

Noes (26)

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| Mr C.J. Barnett | Mr Johnson | Mr Shave |
| Mr Blaikie | Mr Kierath | Mr W. Smith |
| Mr Board | Mr Lewis | Mr Strickland |
| Mr Bradshaw | Mr Marshall | Mr Trenorden |
| Dr Constable | Mr McNee | Mr Tubby |
| Mr Cowan | Mr Omodei | Dr Turnbull |
| Mr Day | Mr Osborne | Mr Wiese |
| Dr Hames | Mr Pental | Mr Bloffwitch (<i>Teller</i>) |
| Mr House | Mr Prince | |

Pairs

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| Mr Grill | Mr Nicholls |
| Dr Gallop | Mrs van de Klashorst |
| Mrs Hallahan | Mr Minson |
| Ms Warnock | Mr Court |

Amendment thus negatived.

Debate (on motion) Resumed

MR W. SMITH (Wanneroo) [11.00 pm]: I understand I have the privilege of being the first Liberal member elected to represent the seat of Wanneroo for 10 years, having wrested it from the Labor Party. The seat had also been the seat of Joondalup prior to the change of boundaries for the 1989 State elections. It is indeed an honour to have been endorsed by the Liberal Party and chosen by the people of Wanneroo to be their representative in the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia. My success in winning the seat of Wanneroo at the recent State election on 6 February 1993 was as a result of a great quality team effort by many Liberal Party members and many other members of the community. I take this opportunity of paying tribute to all those dedicated members of the team who helped me win the seat of Wanneroo.

My electorate has the highest number of electors in this State and lies within the boundaries of the City of Wanneroo, which is one of the fastest growing municipalities in Australia. The electorate basically comprises the area north of Ocean Reef Road, except for part of the Ocean Reef locality, and north of Mary Street and Gngara Road. It stretches to the north of Yanchep and Two Rocks. My maiden speech will include: My heritage in Wanneroo, my general philosophy, what motivated me to stand for Parliament and, finally, key issues people have identified to me as requiring attention in this State, particularly in my electorate.

I love Wanneroo and this is not something I have tried to adopt recently. My ties with this area go back to prior to the turn of the century when my great-grandfather, Jasper Spiers, bought large tracts of land in Wanneroo. Jasper Spiers was also responsible for the construction of the early roads around Perth City and nearby suburbs. He created jobs in the Perth city area and in Wanneroo. Being a compassionate and tireless worker for the community during these early pioneering days of Wanneroo, he became one of the leading figures in the area, so much so that he was dubbed the "uncrowned king of Wanneroo". There were several Western Australian newspaper features about him which included such quotes as, "There is no more interesting optimistic personality in and around Perth than Mr Jasper Spiers." One article was headed "A battler and friend of battlers" reported with reference to the tragedy of the 1914 crop failures in Western Australia. The article stated that "There was no resident in the State who won higher honour than Jasper Spiers for the support he gave the hard hit settlers."

Equally well known and loved in the area was my great-grandmother, whom everyone called Granny Spiers. She provided for the people who were down and out by feeding and clothing them. In her memory Granny Spiers House was opened in my electorate at Heathridge in 1982 and acts as a community service centre, and a very fine service this provides through the tireless work of its coordinator, Mary Stewart, and many volunteers. I mention my great-grandparents to illustrate that my roots are in Wanneroo and that I have a deep affinity for the area and its people. I am proud to have the opportunity to work in the same family tradition. It is with the same degree of commitment and compassion that I will work to achieve the very best for my electorate and this State.

Summing up my general philosophy: I am someone who looks to the future yet is proud to maintain the traditions; someone who cares about people, as well as their health, education and family life, and respects their dignity and liberty. I have faith in God and the individual. I believe in the free enterprise system and that Government should not attempt to do everything but only what it needs to do and only what it can do well. I am sceptical when a Government says too often "Let me help you". Very seldom can a Government do better for an individual than individuals can do for themselves. Prior to the recent State election, as a police officer, businessman and local government councillor, I came into contact with individuals, families and business people who expressed feelings that this State had been drifting into uncertainty and unfairness. One of the major reasons which motivated me to stand for Parliament was those same feelings and a belief in the need to restore hope by changing direction or changing Government. A number of these people, with my family and friends, believe that with my experience and general philosophy as a member of the coalition I have the ability to help restore hope, providing a better and fairer future not only for my own electorate but for all Western Australians.

