four deceased men. I wonder whether society adequately cares for those people, or their families, who lose their earning capacity through an industrial accident.

In my opinion the Act has always exhibited most concern for the person who has only a minor injury. Those with

major injuries collect a lump sum payment, and when that has been spent, the Commonwealth Social Service has to care for the victim, or those left behind. In my opinion the Act must be altered to meet present-day conditions. The prime concern of the Act must be the loss of earning capacity.

The lump sum for major injuries should be replaced by a full wage for a period assessed by research as the average time for the treatment of such injury. That must be inaugurated in some way to cover any possible malingering that may occur by any individual, thus wrecking the Act. The major injuries should be compensated on the basis of earning capacity. To permit of this being done adequately, and in view of the understandably increasing desire of the worker to be insured on an ever-increasing scale, an insurance fund should be established within the Act which would then become the "Workers' Compensation and Insurance Act."

There is a risk that with the ever-widening scope of the present Act the increasing premiums could become a burden on industry and so lead to unemployment. In this non-industrial State, those industries which do exist must face the fierce competition from the Eastern States where the manufacturers, having a huge home-market at their door, can afford to send their excess production here, absorbing freight costs. We in reverse, with a small home-market, cannot afford to ignore the freight in our export trade.

In order to provide adequately, it will be necessary for all sections of the community to contribute. The employers' present premiums should be adjusted to the new conception; and all major injuries should be compensated through an insurance fund. I suggest that each employee pay a certain amount—it could be, perhaps, 6d. or 1s. per week—and the employer a like sum. It may be essential for the Government itself to contribute on some sort of basis. If the worker were to contribute 1s. per week, and the employer another 6d. per week per employee in addition to his present contribution to the fund, a very considerable sum of money would be involved. I estimate that without any Government contribution at all, there would be a sum of over £500,000 a year paid into this insurance fund.

I understand that there will be some opposition by political Labor—and it was so when I first broached this matter—to the payment of anything by the worker. However, the worker could obtain a cover by such means; and I think it would be found that even if he was not inclined to pay, his wife would find that for 1s. per week she could obtain a cover not possible to obtain elsewhere. There are many individuals in this State who are paying 1s. a week as a small basis for life assurance.

It is suggested that this fund should meet the compensation of the first six or seven injuries listed in the second schedule; and the inclusion of the items third schedule might also be considered, although I think some of them might be regarded on a different basis.

The fund would pay to the widow of a fatally injured worker a pension commensurate with her needs, having also relation to her family's requirements. It is suggested that if, at the time of the injury, a worker has undertaken a hire-purchase agreement, it should become the responsibility of the fund.

The children of a worker who died through accident should be maintained at school until the normal leaving age, but should a child show promise of scholastic attainment, opportunity should be provided at least up to the stage possible had the father lived. A marriage should end the claim of a widow, but not the children.

A totally and permanently incapacitated man should receive a pension akin to that which he would have received had his condition been war-caused. No child should be called upon to miss an opportunity to which he would normally be liable because of the injury to or death of his father or, if she be the breadwinner, his mother. A small fund should be set aside for a scholarship. A partially incapacitated or permanently incapacitated worker should be the responsibility of a committee set up to control rehabilitation.

The Act and the fund should be controlled by an exceptionally competent and well-paid board, and no amendment of the Act should be possible without the recommendation of this board. I would suggest as chairman a legal man of "judge" ability, a representative of the workers, and a representative of the employers. The board should be obsessed with the necessity for the proper maintenance of the Act, and the prevention, rigorously, of abuses under the Act.

It is to be hoped that it will be possible to set aside a sum of money to be amortized to maintain a ward for the treatment of injured workers. This ward should be equipped with every modern requirement for these workers, so that rehabilitation could be instituted veritably from the day of admission. It is too late, in my opinion, to wait for rehabilitation until the man's stay in hospital is over and his period of convalescence has been established. The question of what the man could do, and how he could rehabilitate himself should be a matter of concern from the moment he has recovered in hospital from an accident.

I realise that I am only an individual presenting a scheme which may be called hotheaded, but I suggest, firstly, that the whole idea should be revised and submitted to actuarial scrutiny of the most searching nature. Secondly, an approach should be

made to the Social Services Department of the Commonwealth to co-operate by permitting the receipt of Commonwealth pensions and the added sums that would be paid through this fund. I do not think that a fund should be made in this State which would allow the Commonwealth to avoid its responsibilities. It would cause considerable objection if by such a humane approach we placed a financial burden upon the citizens of this State and relieved the Commonwealth of its contributions to the incapacitated worker and his family.

It cannot be conceived as just that a widow must spend the capital amount paid to her under the present Act before she can become eligible for the Commonwealth pension. No matter in what form the Act is amended, the worker should not be called upon to pay any portion of his medical and hospital costs. No piecemeal amendment to the Act will succeed—a new approach is essential.

Finally, I make the suggestion to the unions that they set up within their ranks an organisation, akin to Legacy, for accepting the children of men who gave their lives to industry as their moral responsibility.

If we look at workers' compensation, not on the precise basis I have stated but on the basis of loss of learning capacity, and having in view the adequate protection of the widow, the care of the children, and the granting to the children of an opportunity to succeed in life, we will again, as we did previously, lead the field in workers' compensation.

I now turn to some matters in connection with medical health, etc., that deeply interest me. I am going to make a plea to the Health Department and to the mental health section of the department to consider seriously a junctioning of the Heathcote Reception Home with the principal general hospital—Royal Perth Hospital. In the past the public had no real consciousness of nervous disorders, and there was a stigma attaching to admission to the Heathcote Reception Home. But modern treatment given to people suffering from temporary nervous disorders should alter entirely the public reaction to a hospital such as Heathcote.

