

Queensland



Parliamentary Debates
[Hansard]

Legislative Assembly

THURSDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 1979

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Mr. SPEAKER (Hon. S. J. Muller, Fassifern) read prayers and took the chair at 11 a.m.

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

PROPOSED REFERRAL OF COMMENTS OF MEMBER FOR CAIRNS

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Barron River requested on 20 November that comments by the honourable member for Cairns be referred to the Committee of Privileges for consideration. Normally such matters would be referred to the Select Committee of Privileges. However, in the light of the fact that the Australian Committee of Inquiry into Drugs has been requested to give the utmost priority to the consideration of the allegations, I feel at this time that the matter should not be referred.

CIRCULATION AND COST OF "HANSARD"

Mr. SPEAKER announced the receipt from the Chief Reporter, Parliamentary Reporting Staff, of his report on the circulation and cost of "Hansard" for the session of 1978-79.

QUEENSLAND PARLIAMENTARY HANDBOOK

Mr. SPEAKER: Honourable members are reminded that this is the last week for the return of biographical details to the Parliamentary Library for inclusion in the Queensland Parliamentary Handbook.

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table, and ordered to be printed:—

Reports—

Government Gas Engineer and Chief Gas Examiner, for 1978-79.

Chairman of the Consumer Affairs Council, for 1978-79.

National Parks and Wildlife Service, for 1978-79.

Queensland Art Gallery, for 1978-79.

The following papers were laid on the table:—

Orders in Council under—

Metropolitan Transit Authority Act 1976-1979.

Queensland Film Industry Development Act 1977-1979.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

DO-IT-YOURSELF WILL KITS

Hon. W. D. LICKISS (Mt. Coot-tha—Minister for Justice and Attorney-General) (11.4 a.m.): Mr. Speaker, I wish to draw the attention of this House to an advertisement which has appeared in recent issues of "The Townsville Daily Bulletin" regarding the sale of \$5 do-it-yourself will kits.

Examination of the documents received by people who pay the \$5 and receive the kits indicates a number of disturbing elements. My advice is that the kits appear to have been prepared for use in some State other than Queensland. The information supplied concerning the completion of a will is incorrect or misleading in a number of respects. In general terms, the kits certainly do not provide all the information which a person proposing to make a will should have.

Mr. Speaker, the compilation of home-made wills can be a very dangerous practice which sometimes could result in the defeat of a testator's intention or in considerable legal expense. Additionally, safeguards which exist when a will is made in a legal office are lost.

It is true that will forms enabling the completion of home-made wills have long been available from law stationers and other sources. As far as the advertisement under consideration is concerned, however, the material supplied to those who responded to it may create a false confidence that the dangers normally associated with home-made wills do not exist.

I would strongly recommend to all those people who have not made a will that they seek the services of a qualified legal practitioner. Where an individual finds himself or herself in circumstances where he or she is unable to consult a lawyer in private practice, then the services of the Public Trust Office are available throughout the State.

PETITIONS

DOCUMENTATION OF ABORTION PROCEDURES

Mr. WARNER (Toowoomba South) presented a petition from 490 electors of Toowoomba, praying that the Parliament of

Queensland will provide that full documentation for every abortion performed concerning the patient's state at the time and all the circumstances of the case (as in clause 282 of the Queensland Criminal Code) be included in any proposed legislation, that an Abortion Review Committee be established to examine, analyse and assess the medical documentation of every case of abortion performed in this State, that the Parliament of Queensland will demand adequate documentation to establish the reasonable nature of every abortion operation and that a committee be set up to monitor such documentation.

Petition read and received.

PROTECTION OF UNBORN QUEENSLANDERS KILLED BY ABORTION

Mr. W. D. HEWITT (Greenslopes) presented a petition from 163 citizens of Queensland, praying that the Parliament of Queensland will take all the necessary measures to protect the lives of unborn Queenslanders being killed by abortion.

Petition read and received.

[A similar petition was presented by Mr. T. A. White (519 signatories), and this petition was read and received.]