With youth unemployment having been as high as 30 per cent in this State under the previous Labor Government, there are young people in my electorate who have never had a job and whose lives and hopes are blighted by unemployment. As important as education and training are, the fact is that there is no demand for their labour. If we do not provide economic growth for these young people, we will create a generation that suffers from unemployment, unhappiness and a host of social ills that result from idleness and hopelessness, problems that affect all people no matter what their age. Work is necessary to give them dignity, pride and self-respect. The worst affected of all are those young people who come from families with problems - families that for one reason or another are not providing children with the emotional support, advice and encouragement that could sustain them through these difficult years. These young people are sometimes cast adrift to cope on their own. As a former police officer I came across many a young person who could have been kept out of trouble and kept away from drugs and bad company if he or she had had someone to look after them properly or provide the strength of moral leadership with which they could identify. Employment for these youths would keep them busy and the discipline and social training that comes with a job, even just the company of adults in the workplace, would help turn them into responsible adults. Instead a number of them haunt shopping malls, the streets and the parks with little or nothing to do. I will do all I can to save our youth from unemployment and despair. It is such a tragic waste to see young people unemployed, wasting the best years of their lives, with some getting into trouble through idleness and boredom, simply because they have no jobs. We owe it to them to dedicate their talents, educate and train them, give them opportunities, and ensure that their potential is developed. The whole State is impoverished by this waste of youth. We need to provide them with opportunities similar to those most of this current generation and members of Parliament in this place have had.

In my electorate I am committed to improving this situation by working with all the dedicated workers in the youth agencies and groups, supported also by the wider community. One particular project aimed at solving youth unemployment in my electorate, which involves the wider community including young people, is "Youth Speaks Out" - an initiative I recommend to all communities in this State. I am out in the electorate every day contributing towards making the Wanneroo electorate a key employment node for the metropolitan area, for the sake of our youth and individuals of all ages, not only those who are tragically unemployed but also those who are presently employed and supporting families.

We must have economic growth and development without, of course, ignoring the need to protect the environment in order to establish jobs now for all individuals seeking employment, and to provide a future for the youth as good as the one we had. Otherwise, we will be the first generation of parents to leave a lower standard of living to our children.

Over the past 20 years Australia has started to see itself as an old country rather than one full of youth and promise. We are starting to accept unemployment and welfare dependency as normal. As a population, we are beginning to see ourselves as over the hill, our best years behind us. This is a defeatist attitude that I, as a member of the coalition, will not accept. Twenty years ago or less, people were wholeheartedly in favour of development. Now we

behave as though we are afraid of it. What happened to our initiative, to the willingness to take risks and to fulfil our visions and dreams? Out of dreams come plans for a common cause, reaching forward, facing challenges, creating opportunities, giving our children a future of which we can be proud, a future they deserve. It is with this same philosophy that I believe the Court Government will have all Western Australians rise to the occasion and take up the challenge to tackle the difficult circumstances of the 1990s and into the 21st century.

It is a real eye-opener to drive around my electorate and see the developing areas. The pace of growth and development is astonishing. I invite members and the public to come and see what is happening in my electorate. It is an idyllic place in which to raise a family; to visit our pristine beaches, our forestry areas, and to witness our rural lifestyle east of Wanneroo. During the visit people should stop and buy the home grown products from our horticultural areas or even stay overnight at our marvellous tourist accommodation. My electorate is unique compared with other electorates in the metropolitan region. I am proud of what it offers to those living in the electorate and to all people who visit it.

As I have previously stated, I represent an electorate which contains one of the fastest growing populations in Australia. The population of the City of Wanneroo in 1970 was 4 645. It is now almost 200 000. It is anticipated that by the year 2021 the population will be 425 000. During recent times the majority of growth has been in my electorate; an area almost the size of Subiaco is added to the region every year. With an anticipated 42 per cent of the metropolitan growth occurring in the City of Wanneroo, a great proportion of which is my electorate, one of my challenges is to ensure a greater commitment is made than prior to my election to Parliament, to ensure that adequate facilities are provided in the community. A program is required by all levels of Government and developers which firmly establishes the requirements and commitments and to see them achieved within a given time frame as required by the rapidly expanding communities. Also, a document is required to indicate the responsibilities of Governments and developers when people purchase in new developments. I continue to deal with these issues in my electorate.