The discharge rate from Heathcote is extraordinarily high, and the transfer of patients to Claremont is lower than it has ever been in the past. Therefore I feel that the time has come when we should link these two services together. When the Royal Perth Hospital was being built, I made a plea for a small part of the hospital to be set aside for those people who had developed symptoms of anxiety and nervous disorders in association with a definite physical illness. There is now accommodation at the Royal Perth Hospital where such cases can be treated. But I can recall an individual who had a heart condition and who, as a result, developed symptoms of an acute mental disorder and

was transferred to Heathcote where there was at that time—this was many years ago—an almost complete absence of skilled physician-care.

I think these types of illnesses have grown so closely together that closer co-operation between the two health services is essential. We still have a certain amount of difficulty in transferring people to Heathcote, even though it is no longer necessary to certify them as being in a state of mental disorder, but only that they require treatment for a nervous disorder, because there still lingers in the minds of many people a feeling of stigma at having been associated with the mental section of the Health Department. I know that Dr. Moynagh has broken down a lot of this prejudice by day treatment at Graylands; and I feel that he could well be induced to go further along the road with us.

At a meeting in Sydney, which I attended only 10 days ago, this question was raised and the representatives of the New South Wales Health Department told me that I was not alone in my thinking; that they had given serious consideration to the conjunction of these two services.

There need be no loss of dignity by those now employed in the mental section of the Health Department, because they can become associated with the honorary staff at the Royal Perth Hospital either as part-time paid officers or in any other way that they desire. This would bring about a closer bond with the physicians; and I think it would close a gap that has existed in the medical profession for many years. I have no doubt that in time to come the walls of Claremont will be open when medical research finds the key, because many diseases now are being proved to be the result of some nutritional or chemical disorder; and many so called totally incurable cases are yielding to treatment. On behalf of the public, I make a plea to close this great gap that has existed in the field of medicine so that the two units may come closer together.

I think also that before very long we will have to ask our Health Department to divide into two groups—one to look after the hospitals and the other to look after the health of the community. The department has done a commendable task in dealing with the health services of the community, and it has done an excellent work in regard to the standards of kitchens, cafes, and the food supplies of the city. In many ways it has done its work well, but if I had my way I would divide the department into two groups; and one of these groups could be subdivided into sectors, and I would place an officer in charge of each.

I would not allow a health inspector to be appointed by a local governing body, but would provide for him to be loaned to the local authority by the central

Health Department so that all health inspection work would be of a uniform standard, and so that the training of the health inspectors would be uniform throughout the State; and their work would be correlated by frequent meetings of them at the central body, thus bringing about a standard throughout Western Australia which we do not enjoy today.

I have been in a number of country towns, and whilst I have found a good standard applying to many cafes, I have found a number to be of a very poor standard. I am not going to name the towns; I am simply making the statement a broad one to show that there are these places. I feel that a central control, and health inspectors loaned to the local governing bodies, would bring about a higher standard generally.

The Hon. W. F. Willesee: An excellent idea.

The Hon. J. G. HISLOP: If we divided the State into sectors and put in charge of each sector a trained doctor with a public health degree—we would possibly want three men; or four at the most—we would raise considerably the standard of our general health; and the standard of the toilets at many of our railway stations would be raised to a much higher degree. I make the plea that the Minister for Health should look at these two sides of his work.

Finally I would like to comment on an interesting letter that appeared in yesterday's *The West Australian*. The letter is signed "Sophist," Perth; and it is quite obvious to me—I may be wrong, but I do not think so—that the letter was written by a member of the medical profession who is a member of the honorary staff of some public hospital. In this letter, the writer criticises the administration of hospitals; and whilst one might argue with some of his bases, with others, one must agree.

In commenting on this letter, I wish to give some findings of the committee which was held in Sydney, and to which I have already referred. That was the first convention ever held in Australia on post-graduate medical education. You will recall, Sir, that in the last few years we decided as a Parliament that, prior to a doctor's entering practice, a compulsory year of residence in a hospital should be part of his training. At the meeting in Sydney it was decided that this was quite insufficient, and it was recommended that two years should be the minimum period of residence in a hospital. This was decided upon because of the increasing need for scientific knowledge in the pursuit of medical treatment to its present day maximum.

It was also agreed, amongst other things, that if an individual desired to become a specialist in any field at all, he should undergo at least four years'

hospital training, and possibly more; and that during one of those four years he should return to the basic sciences so that he could achieve that critical thinking of experimentation and research which is so necessary today.

Altogether it was decided that the general practitioner would require six years of university training and two years of hospital training—a total of eight years before entering practice; and for speciality training the university training time and the hospital period, combined with the inevitable journey to the United Kingdom and possibly to the United States, should absorb a total period of 15 years.

In speaking to this letter, let me say that I realise that hospitals have, as Professor Israel so effectively put it at the Winthrop Hall last Monday week, "a three-fold responsibility to the community." They have, first of all, the responsibility of the treatment of the sick; and in the treatment of the sick there is the inevitable training of the medical profession; and in that there is the necessity for continuing research.

Professor Israel pointed out that none of these three legs should get out of length, otherwise the hospital would lose its balance. This has to be taken into account in the future administration of hospitals; and in regard to hospitals, this has completely altered the viewpoint which has been held for the last 40 years during which medicine has made so much progress, and in which there has been so much specialisation and division into groups that have grown because of increased scientific knowledge.

When I had been qualified for two years, I went to Manchester where I received as my salary, 19s. 4d. per week plus my residence. In my fourth year I was able to go to a London hospital where, because I had already gained a higher degree, I was entitled to 25s. a week and board. At one period at the Manchester Royal Infirmary, I received payment, on a non-resident basis, of £1 a week and I had to find my own board and lodging. That was the basis of the training we went through in those days; and if the conditions were the same today I would not mind returning to them—they were wonderful days.

But the whole viewpoint of the world has changed today; the young fellows are marrying early in their academic careers, and they are receiving adequate salaries. Therefore there is no reason why they should not continue their training for an extra year. In their second year I think that they receive something like £1,200, plus their board and lodging.

