

and the increasing number of cases which have to be heard, warrants far better treatment.

Another matter I wish to speak on deals with a subject with which I have dealt before. I mention the matter because I have now received a letter from the Pastoralists Association Murchison District Committee. I feel it is a subject I should raise again, and it deals with itinerant teachers. I know that the department has been gradually edging out the itinerant teacher and replacing him with school of the air. This has been against the wishes of a large number of people. The ideal method of teaching is to have the itinerant teacher working in conjunction with school of the air. That would be an ideal set-up.

The itinerant teacher went through the area once each year—it used to be twice a year—and visited all students learning from correspondence. He acted, first of all, as superintendent—as a school superintendent does in inspecting children—and also as adviser and instructor to the mothers or governesses who were teaching the children. In many cases he was able to put the teachers on the right track, because mostly they had not been trained and had to follow the instructions given to them by the correspondence course. I might mention that the instructions were quite good.

With a system of an itinerant teacher working in conjunction with the school of the air, the education of children in outback areas would be comparatively easy and efficient. There is now one itinerant teacher left and he works mostly in my electorate. The people of the Murchison district have asked me to protest very strongly about the taking away of the itinerant teachers from their area. They consider those teachers are absolutely essential.

That has been my finding throughout the whole 67,000 square miles I cover. Practically every parent wants the itinerant teacher and, if possible, the school of the air also. I trust the department will not take off the last itinerant teacher but will leave that person continuing in his good work for the department.

**MR. MARSHALL** (Maylands) [5.33 p.m.]: I rise to support the motion and I take this opportunity to speak on some of the problems of the Maylands electorate. In close proximity to the city proper a large portion of the area that was established at the turn of the century—and I refer particularly to the western end of the district—is now fast becoming ready for redevelopment.

I believe that construction of the new standard gauge railway terminal station between Mt. Lawley subway and Tamar Street will have a considerable effect. One

can visualise new businesses and professional premises, multi-story flats, and a new look generally for a large portion of this very old established district. Guildford Road, today, carries a large volume of traffic and, as a four-laned highway, cannot be expected to cope with an increase. Therefore I hope consideration will be given to an early start on Swan River drive to relieve the congestion between Perth and Garrett Road.

I understand there have been several changes in the planning for Swan River drive in recent years. If the present siting is final, I hope some finance can be allotted to make an early start on this very important road.

The Maylands aerodrome is situated within two miles of the city proper, and now that the State Government has taken over the area from the Federal Government and is arranging for the vesting in the Shire of Perth, I suggest that the whole area be retained for sporting activities. With the expected increase in the population of Western Australia in the next few years, the Maylands aerodrome could provide an excellent opportunity for a wonderful sporting arena, not only for the Maylands area but also for the surrounding districts. As the north and south of the river will be linked eventually with a bridge crossing the river at the peninsula, I hope the Government will give every consideration to preserving this area for future generations.

For some years now the town of Maylands has had a very successful youth club conducted in the local school premises. While really not ideal for the purpose, this club has been sufficient to attract numbers of young people from Maylands and the surrounding districts. They are young adults between the age of 14 and 20 years for whom the community must provide facilities for leisure time. For those at school we can leave it to the Education Department to give training in interests, hobbies, and skills which will help them to remain active and help them to form and develop their characters as well as their bodies. However, the big gap between leaving school and being accepted into adult activities must be filled. In my electorate, I would judge that this group of 14s to 20s numbers some 2,000. That is nearly 2,000 future citizens who, looked after properly now, will return their advantages to the State within a very few years.

A recent English education report refers to this forgotten group as "half our future." Youth clubs run by the churches, the scouts, guides, rangers, police boys' clubs, yacht clubs, tennis and swimming groups must be encouraged and assisted. These, and other organisations, have each a special appeal to special groups of young people and should be helped to expand

and take in more and more of those growing citizens who can no longer be helped by our schools.

The Shire of Perth has been very generous in the past in supporting this work in many quarters. It sees the need now for some clear planning to ensure that money spent is spent fairly and to the best effect in the community.

The shire recently sponsored a meeting of representatives of nearby youth organisations in the Maylands Town Hall with the suggestion that a proper district youth committee, under the Youth Education Scheme of the Education Department, be formed. This has now been done following this public meeting. The groups decided it would be better to act together rather than for each organisation to keep trying alone. The clubs realise that co-ordination would not interfere with their own work. They keep their own identity and their autonomy, but as a single voice they can speak on behalf of all to the shire and to the Education Department.

We hope to persuade the Education Department to provide a full-time youth organiser to look after the special needs of these groups; to build up an equipment pool to be used by all; to help make their activities more interesting; and to help train their leaders. We are allowed to use any suitable school rooms and facilities for night and weekend use for the good of the young people.

We realise, of course, that even with this assistance and expansion, it is not likely that the existing youth organisations can attract all the 2,000 of the 14s to 20s in the district. However, with shire help we hope to establish youth centres where those who are unattached can have somewhere to go, someone to meet, and something worthwhile to do in a friendly atmosphere and decent surroundings.

Through this district youth committee the Education Department can provide lecturers for hobby classes—for those who want to take part in them—and for almost any type of leisure activity from ballroom dancing to motor maintenance, and from make up and deportment to simple dramatics as well as all types of physical activities and skills, perhaps even billiards.

Of course, this scheme for the left-school-young-adult is only following general educational planning which is already well established in other countries. In Maylands we hope at least to set a successful pattern for many other districts in Western Australia to follow. I hope the newly formed Youth Council of Western Australia, which has been this Government's practical recognition of the need to organise this work, will soon be in a position to stabilise our efforts in Maylands, Mt. Lawley, and Inglewood. In any case, we are going ahead on our own as far as we can.

The Maylands electorate is a growing one and big plans for future needs must be made. In the field of recreation it may not be too much to hope that the well placed and spacious area of the Maylands Aerodrome may one day become, for our community, a sports centre and leisure time area which could well be this State's show place.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Graham.

House adjourned at 5.42 p.m.

## Legislative Council

Tuesday, the 10th August, 1965

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The PRESIDENT (The Hon. L. C. Diver) took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

### QUESTIONS (6): ON NOTICE

#### OVERSEAS TRADE

##### *Excess of Exports over Imports*

- The Hon. H. K. WATSON asked the Minister for Mines:  
In respect of Australia's overseas trade during the year ended the 30th June, 1965, what were:—
  - the amount of Western Australia's excess of exports over imports; and
  - the net collective result of all the Australian States and Territories, other than Western Australia?