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. KRUGER (Murrumba) (11.9 a.m.), by leave: I wish to draw the attention of the House to the answer by the Minister for Mines, Energy and Police to question 19 yesterday (21 November 1979) when the Minister in fact gave an answer which was misleading to me and the House as a whole in relation to matters of dispute between an electrical contractor and the Electrical Workers and Contractors Board.

The Minister said, quoting the relevant section from his answer—

"As no suspension or cancellation resulted it would not be proper to release the names and addresses of the persons involved.

"Two cases are still before the board. Should any suspension or cancellation be decided upon details will be published in the Industrial Gazette as provided in section 342 (7) of the Electricity Act 1976-1979."

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the Minister misled the House, and I table a copy of the Queensland Government Industrial Gazette dated 17 November 1979, which shows that Brian Joseph Burke of "Wattle-tree", Hanson Road, Samford, has had his electrical contractor's licence suspended for a period of three months from 14 November 1979 to 13 February 1980.

The same Brian Joseph Burke was mentioned in an answer to question 20 on the same day by the Minister for Labour Relations (Mr. Campbell), which referred to a dispute between an Electrical Trades Union official and the same Mr. Burke on 7 December 1974. That dispute was settled at a compulsory conference presided over by Mr. V. J. Anderson, Industrial Commissioner.

Mr. Campbell has also misled the house by claiming that the dispute arose on 7 December 1974 while Mr. Burke was then a member of the National Party distributing National Party how-to-vote cards at Samford for the 1974 State election.

I also table a statutory declaration from the Electrical Trades Union official concerned, which clearly indicates that Mr. Campbell's statements were incorrect.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Burke is now the endorsed Liberal candidate for the State seat of Everton, so it would appear that the answers given yesterday were an attempt by the Government to protect a Liberal candidate.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member is not making a personal explanation. He has documents to table.

Whereupon the honourable member laid on the table the documents referred to.

QUESTIONS UPON NOTICE

1. ARREST, CONVICTION AND SENTENCING OF DRUG OFFENDERS

Mr. Casey, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Mines, Energy and Police—

(1) With reference to the marijuana venture in the Yelarbon area in February 1978 now linked in the New South Wales royal commission with the Calabrian Honoured Society through the Sergi organisation in Griffith, is he aware that the Sergi connection was suspected at the time and actually investigated?

(2) In such circumstances with evidence of organised drug activity, does he not believe that the fine of \$1,000 imposed on the charged man, Guiseppe De Felice, was extremely light and, in view of demands by the Premier for higher penalties, what steps were taken by the police to have the Crown Law Office initiate an appeal against the leniency of the sentence?

(3) As another man engaged in the venture, Rocco "Roy" Pangallo, who fled the scene, is now revealed as a cousin of Antonio Sergi, have any moves been made to issue a warrant for his arrest?

Answers:—

(1) There was no evidence to connect Antonio Sergi with the marijuana venture at Yelarbon in February last year. At the time of his arrest, De Felice claimed that a man named Jackson supplied him with the seeds seized by police and Jackson was to pay for the use of the property. This assertion could not be confirmed.

(2) Whilst there is no doubt that it was the intention of De Felice to cultivate a large area of ground under cannabis, at the time of police intervention no cannabis had actually been grown. A quantity of cannabis seeds, together with an amount of money, was found in De Felice's possession and he was charged on two counts in respect thereof.

He was convicted and fined \$1,000 in respect of the cannabis seeds, and the second charge in respect of the money was dismissed. The fine imposed was considered an adequate penalty for the offence and no appeal was recommended.

(3) At the time, Roy Pangallo was questioned by police but no evidence was available to prefer any charge against him. It was not known that he was a cousin of Antonio Sergi.

2. INQUIRY INTO DRUG ACTIVITIES IN QUEENSLAND

Mr. Casey, pursuant to notice, asked the Premier—

(1) With reference to his Government's about-face early on the morning of 21 November on the drug issue with his letter to the Australian Commission of Inquiry into Drugs asking that it extend its hearings into allegations concerning Queensland coalition politicians and police officers, is he aware that while the Australian commission has concluded its formal hearings and is in the process of finalising its general report, there is no barrier to his Government, as one of the commissioning Governments, widening its terms of reference to include a thorough inquiry into all aspects of drug operations in the State?