But for hospitals to maintain the payment of that amount of remuneration to the doctors means that it will add a terrific burden to their expenditure; and if the period of training in the basic sciences is

to remain necessary for every specialist, we will either have to limit the number of specialists or increase the number of posts in the scientific sections of the hospital so that they can be filled. If they are not filled we will lag behind the other States which are doing their utmost to pursue a policy based on the findings of this convention. I think the findings of this convention will become ordinary established practice in all hospitals within five years. Therefore, this newspaper article by "Sophist" must be taken into account with our modern requirements. The only paragraph that I can really fail to understand is the one that reads—

As medicine passes more and more into the hands of medical scientists, it passes into the hands of men who are concerned with arriving at ultimate truth.

Surely that is required. Then he goes on to say—

They are not concerned with efficiency and imperfection is anathema to them.

I have a feeling that the word "not" before the word "concerned" is out of place, because these men are concerned with efficiency.

However, I do not understand how the profession itself can be concerned with the actual cost of administration. The administration of hospitals is quite a new subject in the medical field. When I was superintendent of the Children's Hospital, there was a sort of liaison between the manager and myself. Up until the war years, and during the post-war years, both the medical superintendent and the manager of the hospital were almost untrained for their hospital positions. Nowadays, however, there is the Institute of Hospital Administrators in which men are trained. One could not easily accuse them of coming within "Sophist's" allegation that they are always asking that their departments be increased. There may be some truth in it.

As I had the opportunity to sum up the results of the conference in Sydney, I pointed out to those attending it that whilst we had decided what were the requirements that we considered were absolutely necessary for the future of medicine, I believed that what we should do next was to look at the economics of the scheme and its practicability, so far as hospitals were concerned; and to ascertain whether we could not, by eliminating some of the subjects that were taught in earlier years—or eliminating the amount taught in those subjects—reach what was required in the present time limit of seven years.

I think the same must apply to hospitals. If we are to increase the amount of necessary training so that any member of the profession can grant to the public the benefits of the tremendous progress that has been made in medical and surgical

science, the hospital itself must look at the economic aspect. It may be that at times the profession itself does call for more expense than is necessary in the amount of paper work that goes on in the institutions; and I think, therefore, that hospitals should be kept under constant review to see whether they are maintaining their proper economy in relation to those three needs that I have stressed, and the three parts a hospital must play in public life.

Finally, I come to an article which appeared in the *Sydney Daily Telegraph* on, to the best of my recollections, the 13th August. The article impressed me very greatly; but, stupidly, I failed to cut it out of the newspaper. In that article, the writer pointed out that since the war the universities had played a great part in providing new members for the House of Commons. I think it was said that about 40 per cent. of the new members of the House of Commons elected since the last war as representatives of the Labor, Conservative or Tory Parties held some university degree either in culture—such as a Bachelor of Arts—or, in the field of economics.

Yet, strange to say, in our State and in Australia generally, the universities have played little or no part in providing new members for either Chamber of the legislature in each State. I think if members will study carefully their colleagues in either House they will find that there are only about two or three members who hold university degrees. It is a very sad commentary on our University that it does not provide more men or women who are interested in the Government of our State. So, after making probably the longest speech I have ever made in this House, I propose to agree with the motion for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply.

THE HON. G. E. JEFFERY (Suburban) [8.5]: In addressing myself to the motion for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply, firstly I would like to be associated with the congratulatory messages that you, Mr. President, have received. You are the eleventh President of the Legislative Council that this State has known in the years of self-Government; and in the few weeks that you have occupied the Chair I have no doubt that those who have toiled within these walls will say that when the time comes for you to retire from your high office you will have equalled the excellent reputations that have been built up by your predecessors. I always had a warm regard for you whilst you were on the floor of the House, and I am sure my good feelings will continue towards you whilst you are President.

I also wish to join those who have spoken in congratulating the members who were returned to this House as a result of the last biennial election. I particularly desire to congratulate Mr. Baxter because

the average Australian has a keen sporting instinct and has great regard for the man who makes a comeback; and Mr. Baxter has done that. I also congratulate Mr. Syd Thompson on his election to the Legislative Council. On opening day I sweated out his maiden speech with him. I did the same thing about four years ago on the opening day. My only regret is that the election of Mr. Syd Thompson is brought about by the retirement of Mr. Roche, who was affectionately known to all of us as Pat. I only hope that he will be restored to good health in the near future, and that he will enjoy his retirement for a long time to come.

I remember quite well what an honourable member—not of my party or political persuasion—said to me on my first opening day. It may be discreet to let his name remain anonymous. He said, "Take it easy, Jeff. For the first six months you wonder how you got here, and after six months you wonder how the rest got here." I wish to add that that was said in jocular vein and I repeat it in the same strain.

At the base of Mt. Eliza and Kings Park we have a wonderful monument to the previous Government. It is something that has been needed for a long time. A Labor Government had the privilege of building it and a Liberal Government had the pleasure of opening it. I am referring to the Narrows Bridge. It is indeed a thing of beauty and something of which we can be justly proud. Members can well recall the traffic snarls that occurred on the Causeway during peak periods. Today, as a result of the building of the Narrows Bridge, the volume of traffic during peak periods is down to 4,000 vehicles. Previously, it had been 6,000. Conversely, the volume of traffic over the Narrows Bridge during peak periods is some 2,500 and that figure is steadily increasing.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: Were you at the opening?

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: Yes, I had the privilege of being present at the opening. It was a great social event, and it was a day about which I will always be proud. As a thing of beauty, I think the Narrows Bridge far surpasses the Sydney Bridge.

In speaking of bridges, in my own electorate the bridge over the Swan River at Bassendean has been widened, and anyone who has travelled over it regularly realises the terrific difference there is to the comfort of motorists who use it. The bridge at South Guildford is also in the process of being widened; and, in my opinion, this work should have been done 40 years ago. Further, around about December, the Garratt Road Bridge will be widened; and I think everyone who lives in the Suburban Province will greatly appreciate the completion of that work, because when the bridge is widened it will

certainly mean a great improvement and better travelling for the motorists who use it.

