

more responsible attitude to government. It needs to adopt two responsible policies, the first of which is to stop that type of emotionalism, which is inherent in its policy of union bashing and teacher bashing, in its confrontation policies with the unions and in its attitude towards minority groups within our community.

The second thing the Government should do is to endeavour to put some rationality into the debate which comes from its side of the House, and into the political debate in the community generally. The first method by which this aim can be achieved is for the Government and its supporters to stop kicking the communist can and the union can.

If the Government has a conscientious belief in the merits of the political philosophies it is espousing, it should be able to get along on that belief. If the Government cannot command a majority from the community on the basis of those political philosophies it should accept that fact and not endeavour to promote the politics of fear as a means of gaining or holding office.

Perhaps it is clear from what I have said tonight that I see my role in this House as a double one, representing some bodies of opinion in this House as well as the people purely within my electorate. It is a problem with the type of electoral representation we have that people can come here in a sense representing only a narrow territorial interest, and many of the larger interests can be left by the way. I feel the role of any member of Parliament is to represent these larger interests as he sees and interprets them, as well as representing the people within his electorate.

I certainly have every intention of working as hard as I can for the people of Gosnells and I hope that in my efforts on their behalf and in the things I shall say on the larger issues before the Parliament they will find me a worthy representative.

MR MacKINNON (Murdoch) [4.45 p.m.]: Mr Speaker, I rise to support the motion moved so ably by the member for Cottesloe. In doing so I wish to congratulate you, Mr Speaker, on your election to the high office you now occupy. I am sure you will carry out your duties in this position in a fitting and honourable manner, bringing credit to both yourself and this House.

I should also like to congratulate all other members elected to high office and all new members. My sincere thanks are extended also to all members of the staff and all members of this House and the other place who have assisted me in my early days in this Parliament.

As a new member representing a new electorate I am naturally greatly honoured to have been elected to this Parliament. I am also fully aware that I have much to learn and much to do in my electorate to justify the confidence which the electors of Murdoch have placed in me. For the information of the member for Gosnells, this will not include the study of ignorance.

I also wish to place on record my sincere thanks not only to the electors of Murdoch but also to all those people who assisted in my election campaign. I would especially like to thank all the campaign helpers, in whatever manner they assisted; our various committees; my parents, who gave me outstanding support; my wife; and the honourable Clive Griffiths, the President of the upper House, for his valued advice, assistance, and guidance.

It is very tempting at this stage to depart from my prepared speech to answer some of the criticisms raised by the previous speaker. However, I am sure that in time to come in this House there will be ample opportunity to debate those issues quite adequately. Suffice it to say that the people of Western Australia made their decision on the 19th February on most of the matters raised by the previous speaker.

As the first member for the new electorate of Murdoch I feel it is my responsibility to inform members about my electorate. I shall start with the great person after whom my electorate was named. This man was Professor and later Sir Walter Murdoch. He has been described as an essayist, a biographer, an anthologist, and an occasional poet. Of these activities he was noted mostly for his essays and his articles in local newspapers which naturally extended his influence within the Western Australian community.

Sir Walter Murdoch was born in 1874 in Scotland and was the last of 14 children. When he reached the age of 10 he moved with his family to Melbourne and was educated at Scotch College and then at the University of Melbourne, graduating with honours in logic and philosophy. He then began as a tutor, at that stage for the princely sum of £40 per annum which is roughly equivalent to a current member of Parliament's salary.

In 1903 he took up a position as a lecturer in English at the University of Melbourne. Walter Murdoch filled this position for eight years and at the same time was a large contributor to the *Argus* newspaper in Melbourne. However, in 1911 the University of Melbourne professorship of English became vacant. Walter Murdoch was

passed over for this position and hence resigned his post at the university to join the *Argus* editorial staff. This was perhaps the greatest thing that has happened for Western Australia in that in 1912 the new University of Western Australia was established and Walter Murdoch was appointed as its first professor in English. In its first year the University of Western Australia had eight staff and 183 students.

During this time Walter Murdoch was active in once again writing for the local Press. His influence as a professor was great in the university until 1939 when at the age of 65 he retired. He returned to the University of Western Australia in 1947 for a four-year period to act as chancellor of that university. I think Sir Walter Murdoch's influence and his contribution to our society was summed up by the University Senate when on his retirement it passed a motion stating—

As a teacher, writer, and speaker of English his influence was felt far beyond the University of Western Australia and has helped mould development of thought in Western Australia and indeed in Australia.

Sir Walter Murdoch died in 1970 after being knighted in 1964.

My final comment with respect to Sir Walter Murdoch is one of which I think we should all take note. I think it is particularly pertinent to all members of this Parliament. I quote—

There are two sides to every question. I have always believed that to insist on this truth in and out of season is to play one's humble part in civilising one's country. For a civilised country is a country that weighs without heat, without passion and without violence, both sides of the question.

I should now like to describe briefly the university which is located in the centre of my electorate and bears Sir Walter Murdoch's name. Murdoch University was officially opened on the 17th September, 1974, and covers 650 acres or 263 hectares of land. The land it now occupies was previously part of the University of Western Australia's endowment land. It was created during the 1920s with great foresight by the Government of the day for the future needs of Western Australia. That land is now vested in Murdoch University.