With so much development I have the real responsibility in my electorate of emphasising to the coalition Government that we in turn have an increasing responsibility to strike the right balance to preserve the environment as well as rural and horticultural areas. Besides the immediate impact, I am also interested in the longer term effect on the children of my electorate. Developers and Governments - local, State and Federal - still need to do a lot more work on environment, urban and rural planning and policy. In my electorate these issues are important. I will continue my efforts to have developers and Governments of all levels recognise this importance.

In my electorate, horticultural produce amount to a gross value in the vicinity of \$64m or 11 per cent of produce in the metropolitan area. To protect this industry in my electorate I support creating a horticultural valley. The Wanneroo electorate is proud of its commitment to national and regional parks. Examples are the Yanchep National Park, an area of some 2 800 hectares in which attractions within 100 hectares are under commercial lease; also the lesser known Yellagonga National Park which will one day be treasured as the Kings Park of the north. I know that it will remain in good hands with volunteer groups such as the Friends of Yellagonga, with which I am proud to have dealings and which I will continue to support. However, the cold, hard facts of life are that the public sector does not have the money to provide the best properly managed parks. One way we can achieve the very best management is through the private sector. I have been supportive of the Yanchep National Park in providing for the private sector to lease areas that have commercial viability and for a percentage of the profits to go into revenue to help provide adequate funds for the conservation of the park. The private sector will manage the Yanchep Inne and kiosk, Gloucester Lodge museum, the swimming pool, the caves, the golf and tennis areas, and other attractions. Obviously caution is necessary to have this done within a management plan which meets with the approval of the community, the private sector and Government.

Industry within my electorate includes horticulture, agriculture, mining, manufacturing, construction, wholesale and retail trade, transport and storage, finance, property and business services, public administration, community services, recreation, personal and other similar services. Clearly, the visions one could gain from such diversity is an electorate where people live and work, but sadly this applies to only perhaps 15 per cent to 20 per cent of residents in Wanneroo. By comparison, the City of Stirling has a higher self-sufficiency rate

of around 55 per cent. I am optimistic that this situation can be improved. For my part, as the new member, I intend to actively work towards improving the economic climate so that existing businesses have the capacity to grow and new industries can be established; for example, existing businesses involving tourism and education and new ones in the field of food processing and technology. I see my position as a supportive role for various economic and employment development groups in achieving success through the incentives provided by this coalition Government and wherever industry groups may need my support. I am proud to be associated with these groups, including the Wanneroo Chamber of Commerce, the Wanneroo Economic Development Association, the Joondalup Business Association, LandCorp, Wanneroo Goes for Jobs and the Wanneroo Tourism Development Association. I pay tribute to the members of those groups including the many volunteers. I wish to acknowledge the commitment Mr Bob Fawcett has made in supporting the commercial sector through his volunteer work as chairman of the Wanneroo Chamber of Commerce and Wanneroo Goes for Jobs.

The Joondalup Development Corporation, which has recently been absorbed into the Western Australian Land Authority, was originally formed by the previous Liberal Government in 1976 to develop 1 000 hectares of land at Joondalup into a new regional city in the north west urban corridor. The Liberal Government at the time had a vision of a place where people could live, work and play in a truly harmonious setting. That vision is fast becoming a reality and I am proud as a Liberal Party member of this coalition Government to once again have the opportunity to play a continuing role in a development instigated by a Liberal Government. Eventually Joondalup will become the second largest central business district in the metropolitan region. Even while the coastal areas and the Joondalup City Centre are developing at a rapid pace, the historic townsite of Wanneroo should be properly recognised. Much could be done to improve and beautify the townsite and mark its historical significance. The Government's commitment will be kept under the policy document "Wanneroo Into the 21st Century" to rejuvenate the town site.

I will work in my electorate to take into account the urgent need to provide further schools. Cultural and recreation services, the preservation of heritage sites, and the environment are also important issues I will continue to address. Demand for public transport is growing enormously and is seen as another important issue in my electorate. Difficulties still exist. The pattern of routes does not seem to be finally solved. However, I will continue to address this issue through a series of public meetings giving my constituents an opportunity to make a contribution to Transperth services.

The future of this State does not depend just on increasing the value of production or the height of buildings in St George's Terrace, but also on what vision the Government has for its people. In order to have a vision, people must have confidence in themselves. This spirit and confidence does not come from Government commissions to establish a new identity, to design a new flag or to become a republic; it comes from encouraging the natural creativity of the people to give them the freedom to make decisions independently. That is the aim of this coalition Government. My all consuming interest is to look to the future. I have a great vision for Wanneroo and Western Australia; we are entering an exciting era if we can only get things right.