I am somewhat concerned about the Swan River foreshore. Everyone is always speaking about how beautiful the Swan River is and what improvements can be made to it. In my opinion we should preserve the foreshore of the Swan River for posterity. To me, it appears that a great deal of the Swan River foreshore has been wasted as a result of much of it being gobbled up by private individuals. It is a pity that a man such as Col. Light did not come to Perth in the early years of this colony so that the city could have been planned on proper lines for the maximum welfare of the general public.

A great deal has been said about the extensions to the Perth Airport at Guildford, and it has been mentioned that the resumption of land in the vicinity is a Commonwealth responsibility. I quite agree, but I think the original plan submitted by Professor Stephenson, which involved the building of a new airport on the Wanneroo Road, is a much sounder proposition. On looking at the map for the proposed airport extensions, one can readily see the funnel which necessitates the swathe of resumptions proposed through the residential area at Belmont and South Guildford. Most of the houses are of postwar construction and are of a good type; and, in my opinion, the long-sighted view would be to construct the airport where Professor Stephenson planned it to go. I still think the present Government could do the right thing by the people who reside near the airport at Guildford by persuading the Commonwealth Government not to continue with its present plan for extension of the Perth Airport. I admit that we cannot progress without somebody getting hurt, but in this case we could obtain our up-to-date airport on the site which was originally set aside for it.

An amazing feature of the people who reside in my province is that despite the demands that are made on their time and on their pockets, there are still many who are prepared to go out and do something for those who are less fortunate than themselves. There are two or three instances that come readily to mind of the wonderful work that is being done by many charitable organisations. One of these concerns the activities which surrounded the opening in Mackie Street, Victoria Park, of an aged people's welfare centre. A committee, comprising business and other sections of the community, banded together to purchase the property on which this centre is situated; although there is still some money owing on it. Members will be well advised to take a trip to visit that centre in Victoria Park in order to inspect the facilities that are made available for the enjoyment of the old people; and from what they learn

there they could probably be responsible for establishing similar centres in their own provinces.

We have in Western Australia a very close liaison between the Government and local government; and, in most instances, it is a very happy relationship. I want to pay a tribute to two people in my province, one of whom has had a long association with local government, and the other who has had no association with local government whatsoever.

Mr. Dick McDonald, who is now 75 years of age, is a veteran of the Boer War, and World War I, and he recently retired as chairman of the Bassendean Road Board. Looking back over the years one realises what a wonderful job he has done for this State. He first joined the Bassendean Road Board in 1915, but after one year of service he resigned to enlist to serve in World War I. After his return from the war he served as a board member from 1922 to 1948—a period of 26 years. He was re-elected in 1956 and is still sitting as a member after four years; and he has served a total of 31 years on the board. During that period he was chairman from 1929 to 1938. He served a further period as chairman from 1939 to 1947. He vacated the chair from 1947 to 1948; he stood down to allow his deputy to be elected to office. He was then re-elected as chairman in 1959.

His record speaks for itself, and for the respect in which he is held by the residents in the district. Despite his age he is still a valuable member of the Bassendean Road Board.

The other person to whom I want to pay a tribute belongs to a type which seldom receives praise. He can be regarded as a symbol of the others in his group. I refer to the recent retirement from army service of Regimental Sergeant-Major Andy Philp. His military career terminated when the recent re-organisation of the army took place. Before his retirement he had served for 16 years as instructor to high school cadets. In addition to his military service, he also rendered great service in the training of cadets, and I know many parents who owe him a debt of gratitude for the work he did in training their sons. Andy Philp was a vocal sergeant-major and, as everyone knows, generally a tag is pinned on such persons. The label of "Old Thunder Guts" was tagged to Andy Philp by the boys. He is affectionately known as such and he is a very fine character; he is a symbol of the type which has been retired, and which has rendered wonderful service.

I want to refer to youth centres. Until recently I was president of one. In the Suburban Province there are youth centres in Bentley, Bassendean, Maylands, and Midvale; and one has just been started at Midland Junction. I cannot speak too highly of the good work which is being

done by these centres for the most difficult age group of the community—the teenagers. To my mind there is a great wastage of funds, because in the selection of the chief instructors one of the requisites should be adequate training. The Government would be well advised to set up a school to give a three-months' course of training on the guidance of teenagers to men selected to be instructors. The youth centre movement is a wonderful scheme but it lacks leadership; and the expenditure of a few thousand pounds would make all the difference to its continued success.

I now wish to refer to another problem—one that confronts parents and citizens' associations. Every member of this House has an appreciation of the fine work done by those bodies. I realise that money does not grow on trees and the Government has to supply the first essentials first, and obviously classrooms and equipment are the first essentials. No doubt every member in touring his electorate has often come across schools that are well equipped, but with playing areas of just sand patches. I want to mention the efforts of two parents and citizens' associations to illustrate the need for governmental assistance. I have read in the Press of other schools having similar problems to the two I have in mind.

The Redcliffe School is very small, and accommodates some 260 pupils. The Belmont Park Road Board, which owns an adjoining block in Selby Park, put down a bore, but with very disappointing results. In the summer months, to obtain the maximum amount of water available from the bore, it employs an old chap to attend to the watering; he changes the position of the sprinklers at night. The Redcliffe school is faced with the problem of having to put down a bore with the prospect of getting only a little water. This is one occasion when the Government should step in and assist the parents and citizens' association attached to that school.

Even though parents and citizens' associations are prepared—from my discussions with them I understand this to be the position—to pay the major expenses involved, the Government would be well advised to consider the granting of interest-free loans to these bodies; or at least loans repayable over a long period at a low rate of interest.