The current enrolment at Murdoch University is 1 510 full-time students, and in 1978 this figure is expected to rise to 1 900. There are five schools of study at the university: education; veterinary studies, one of only four in Australia; environmental; and life sciences; human

communications, including Chinese studies, South East Asian studies, and literary theory; and the School of Social Inquiry which includes the studies of economics, social and political theory, and psychology. The university also conducts all the external study courses conducted now in Western Australia, having taken over this responsibility from the University of Western Australia. I feel sure that in time Murdoch University, as both Sir Walter Murdoch and the University of Western Australia have done, will make its influence felt within Western Australia and Australia.

I should now like to outline to members some of the characteristics of my electorate. In essence they are similar to those of the electorate of the previous speaker. It is a young and fast-growing electorate. For example, at the recent census 55 per cent of the population in Western Australia was under 30 years of age. Within my electorate this figure is 61 per cent. It is fast growing in the sense that since the election on the 19th February 1 700 people have enrolled in my electorate.

The development within the electorate is also evidence of its youth and growth. I have already touched on Murdoch University which was opened in 1974 and is in its early days of development. The Canning Vale industrial area is also located within my electorate. This area of 1 400 acres or 570 hectares is being developed by the Department of Industrial Development in co-operation with the Canning Town Council. Obviously the major development in this area at the present time is the new \$60 million Swan Brewery. Jandakot Airport is also located within the electorate and is the third busiest airfield within Australia.

There are many new schools in my electorate. Probably the most interesting of these is the Willetton schools' campus. This comprises in the one area the high school, the pre-primary school, the primary school, and the Willetton special school. The high school is a flexible area school, which is a new concept to Western Australia, and is similar to that being built at Wanneroo. The pre-primary and primary schools have been built along current lines of construction in that they are open area schools.

The Willetton special school is a new type of school. It has been built for handicapped children at a cost of \$920 000. Its facilities include a hydro-therapy pool, a physiotherapy centre and an occupational therapy centre. Next year approximately 68 handicapped children from south of the river will occupy this school. Most of these children now attend the Sir James Mitchell school in Mt. Lawley.

Naturally an area such as this is not without its problems. These problems, as one would expect, centre on the areas of youth and rapidity of development. One obvious problem which all such areas face is school accommodation. Many schools in my area are facing this problem. However, unlike the previous speaker I have found the Education Department and the Minister for Education to be totally approachable and co-operative in all my endeavours to improve these facilities within the area. The Minister has twice visited my electorate since the election and has listened with interest to the problems we have placed before him and his department is endeavouring to overcome these problems.

Traffic congestion is also a chronic problem in some areas of my electorate during the peak hours of the early morning. To country members this may not be a problem, but to the city dweller who takes three-quarters of an hour to get to work it is an immediate one. The first area of congestion is at the junction of Nicholson Road and Albany Highway. However, discussions between Canning Town Council, the City of Gosnells, and the Main Roads Department have brought about plans which are soon to be instituted to relieve this problem. Plans are also advanced for the future building of a second bridge across Nicholson Road to further alleviate the problem.

Severe problems also occur at the Riverton Bridge during peak hours. It is rather frustrating to wait in that queue of traffic in the morning while noticing nearby the new Riverton Bridge under construction. Obviously the Government and the Minister are aware of the problem and hopefully it will be alleviated in the near future with the opening of the new bridge in April or May of 1978.

I should like to remind members of the age distribution within my electorate before I explain the next problem, which is that of youth and community facilities. As I explained, 55 per cent of the population of Western Australia is under 30 years of age, but the figure in Murdoch is 61 per cent—6 per cent above the State average.

This leads to a problem concerning youth and community recreation facilities, and the problem is twofold. Firstly, due to the area's rapid growth there is a lack of community facilities normally taken for granted in most areas; and, secondly the young people in these areas are faced with a lack of organised evening activities. The youth are of an age where they find it difficult to transport themselves around the district or into the city and the lack of organised evening activity in their own area is causing some problems.

These problems are being approached at several levels. At the State Government level the Community Recreation Council of Western Australia is assisting with its officers who are employed and located in the three councils of my electorate. Their work is now bearing fruit. The electorate will benefit by some of the \$1 million promised by the Government in the 1976 Budget for sporting facilities.

Youth education officers are employed in most of the high schools in my electorate and their work is effective. The Police and Citizens' Youth Club is not active, but the nearby one at Gosnells is effective and caters for large numbers of youth.

At council level, as I explained before, the community recreation officers are receiving great support as are the community groups—sporting and otherwise. I am also pleased to report that from one end of my electorate to the other community groups are very active.

The electorate is very lucky to have so many active people who freely give of their time to help develop the community and make Murdoch a better place in which to live. However, in the sphere of youth and community facilities much remains to be done. More could be achieved if sufficient finance was available and if more attention was given by all parties involved in youth and community recreation facilities.

This can be done in two ways; firstly, all Government councils and community groups should realise they are part of a total community. Each particular group has its part to play; no single group—boy scout, progress association, or whatever—has the total answer to the problems in this difficult area. More co-operation between all groups should be encouraged by the Government, councils, and community organisations. I am happy to report that this is beginning to occur in Murdoch, but I am hopeful that the momentum will increase.

Secondly, while I realise that funding is limited, I feel a greater emphasis should be placed on improvement in the training of youth leaders in all fields. This extends from community recreation officers, youth education officers, police and citizens, youth leaders, to boy scout leaders; in fact, all leaders. This would lead to a better and more efficient use of existing funds.

In conclusion I would like to thank you, Mr Speaker, and members for their indulgence while I placed before the House the characteristics and problems facing my electorate.

MR McIVER (Avon) [5.03 p.m.]: Unfortunately we enter the arena of the 29th Parliament with a coalition Government returned