(2) As his letter to the commission was obviously written before allegations were made during the debate in Parliament, will he now take the action that is easily open to his Government to clear the way for a full-scale inquiry into all drug activities in Queensland?

Answer:—

(1 & 2) The Government has at all times been anxious to have the fullest inquiry made into drug activities in Queensland and to that end joined with three other States and the Commonwealth

in granting identical royal commissions to His Honour Mr. Justice Williams of the Supreme Court of Queensland. The honourable member is referred to the Queensland Government Gazette of 27 October 1977, where he will see the very wide terms of reference given to His Honour.

In typical fashion—even in a question—the Leader of the Opposition sets out, again, to deliberately mislead the House and the people. The Government has not decided to ask the Australian Commission of Inquiry into Drugs to extend its hearings into allegations concerning “Queensland coalition politicians and police officers”. What the Government has done is to ask the commission to give the utmost priority to allegations involving publicity in this State that certain members of the Legislative Assembly and officers of the Queensland Police Force have been involved in illegal drug trade. That means not just coalition members as Mr. Casey deliberately tries to suggest, but Opposition Members also.

The purpose of referring to His Honour at this stage the allegations now being made is to ensure that he will give consideration to them if he has not already done so. The Government is prepared to let all the matters be determined in the appropriate tribunal rather than use this House as a means of injuring persons solely on allegations and fantasy. This is obviously another attempt by Mr. Casey to deliberately misrepresent the situation and to mislead the House and the electorate. The Government’s hands are clean, but that could pose some worrying questions and problems for members opposite—I hope that sinks in—who could be called on to account and to give formal evidence and proof of their wild allegations in a situation where they can’t lie, bluff, or cheat their way out of a self-imposed controversy. They have painted themselves into a corner. There are certain aspects associated with drugs involving members opposite which I will be bringing to the attention of the royal commission.

The commission of inquiry secretary, Mr. Gilmour, has replied to the Government’s written request and has indicated that the commission desires to take steps immediately to put itself in a position to give an early report on the matters raised by my Government. Mr. Gilmour also has advised that priority is being given to finalisation and presentation of the commission’s major report to participating Governments—hopefully within about two weeks.

The commission, conscious of the requirement of dealing with any problems

peculiar to a particular participating State which are not dealt with in the national report, proposes, after the delivery of the national report, to review the evidence it has received with a view of preparing special reports to particular States. It is completely unnecessary to appoint, at this stage, a new royal commission when this commission has investigated the drug situation in Queensland in accordance with its terms of reference for almost two years now, especially as it will be observed from the terms of reference that His Honour has no restrictions on the extent to which he may inquire. The appointment of another royal commission at the present stage would, in effect, be a vote of no confidence in His Honour.

3. A.L.P. POLICY ON AUSTRALIAN ASSISTANCE PLAN

Mr. Lane, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Welfare—

(1) With reference to the statement contained in the policy handbook of the Queensland Branch of the Australian Labor Party, which was approved by the Rockhampton conference of the Australian Labor Party in February 1979, in respect of the Australian Assistance Plan, has he noticed that any future State A.L.P. Government is pledged to re-implement the original concept of the Australian Assistance Plan?

(2) Is he aware of the ineffectiveness of the Australian Assistance Plan as introduced by the Whitlam Government, and will he give some details of the cost of this plan to the Australian taxpayer over the years it was in existence?

(3) How much of this expenditure actually reached the welfare consumer as distinct from being expended on professional and administration costs?

(4) Is he also aware that the policy statement is, by the rules of the Australian Labor Party, binding on the parliamentary members of that party?

Answers:—

(1) Yes. I have seen a copy of the Australian Labor Party’s policy handbook containing policies approved by the party’s Rockhampton conference, and that document states that a State Labor Government would legislate for the institution of the original concept of the Labor Party idea of the Australian Assistance Plan within the State of Queensland.

(2) Although the plan may have in some areas encouraged awareness and concern about community problems, its implementation generally was ineffective and

costly. Before deciding not to continue the plan, our Government carried out a thorough investigation which showed that its original reservations about the plan were well founded. I have been advised that the total cost of the plan was \$15,813,661 during the period from 1974 to 1977.