The other school I have in mind is the Queen's Park State School. On the 27th May it received a quote for the supply of a reticulation scheme for the playing area. The quote was £1,775, of which the Education Department was prepared to contribute £710. The parents and citizens' association would, therefore, have to meet the balance of £1,065. The Canning Road Board has generously offered a loan of £50 per year for five years, and at the end of the

period it will review the situation. The board also agreed to give the association the loan of its machinery, but the association would have to pay the wages of the operatives. In view of the good work that is done by parents and citizens' associations, the contribution of £1,065 by the Queen's Park parents and citizens' association is a rather steep imposition. If the Government can see its way to lend this amount to be repaid over a long period at a low rate of interest, the school will be able to enjoy the facilities without having to wait for them.

The Queen's Park Parents and Citizens' Association is deserving of help, because we all know that the residents of that suburb belong to the working class, and they are not in receipt of high incomes. Although that parents and citizens' association has undertaken the construction of a hall which is estimated conservatively to be worth £3,000—when completed it will be worth £5,000 or more—it has also, in the last 12 months, spent £1,352 on the provision of school facilities. *Per capita* that effort by the association will be hard to beat. The number of children attending the Queen's Park State School is just over 600, so over £2 per child has been contributed. It does not need me to tell members how laudable was the effort of this organisation. The Government should encourage these people, because the assets they create for the schools become the property of the State Government in the ultimate.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: I agree with you; but of course the difficulty is that if you start doing this for one, you will have to do the same for every State school. That could lead to fewer classrooms and facilities.

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: I have before me a petition which was sent to me erroneously. It does not concern a State matter; it should be directed to the Federal Government. The petition is addressed to myself, and is as follows:—

We, as parents of children attending the Bassendean Primary State School of W.A. wish to draw your attention to the necessity for more support from the Federal Government for the education of our children.

The oft repeated stories of lack of finance, and that education is a State responsibility, does not allay public concern about the state of education in Australia.

Therefore, as members of the Bassendean Parents & Citizens' Association attending this meeting, we wish you, as our member in the Legislative Council to press this vital matter of Federal aid for education to the uttermost.

The other evening I asked a question in this House regarding education. The only satisfaction I received was that 14 per cent.

of the total revenue made available to the Government is spent on education. Some three or four years ago I know that Western Australia, per taxpayer, did spend more money on education than did any other State. I believe the same position still applies. The people who elect members to the State Parliament also elect the members to the Federal Parliament; so it amazes me that when the Premiers of the States attend the Premiers' conferences to deal with matters of this nature, they are not given larger grants for education.

One other matter I wish to bring up concerns the State Housing Commission which acts as the agent for the Commonwealth Government in the provision of war service homes. It relates to ex-servicemen who were fortunate enough to obtain war service homes initially. With the passage of years and with increases in families of some of these ex-servicemen, their accommodation is now inadequate. The unfortunate part is that a lengthy period must elapse before additional funds can be made available for additions such as an extra sleep-out or a bedroom to meet the needs of the increased family. I ask the Minister concerned to look into this matter because one or two persons in this category are in dire straits; their houses are inadequate for their needs. They are suffering hardship; and in one case the person concerned had to install the bunk type of beds to accommodate his family.

One good step taken by the present Government is the reopening of the Koongamia railway line. I would like the service to be extended further to Mundaring. I have no illusions about the financial burden which is placed on the Government, and I know the strain placed on it by the financial position of the railways. But Perth is one of the lovely cities with nearby hills which are not being utilised fully. Adelaide and similar cities have gone ahead and settled in their adjacent hills. There, one can appreciate the residential areas of the hills after visiting Mt. Lofty.

The only thing which retards the development of the hills residential area in Western Australia is lack of finance on the part of the working people, because with the transport situation as it is a person living in the hills must own a motor vehicle. The day is not far distant when the metropolitan area must extend eastwards. As a result of the closing of the Mundaring line, the development of the city took place north and south. The Government should look into this matter and reopen the line to Mundaring.

I want to make reference to an advertisement published on page 13 of *The West Australian* of the 26th March—I do not know whether the number is regarded as fatal—in which the present Government made a report to the people on its activities after one year in office. Anything can look good if there is nothing else to compare it with. The action of the Government

in one respect contrasts rather strangely with the report, because recently it refused the radio time which was offered by the Australian Broadcasting Commission to continue the session "Highlights of Parliament." It is only by allowing people of contrasting views to speak that one is able to understand the two extremities of an argument, and so formulate some idea of the advantages or disadvantages of any Government or its policies. The refusal of this Government to accept the time for the session "Highlights of Parliament"—which had a wide audience in this State—points to the weakness of the present Government. In similar circumstances, if the party to which I am privileged to belong were to become the Government, we would welcome the opportunity to participate in such a session, confident that in so doing we would be acting in the best interests of the people.

Much has been said about taxation. I need not say anything more about the record of the present Government in respect of taxation. All metropolitan dwellers have felt the impact of increased charges and taxes. Soon after the present Government took office, railway fares paid by suburban dwellers were increased. In addition to the proposed increases to take effect next week, or shortly, these fares will be 33½ per cent. greater. I know that other people have to pay increased charges also, but the suburban dweller in the first instance paid a considerable increase soon after the present Government took office.

I realise and remember very well the attitude of the then Opposition to the Government which I supported, when drivers' licenses were increased from 5s. to 10s. I wonder how they reconcile their views on the increase then with their views on the increase from 10s. to £1 under the present regime. As the owner of a well-known brand of motorcar I am aware that license fees were increased from £12 11s. 6d. to £14 7s. 6d. under the present Government. Take land tax for instance; it has gone up by about 25 per cent.; and water rates are also to be increased by that amount.

I have given much thought to the question of inflation. The usual attitude to halt inflation is to peg the wages of workers, and hope that everything else will come down by and by. Most members will appreciate that the greatest tragedy in old age is poverty. I know that poverty can be brought about by very many causes, one of which is the frittering away of one's earnings in one's youth. As often as not, poverty has been caused by hardship, misadventure, and those happenings met by anyone in the course of his life. I believe the only solution to the question—and one that has a lot of possibilities—is for the State Government to take up with the Federal Government the matter of a national superannuation scheme. I think the lot of these people would then be considerably improved. I also think it would

have a wonderful effect on the financial position of this country. I have visions of millions of pounds being made available to the Federal and State Governments, and at a low rate of interest, for the carrying out of public works and national development.

