

That money would be available in conjunction with the Farmers' Debts Adjustment Act for assistance to those applicants.

Hon. F. J. S. Wise: You want to keep that as a nucleus for another emergency?

The MINISTER FOR EDUCATION: Yes. I think that was the intention we debated in 1947 when the Government brought forward the Bill stipulating 20 per cent. in every instance, and the Leader of the Opposition suggested that in certain cases the trustees might have a discretion to accept a lesser sum. To that suggestion the House agreed. Since Parliament approved of the original amendment of the Act to provide for writing off, the total written off in the cases I have mentioned, where the 20 per cent. has been paid, is £217,000. The work of the Farmers' Debts Adjustment Act and the Rural Relief Fund Act is now carried out by two officers of the Lands Department, and there is at the moment no financial expenditure being incurred in connection with salaries, because the work is very light.

Hon. F. J. S. Wise: You have appointed them the trustees?

The MINISTER FOR EDUCATION: Yes. One other trustee is engaged under the Rural Relief Fund Act. He is Mr. Maley, who is paid an amount of £150 per annum. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

On motion by Hon. F. J. S. Wise, debate adjourned.

*House adjourned at 6.12 p.m.*

## Legislative Council.

Wednesday, 6th July, 1949.

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The PRESIDENT took the Chair at 2.15 p.m., and read prayers.

## QUESTIONS.

### EDUCATION.

*As to Hilton Park School.*

Hon. E. M. DAVIES asked the Chief Secretary:

(1) In view of the State Housing Commission having accepted 135 acres of land from the Fremantle City Council for housing purposes, will he ascertain from the responsible Minister whether additional class rooms have been authorised for the Hilton Park School now under construction?

(2) If not, will he give consideration to the request?

The CHIEF SECRETARY replied:

(1) Not up to the present.

(2) Yes.

### STATE SHIPPING SERVICE.

*As to Fremantle-Esperance Run.*

Hon. G. BENNETTS asked the Chief Secretary:

(1) Has any consideration yet been given to replacing the m.v. "Kybra" on the Fremantle-Esperance run?

(2) If not, will the Government consider placing another ship on the route to replace the "Kybra"?

The CHIEF SECRETARY replied:

(1) No. It has not been possible to divert the "Kybra" to the south coast owing to North-West space requirements.

(2) To the best of the Government's knowledge, no suitable ship is available.

### BILLS (2)—FIRST READING.

1, Building Operations and Building Materials Control Act Amendment (Continuance) (No. 2).

2, Mental Institution Benefits (Commonwealth and State Agreement).

Received from the Assembly.

### BILL—MARKETING OF EGGS ACT AMENDMENT.

*Second Reading.*

Debate resumed from the previous day.

HON. E. H. GRAY (West) [2.29]: Today I discussed the Bill with some people who are interested. On first thoughts it seemed, according to the Minister's explanation, that the additional power, by which the board

could use whatever funds it possessed instead of giving them back to the poultry farmers, was a bit dangerous. Surprise has been expressed by some of the poultry farmers that the other portions of the Bill are necessary, because they all thought they were paying the levy on the marketing of eggs, and some were of the opinion that they would all honour their obligations under the permit system. However, there must have been some leakage with regard to levy paying in the case of some people, and I therefore have no objection to that part of the Bill. I do not think the poultry farmers have ever received anything back out of the levies they have paid and in view of that fact I see no reason why that provision should not be tightened up.

The Honorary Minister for Agriculture: They have received it back indirectly.

Hon. E. H. GRAY: Does the Honorary Minister mean through the controlling of the market price, and so on?

The Honorary Minister for Agriculture: Yes, and the administration.

Hon. E. H. GRAY: But there has been no money refunded to the poultry farmers?

The Honorary Minister for Agriculture: No.

Hon. E. H. GRAY: I have therefore no objection to that part of the measure. My first impression was that this would be a dangerous power to place in the hands of the board, but I have been assured that there is no objection to the money being used in the interests of the poultry farmers as outlined by the Minister. I support the second reading.

On motion by Hon. A. L. Loton, debate adjourned.

### ADJOURNMENT—SPECIAL.

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY** (Hon. H. S. W. Parker—Metropolitan-Suburban): I move—

That the House at its rising adjourn till 2.15 p.m. on Tuesday, the 12th July.

Question put and passed.

*House adjourned at 2.32 p.m.*

## Legislative Assembly.

Wednesday, 6th July, 1949.

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