(3) The plan was applied differently in different areas but the overall assessment indicates that a very high percentage of the expenditure was consumed in administration costs. Some assessments placed the proportion of expenditure on administration costs as high as 60 per cent.

(4) My understanding of the situation is that the policy decisions of the Labor Party conference are binding on its parliamentary members.

4. A.L.P. TRANSPORT POLICY

Mr. Lane, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Transport—

With reference to the statement contained in the policy handbook of the Queensland Branch of the Australian Labor Party, which was approved by the Rockhampton conference of the Australian Labor Party in February, under their heading of "Transport Policy" where the pledge is made that a Labor Government will acquire a fleet of transport vehicles to introduce a door-to-door goods and parcel delivery service presumably in association with Queensland Railways—

(1) What effect would the implementation of such a policy have on the many small and large businessmen who currently have a large investment in delivery vehicles and carrier services?

(2) Does he have any information that shows that a Government-run goods and parcel delivery service would provide a better or cheaper service than those currently operated by private enterprise?

Answers:—

Whereas it is the policy of a future A.L.P. Government to introduce goods and parcels delivery services, it is presumed that this would be by railway-owned vehicles. On the contrary, this Government has introduced a door-to-door parcels delivery service, which is carried out by our own contract carriers. These services have expanded rapidly and are still operating efficiently.

Twenty-five Queensland cities and towns are served by contract carriers with general satisfaction to the public. If the railways went into competition with these

carriers by providing its own fleet of trucks and staff, some of the effects envisaged would be—

(1) (a) Considerable traffic now brought to the railways by the contract carriers would revert to road transport.

(b) Railway costs would escalate considerably owing to the large numbers of staff it would be necessary to employ both to operate the trucks and to service and remaintain them and to load and unload the goods.

(c) The advantages now gained by the department through the contract carriers doing all the handling of goods from road to rail and vice versa would be lost.

(d) In regard to employment, the contract carriers have a capital investment in excess of \$10,000,000 in facilities associated with rail, and the department would have to duplicate these if it entered into competition with these carriers.

(e) Apart from the contract carriers, hundreds of small carriers throughout Queensland have been servicing railway goods sheds for the public and would be displaced if this suggestion were implemented.

(2) The Government subscribes to the view that the job of the railways is to haul goods by rail; the job of road transport is to do the road pick-up and delivery. Each is expert in its own field, and for one to intrude into the domain of the other, as suggested in this Labor policy, could only lead to inefficiency and increased cost to the end user.

5. COMMONWEALTH AID, LOCAL AUTHORITY ROADS, FUND

Mr. Akers, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Local Government and Main Roads—

With reference to the funds for road construction provided by the Commonwealth under the C.A.R. programme—

(1) What is the basis of the Commonwealth Government's distribution of these funds to the States?

(2) What is the basis of the State Government's distribution of these funds to local authorities and other bodies?

(3) Are local authorities bound to spend the funds in any particular way and, if so, under what guide-lines?

(4) What were the allocations in Queensland to each local authority and other body for each category for 1978-79 and 1979-80?

Answer:—

(1 to 4) As the question asked by the honourable member requires the collation of a considerable amount of detailed information, I undertake to provide an answer in writing at the earliest opportunity.

6. DISPLAY AND INSPECTION OF WINNERS OF ARCHITECTURAL AWARDS

Mr. Akers, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Works and Housing—

With reference to the fact that four of the five buildings that received awards for 1979 made by the Queensland Chapter of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects were built under the control of the Department of Works and designed by private architects in consultation with Works Department architects, including the Kelvin Grove C.A.E. Education Resource Centre, which received the Bronze Medal award, the highest award to a building in Queensland—

(1) Will he organise a display of the works of the department in Parliament House and a tour of the winning buildings so that members of this Parliament and the public can see the very high standard of work being produced by the department under the practice of maximum co-operation with private enterprise?

(2) Will he assure the House that the Government will continue this support of Queensland architects and others involved in building?

Answers:—

I thank the honourable member for inviting attention to the fact that my Department of Works, working in conjunction with private architects, designed buildings which received awards of merit for 1979 from the Royal Australian Institute of Architects, Queensland Chapter. This fact substantiates the good co-operation and liaison which exists between officers of my department and their colleagues in the profession in private practice in providing public buildings of a high standard.