This coalition Government inherited in February 1993 some terrible problems from its predecessors, including a State debt in the vicinity of \$11.8b. This debt should not be thought of as a Government debt, but as real money owed by all Western Australians. The State deficit may not be substantially reduced within the next year or two, but a start must be made for the sake of my electorate and for this State's future. Words alone and personality politics are not enough to set the finances of the State on a firm basis. Economic and social recovery can become a reality only if we are prepared to make the difficult decisions now, otherwise we Western Australians will be letting our children pay for our generation of services and pleasures. We in the Court Government are prepared to make those tough decisions, but in doing so we sympathise with the individuals who feel adversely affected by them.

I believe in the sentiments that prosperity and a better standard of living for all individuals come not from the generosity of the State but from the hands and minds of the individual. At best the State can provide only the environment of opportunity for these things, but only individuals can make them happen. Nevertheless, individual efforts are strengthened by a

common determination to work with the Government to make this State a better place in which to live.

In conclusion, I am proud that I served with the WA Police Force for some 16 years. In that time I worked alongside many very fine and dedicated officers. Rather than acknowledging these individuals by name, I prefer to pay tribute in Parliament to all police officers and their families. This professional body of men and women carry out a difficult job under difficult and sometimes highly dangerous circumstances. These officers work under enormous pressure and many times in deplorable conditions. However, I am not seeking sympathy for these officers and their families, nor would they want me to. They need the promises to become a reality. Their consideration is always for the safety and welfare of us, the citizens of the State.

Law and order was a major issue during the recent election campaign with both major parties committing themselves to all sorts of promises in that direction. These included extra manpower and improved police working conditions and additional legislative support to assist them to protect us. As both parties identified things to be done in this area, I hope common ground is reached by all politicians to achieve positive solutions as an urgent priority for police officers in this State. I will personally strive to ensure positive changes are made to the Police Force and to law and order generally.

An area I will closely examine, and for which I will provide appropriate support, is the fight against organised crime, which has steadily increased in this State. It will cost us dearly if we delay taking this issue seriously. We must remind ourselves that we are not isolated from the rest of the world and that organised crime, as witnessed in other parts of the world, spreads like a disease.

My parish priest at Beaumaris, Ocean Reef, made a very astute observation on Sunday: He felt that the 1990s may be remembered as a time of a general lack of respect; namely, a lack of respect for people in authority, for the individual and a general lack of respect for each other. Sadly, I agree with his sentiments. A notable example of this was the behaviour of some individuals at the opening of Parliament last week. However, should we have expected any better after witnessing the style of leadership and standard set by a number of members, in the highest offices of the land, of Labor Governments during the 1980s and leading into the 1990s?

My final words are left to express dedication to Diana, my fiancée, who has made this situation all possible and worthwhile by her friendship, love, advice and support in the difficult times before and during the election campaign. This support continued during a time when we lost one of the most wonderful individuals I have met or am likely to meet; namely, my friend, Diana's father, Bruno Borserio. He was an avid supporter of mine and I am sorry he is not here to listen to my speech today.

Mr Acting Speaker (Mr Ainsworth), I thank you and the House for the courtesy and indulgence shown during my first speech. I shall do my utmost to fulfil the trust placed in me by the electors of Wanneroo in serving the public of this great State, and in making the Wanneroo electorate and Western Australia even greater.

[Applause.]

MR PRINCE (Albany) [11.28 pm]: I am obliged to you, Mr Acting Speaker, and the members of this House for the privilege of being able to address you in my maiden speech as the newly elected member for Albany. I am very conscious of the fact that I represent one of the original electorates to send members to Parliament from the beginning of representative government in this State. It is a great honour for me to join this Chamber and to follow the service of that most distinguished of parliamentarians, Leon Watt. Leon was the member for Albany for 19 years almost to the day of the last State election, and during that time he represented the people of Albany with honesty and forthrightness. He is one of the few of whom it can be declared that nothing said of him is other than to his credit as a truly decent gentleman.

Members: Hear, hear!

Mr PRINCE: It is my pleasure to report to the House that he is enjoying a pleasant and active retirement, which I am sure all members past and present who had any association with him would wish to continue for many years to come.