The tragedy of old age has been closely associated with poverty. Although a number of people complain about lack of benefits from superannuation schemes, I believe, quite frankly, that the ordinary man in the street would welcome a superannuation scheme on a national basis.

Much has been said of tourism. I do not wish to be considered a wet blanket; I am as keen as anyone to see tourists in Western Australia, as long as these tourists contribute to the State. So many of them at the present time come and see, and then disappear.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: They are known as seagulls.

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: The Government envisages an expenditure of £5,500,000 on the East-West road. There is nothing basically wrong with that, but I think there are more important community projects on which the money should be spent. I think it would be cheaper for the Government to subsidise the cartage of motor vehicles across the Nullarbor by train. Not much is to be seen on the Nullarbor Plain, and I think the subsidising of the cartage of vehicles from Eastern Australia to Western Australia would be cheaper than expending money at the present time on the East-West coastal highway.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: What about defence?

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: I suggest that this palatial highway the Government is envisaging would not make much difference to defence. The whole nature of defence has changed since the days of the Slegfried Line. I am confining myself solely to the tourist angle. I do think that the holding of the Empire Games in Perth will give a fillip to the State. I do not think it will give us the kick that some people think it will, but it will certainly attract people from countries overseas—those people whom we wish to attract. Distances are as great as ever they were, but air travel has in effect lessened them.

The Hon. G. C. MacKinnon: As a pessimist, you are almost in a professional class.

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: I am a realist. Some people are carried away by their own party propaganda, but I wish to face facts. It is then much easier should one fall. Living in a world of make-believe, when one falls the ground is very hard. When referring to a world of make-believe, I wish to discuss the alleged industrial revolution that has taken place in Western Australia since the advent of the

present Government. No doubt the honourable member will be able to defend his Government, but at the moment I would like the courtesy of being heard.

We have been told a great deal about the lack of money in the State, yet the Government is making a substantial loan to the Australian Paper Manufacturers. I think the State is paying through the nose for an industry that is quite able to stand on its own feet. It is a prosperous industry. I am not averse to helping any industry that is coming into the State, but I think this is out of balance with the economic position in Western Australia.

While on this subject of industrial revolution, I was speaking to the Minister the other night. He pointed out that the reduction of numbers in the building trades was caused to some extent by a change in the type of work being performed. To a certain extent I agree with that; but the cold bare facts are that on the 31st March, 1959, there were 1,173 building trade apprentices in this State and on the 31st March, 1960, there were 890—a 25 per cent. decrease. We also discussed the engineering trade, and we found that the figures for the engineering trade were static. The number of apprentices in 1959 was 653 and the number of apprentices registered in 1960 was 641, a decrease of 12. I think the depression proved that real industrial expansion depends on the availability of skilled labour.

Although I realise the importance of securing migrants, I consider the best place to secure skilled labour is from Western Australia. I think the apprentices should come from the youth of the State. I was interested in the comments of Dr. Hislop when, a few moments ago, he spoke of his experiences as a young doctor and the wages that were paid. I know that since I served as an apprentice, wages have gone up; but the thinking regarding apprentices which existed 50 years ago still exists today. A boy serves five years on a small wage and at the end of the period, when he is 21 years of age, he is entitled to earn a wage which he will still be earning when he is 65, if he does not receive promotion.

In March a boy entering the trade earned £4 15s. a week in his first year. I know there have been two small basic wage increases since, and he now gets approximately £4 17s. 6d. A girl can be taught to type—and I do not wish to detract from the importance of typists—and after six months she can start work and earn from £7 to £7 10s. a week. An apprentice pointed these figures out to me. After six months' training, the average girl can go to work at the age of 15. By the time the apprentice lad has reached 24, he has worked eight years—five as an apprentice and three as a journeyman. The girl has worked nine years. At the

age of 24, both will have earned the same amount of money. I think the time has come for a change in attitude concerning apprentices.

Pensioners have been termed the lost souls of the community. Without detracting from their position, I consider that the lost souls in Western Australia at the moment are the apprentices. I see no reason for the difference in wages between a boy in a trade and a boy employed in the civil service. I was employed in the civil service prior to becoming an apprentice; and one boy is as valuable to the community as the other. The one earns £4 15s. a week, the other £7 10s. 3d. To my mind, both are equally important members of the community, and I suggest they should receive equal pay.

I turn to another weakness of the so-called industrial revolution of this Government. I refer to the Unfair Trading and Profit Control Act. It was a wonderful political tactic of the Government during the elections; it created a terrific fear in the public mind, and had a direct bearing on the result of the last election. Despite the Press statement made by the Minister for Industrial Development, the weakness of the present Government is clearly shown by its attitude of reverence to the Chairman of Directors of the Cockburn Cement Co. If there is any businessman in the world—or the British Commonwealth—who would attract industry to Western Australia, this man would be the last.

Were I able to find it, I would read a letter written by the Minister to myself in which he informed me of the work to be undertaken in the Midland Junction Railway Workshops. I thought it was a veiled threat and the work was contingent on the fact there would be no industrial unrest. It is most unfortunate that the men employed at the Midland Junction Workshops lack confidence in the Minister and the Government.

It has become the practice in this House to read poetry. The following are the words of John Greenleaf Whittier—not George Cornell, the Kipling of Kellerrerrin—and might be read before every Cabinet meeting of the present Government when discussing industrial matters. The words are taken from "King Solomon and the Ants"—

Happy must be the State
Whose ruler heedeth more
The murmurs of the poor
Than flatteries of the great.

I would like to turn to the subject of water rates, and will read a short extract of a statement that appeared in *The West Australian* on the 10th June, 1960—

Water Rise First for 7 Years, Says Wild.

The necessity for the rise in water charges was regrettable, but the charges had not risen since 1953. Water Supplies Minister Wild said yesterday.