The answers are—

(1) I will be pleased to confer with the Honourable the Speaker with a view to arranging for a display of these works in Parliament House. Consideration will also be given to the possibility of organising a tour of the award-winning buildings.

(2) The honourable member is assured that my Department of Works will continue its close co-operation with private enterprise at all levels to ensure that the provision of high quality public buildings continues.

7. DIAGNOSTIC FACILITIES, TOWNSVILLE GENERAL HOSPITAL

Mr. Wilson, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Health—

As the Townsville General Hospital now has the services of a neurosurgeon, when will this hospital be provided with a computerised axial tomography scanner, which
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would provide a facility to the people of North Queensland who now have to travel to Brisbane to receive the benefit of this particular scan?

Answer:—

I am advised that there has been extensive investigation into the radiological needs of the Townsville General Hospital. Some approvals have already been given for the upgrading and extension of the present facilities.

I am further advised that, as a result of the representations by the honourable member for Townsville, the board is presently considering a computerised axial tomography scanner as part of the development of the diagnostic facilities.

8. FLYING OF QUEENSLAND FLAG AT STATE SCHOOLS

Mr. Wilson, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Works and Housing—

As all Queensland State schools have either received or will receive a Queensland flag, will he ensure that all State schools are provided with a second flag-pole for the flying of the Queensland flag?

Answer:—

Approval has already been given by me for the supply of a second flag-pole upon receipt of a request from a specific school and subject to the availability of funds.

9. NEW POLICE STATION, TOWNSVILLE

Mr. Wilson, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Works and Housing—

(1) Is Townsville to have a new police station in keeping with its size and allowing for its future population growth and, if so, when will construction start and what is the estimated cost?

(2) Will it accommodate all branches of the Police Force in Townsville?

(3) With the construction of a new police station, will the present Mundingburra Police Station be closed?

Answers:—

(1) Plans and an estimate of cost are being prepared for a new police station at Townsville but no indication can be given at this juncture as to when work is likely to start or what the estimated cost of the work will be.

(2 & 3) It would be more appropriate for these questions to be addressed to my colleague the Honourable the Minister for Mines, Energy and Police.

10. LAND FOR NEW HIGH SCHOOL,
TRINITY BEACH

Mr. Tenni, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Works and Housing—

Will the strip of land adjoining Huon Street at Trinity Beach, which is between the present Trinity Beach Primary School and the proposed new high-school land, be purchased in conjunction with the purchase of the high-school land?

Answer:—

I will arrange for this matter to be investigated at an early date to see if it is possible to acquire those adjoining allotments with a frontage to Huon Street to enlarge the site presently being acquired for a State high school at Trinity Beach.

11. MACHAN'S BEACH STATE SCHOOL

Mr. Tenni, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Works and Housing—

(1) When will approval be granted for external and roof painting of the principal's residence at the Machan's Beach State School?

(2) When will a covered play area and covered walkway to the toilets be constructed at this school?

Answers:—

(1) Approval in principle was recently given for external and roof painting of this residence to be undertaken. The District Supervisor of Works, Cairns, is preparing the necessary documents and he will be inviting quotations locally for this work in about two weeks' time.

(2) The District Architect, Townsville, is presently preparing plans and an estimate of cost for this work. Upon receipt of these documents, which is expected within a few weeks, consideration will be given to approval of this work in relation to the funds available, but also having due regard to the honourable member's previous representations that this project merits special consideration because of the local climatic conditions.

12. TOOWOOMBA LABELS AND BADGES
AND BRADMILL INDUSTRIES LTD.

Mr. Underwood, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Industry and Administrative Services—

(1) Have the firms Toowoomba Labels and Badges and Bradmill Industries Ltd. and or Bradmill Industries (Qld.) Ltd. won Government contracts or orders in the last six years and, if so, when and for what items?

(2) In each case (a) who were the tenderers and what were the details of their quotes, including the price per item before and after application of preference for Queensland made goods, (b) what were the terms of the contracts, (c) how many items were ordered and what were the terms, and (d) were other tenders of a lower price submitted and, if so, what were the reasons for their rejection?