For several years, some additional revenue had been gained by progressive and conservative reviews of property valuations, he said.

But substantial basic wage and marginal adjustments since 1953 were having a cumulative effect on operational and maintenance expenditure.

Mr. Wild emphasised that the rises were not designed to make good the big loss in revenue caused by summer water restrictions. They were aimed simply at meeting the additional £315,000 in revenue the Water Supply Department would need in 1960-61.

I draw the attention of the House to section 93 of the Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Act 1909-1951. There are four categories under which revenue raised can be spent: (1) administration; (2) operating costs; (3) interest and sinking fund; (4) extensions, construction and improvement of such works out of revenue. I suggest that the present policy of the Government is drawing the long bow indeed—a doubtful bow—in the raising of revenue through the medium of increasing water charges arbitrarily by 25 per cent. Increased costs, I know, exist, and wages have gone up, but in the past Governments have been able to finance the operations of the Metropolitan Water Supply Department by normal progressive valuations which take place every three years. During the Hawke Government's regime, the water rate was lowered from 1s. 9d. in the £ valuation to 1s. 6d. The sewerage rate stayed at 1s. 9d.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: What happened to the valuation?

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: At the end of 1957-58—which was the last full valuation year of the Hawke Government—the Water Supply Department had an accumulated surplus of £263,000, and the share of the total for 1957-58 was £45,000.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: What happened to the valuations during that time?

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: I say the rates were able to be reduced; and despite the reduction from 1s. 9d. to 1s. 6d. during the Hawke Government's regime, there was an accumulated profit of £263,000.

In the 1959-60 financial year the present Government budgeted for a £127,000 increase in revenue without the arbitrary increase of 25 per cent. I suggest that the £127,000 increase in revenue would come predominantly from increases in rates through a revision of valuations, and through the sale of excess water. I am the first to admit that through unusual circumstances there was no sale of excess water, and so the Government lost £250,000. I also feel that it is a fair assumption that the unusual circumstances that obtained last year will not obtain this year, or for some years to come; although I know one cannot gamble on the weather.

The Hon. R. C. Mattiske: The Government also lost a lot of revenue at Northam through abnormally low rates.

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: On the existing valuations for 1959-60, the Government had a surplus of £31,804 in the sewerage department rate account. I suggest that the increase in water rates will increase the rate on the sewerage, even though the rate in the pound is still 1s. 9d.; in other words, the increased revenue the Government will receive on the sewerage side is disproportionate to the water supply side, and it will give the Government much more money than is obvious at this moment. I have a classic example here where one individual, with the arbitrary increase of 25 per cent., plus the revaluation falling in the one year, had an increase from £9 3s. to £16 17s.—that is a householder's rate. And he is no orphan.

The Hon. G. Bennetts: It is scandalous.

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: I would like to quote some answers to questions asked of the Minister in another place so that every person will know why I intend to move an addendum to the motion for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: We are getting so used to that.

The Hon. G. E. JEFFERY: From the answers it can be seen that the areas affected are mostly represented by Liberal members in another place; so members cannot attribute any ulterior motive to my amendment. When I read out the answers to the questions asked, which refer to those areas which have received both the arbitrary increase and the normal progressive revaluation at the same time, members will see that predominantly they are represented by Liberal members of Parliament in another place. On Tuesday, the 2nd August, in answer to a question asked in another place, the Minister for Water Supplies (Mr. Wild) replied—

The following districts were regarded as being under-valued in relation to other districts, namely:—

Fremantle Municipality (excluding City Ward).
East Fremantle Municipality.
Melville Road Board.
Mosman Park Road Board.
Peppermint Grove Road Board.
Cottesloe Municipality.
Claremont Municipality.
Nedlands Municipality.
Subiaco Municipality.

Hardly any of those areas are represented by a socialist member. The list continues—

Perth City Council—the following wards: Leederville, Floreat Park-City Beach, North Perth and Victoria Park.
Perth Road Board.
Wanneroo Road Board (Mar-mion).
Bayswater Road Board.

Mundaring Road Board (Greenmount-Swan View).
 Bassendean Road Board.
 Midland Junction Municipality.
 Belmont Road Board.
 South Perth Municipality.
 Canning Road Board.
 Gosnells Road Board.
 Armadale-Kelmscott Road Board (Kelmscott).

It might have been quicker and easier had I read those areas that are not included. I suggest that the present Government is using the Water Supply Department to raise revenue for purposes other than those listed in section 93 of the principal Act, and that the people of the metropolitan area are receiving a raw deal at the hands of the Government. I move that the following words be added to the motion for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply:—

We wish also to advise Your Excellency that there is widespread and strong dissatisfaction in the metropolitan area against the severe increases recently made in water rates by the Government.

Points of Order

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Mr. President, I wish to ask you for a ruling on this matter. In this present session of Parliament we are becoming accustomed to having amendments moved to the motion for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply. I refer you, Mr. President, to Standing Order No. 120, which states—

Subject to Standing Order No. 178, no Question or Amendment shall be proposed which is the same in substance as any Question or Amendment which, during the same Session, has been resolved in the affirmative or negative, unless the order, resolution, or vote on such question or amendment, has been rescinded. This Standing Order shall not be suspended.

This Standing Order is subject to Standing Order No. 178, which reads—

A Bill may amend or repeal any Act of the same session.

I quote that to make sure there is no difficulty in respect of that Standing Order. If you would be so kind, Mr. President, as to read again the amendment Mr. Jeffery moved you will see that it says—

We wish also to advise Your Excellency that there is widespread and strong dissatisfaction in the metropolitan area against the severe increases recently made in water rates by the Government.

If you will also refer to an amendment moved by Mr. Strickland to the motion for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply, on Tuesday, the 2nd August, you will see that this is part of that amendment—

Furthermore we would protest strongly against the Government's mis-handling of the finances of the Metropolitan Water Supply, and recent severe increases in water rates.

You will remember, Sir, that on that amendment members of this Chamber traversed the whole matter fully and completely. They pointed out where they considered the Government had done the wrong thing in connection with the handling of water rates. We were all given ample opportunity to address ourselves to this particular subject, and many members, particularly on the Opposition side, availed themselves of that opportunity.

I went to considerable trouble to answer the case put up on that occasion. Not being satisfied with that, Mr. Wise sought the opportunity, to which he was entitled, to point out that I had made statements which were not accurate. He challenged them and, at a later stage in the proceedings, I was able, when the Supply Bill was introduced, to go over the question again and answer the charges made against the Government with respect to the mishandling of water rates.

I contend that the present amendment moved by the honourable member is exactly the same in principle, and is employed for identically the same purpose as the two previous amendments were employed—to waste the time of the House. According to Standing Order No. 178 I believe I am entitled to ask you to move this amendment out of order.

The Hon. F. J. S. WISE: Mr. President, I ask you for a ruling. As the Minister has been permitted to make a speech and outline a case to assist you in coming to a conclusion, I would like, with your permission, to make some comment from our angle on this matter.

The PRESIDENT: You may.

The Hon. F. J. S. WISE: Thank you; I submit to you that there is—

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: On a point of order, Mr. President—and I hope the honourable member will forgive me for a moment—I posed a question to you. I have asked you for a ruling in accordance with Standing Order No. 178.

The Hon. H. C. Strickland: But you made a speech to support it.

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: In doing so I made an explanation as to why I required a ruling. I respectfully suggest that at this point of time the matter is not open to debate.

The PRESIDENT: Mr. Wise, I think I had better give you an opportunity to speak after I have given a ruling on this matter. I will leave the Chair until the ringing of the bells.

Sitting suspended from 8.55 to 9.15 p.m.

President's Ruling

The PRESIDENT: Having considered the amendment moved by the Hon. G. E. Jeffery and the previous amendment moved by the Hon. H. C. Strickland, I am of the opinion that the import of words used in both motions is substantially the same and I therefore rule the amendment of the Hon. G. E. Jeffery to be out of order.

Dissent from President's Ruling

The Hon. F. J. S. WISE: I move—

That the President's ruling be disagreed with.

The PRESIDENT: Is there a seconder?

The Hon. F. R. H. LAVERY: I second the motion.

The Hon. H. C. STRICKLAND: I second the motion.

The Hon. A. F. Griffith: Does it take two to second the motion?

The Hon. F. R. H. Lavery: There is no need for anybody to laugh. When I get up to second a motion I get up for just that purpose—to second the motion. I do not do it facetiously.

The PRESIDENT: Order! The question is—

That the President's ruling be disagreed with.

The Hon. F. J. S. WISE: Having moved that your ruling, Sir, be disagreed with, it means that I do not agree at all with your contention that the words are substantially the same and mean the same.

Point of Order

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: I am sorry to interrupt the honourable member, but would you, Sir, be good enough to tell me whether, under Standing Order No. 405, this question has to be determined now? The Standing Order says that the House shall be adjourned and the determination will take place at the next sitting of the House.

The PRESIDENT: My ruling is that Mr. Wise is in the process of moving to disagree with my ruling; and after Mr. Wise has moved, this House will adjourn the question.

Dissent Resumed

The Hon. F. J. S. WISE: I noted in your comment and in your ruling that you, Sir, decided that the words meant substantially the same thing, an opinion,

with which, with much respect, I strongly disagree. The words in the addendum to the motion as moved by Mr. Strickland were at the end of a specific protest which, with other additions as protests, were to be conveyed to His Excellency when the Address-in-Reply was presented to him. That portion of Mr. Strickland's amendment read—

We would protest strongly against the Government's mishandling of the finances of the Metropolitan Water Supply Department, and recent severe increases in water rates.

The addendum was attached quite properly to the motion for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply to voice a protest to be conveyed to His Excellency in regard to the mishandling of public finance because of the increase in water rates. It was essentially a protest against the actions of the Government in that connection.

The addendum as now moved is to advise His Excellency of the dissatisfaction of the public in this matter. There is no relationship whatever to the mishandling of Government finance which comes into its coffers from collections made under the Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage, and Drainage Act of 1909. It is something entirely different. We wish His Excellency to know that the public is expressing, in very strong terms, dissatisfaction against the very severe increases made in water rates as recently imposed by the Government.

The Hon. H. K. Watson: If His Excellency read your previous speech, he would be aware of that.

The Hon. F. J. S. WISE: His Excellency has no desire, intention, or inclination to read what I say or what the honourable member says. Indeed, in neither case may it be to his enlightenment. But what I am saying now is something entirely different from an analysis I made, not on the Address-in-Reply at all, but as criticism on a Supply Bill, which was not replied to by the Minister at that time. However, it was replied to in part by him during another debate. This is quite irrelevant, and I apologise for answering an interjection.

This point is specific. It deals wholly and solely with the necessity for the Governor to know that there is strong public opinion and widespread dissatisfaction coming to members in the street, in their homes, and by letters, at the added burden placed upon them by these water rates. In the first case it was an endeavour to have Parliament express a protest; and the wording of this amendment is simply to say to His Excellency that we wish to draw his attention to the unhappy state of mind of the public in this matter; and to draw His Excellency's attention to

the fact that there is widespread and strong dissatisfaction in the minds of the public.

Therefore, with due respect, Sir, I submit there is no relevancy at all in the composition of the words or their meaning, and that your ruling is quite wrong.

Point of Order

The Hon. A. F. GRIFFITH: Standing Order No. 405 requires that the House shall adjourn unless a determination of the question is required immediately. So far as I am concerned, as Leader of the House, the determination is not required immediately, but I am quite prepared to debate the subject if it is in order to do so.

The PRESIDENT: I would say that the debate should be adjourned. I am leaving it to the Minister.

On motion by the Hon. A. F. Griffith (Minister for Mines), debate adjourned.

House adjourned at 9.26 p.m.

Legislative Assembly

Tuesday, the 23rd August, 1960

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The SPEAKER took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.