Answer:—

(1 & 2) The time of officers in State Stores is much better spent in productive work than in tracing back history over a period of six years as requested by the honourable member. I therefore do not propose to instruct my officers to proceed with such a detailed examination.

If, however, the honourable member will indicate just what he is actually interested in resolving, I will arrange for the extraction of such information as will be sufficient to meet his demands.

13. SUPPLY OF OVERALLS FOR RAILWAY
DEPARTMENT

Mr. Underwood, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Industry and Administrative Services—

With reference to combination overalls supplied this year under contract to the Government by Hardie Trading Ltd.—

(1) How many have been delivered to date?

(2) How many have been returned by departments to (a) State Stores, (b) the supplier, and (c) another place?

(3) What are the reasons for the return of the overalls and how many items have been returned to the above places for each reason?

(4) Who held this contract previously and for what period of time?

(5) If it was not Hardie Trading Ltd., (a) how many overalls were supplied, (b) how many were returned to (i) the State Stores Board, (ii) the supplier and (iii) another place, and (c) what were the reasons for the return of the overalls and how many items have been returned to (i) and (ii) and (iii) for each reason?

(6) What are the details and specifications of the approved method for pre-shrinking by the supplier of the combination overalls as mentioned in his answer to my question on 6 September?

(7) What were the actual results of the tests carried out by the Government Chemical Laboratory for each sample submitted?

(8) What are the details and methods of the tests carried out by the Government Chemical Laboratory for these tests?

(9) What were the specifications of each of the cloth samples submitted for testing before and after testing?

Answer:—

(1 to 9) The detailed information being sought by the honourable member will necessitate quite a deal of research and will take some time to document. As soon as the appropriate details are available, I shall forward them to the honourable member.

14. POLICE RAIDS ON S.P. BETTING OPERATIONS AND MESSAGE PARLOURS

Mr. Underwood, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Mines, Energy and Police—

(1) Has the current head of the Licensing Branch, Inspector Pat Daly, to inform, on a daily basis, Assistant Commissioner Hayes about raids on S.P. betting operations and message parlours?

(2) Has this been the normal practice, and, if not, why have changes been instituted and on what date?

(3) Was a meeting held in 1978 between himself, the Premier, and the then head of the Licensing Branch, Inspector Jeppesen, on the 17th floor of Lennons Hotel, and for what reasons?

(4) Why was it held at Lennons Hotel instead of at the offices of his department, the Premier or Police Headquarters?

(5) Did Inspector Jeppesen inform him and the Premier of corruption and related activities involving senior police and members of the public?

(6) What action has been taken on the information supplied by Jeppesen?

Answers:—

(1) Inspector P. D. Daly has been an inspector at the C. I. Branch since 5 March 1979. Inspector R. Rigney, who has been officer in charge of the Licensing Branch since 18 February 1979 confers regularly with the Assistant Commissioner (Operations), Assistant Commissioner R. B. Hayes.

(2) Following an investigation into the affairs at the Licensing Branch about twelve months ago when ex-Inspector W. D. A. Jeppesen was in charge of that branch, this practice was implemented and it follows normal police procedure of regular conferences between senior officers.

(3 to 6) I have many meetings with officers of the Police Force at various places and I have no intention of divulging the names of the people I meet or the subject of the discussions.

15 & 16. RETURN OF UNSOLD BREAD

Dr. Lockwood, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Primary Industries—

With reference to the Bread Industry Committee's Preliminary Code of Trading Practice said to be effective immediately—

(1) In the total absence of regulations pursuant to the Bread Industry Committee Act 1979, how does the committee propose to enforce the restriction of daily returns of unsold wrapped bread and rolls to 10 per cent?

(2) Will the 10 per cent be applied to the value of the total bread delivered, or refer only to a numerical count of wrapped bread or rolls as the case may be?

(3) Since the product not to be returned has a monetary value, does not this mean that the committee will be applying economic sanctions against individual persons, companies or corporations without the backing of the law?

Answer:—

(1 to 3) Regarding the matters raised in the three-part question concerning the Bread Industry Committee, I would advise the honourable member that I have contacted the Bread Industry Committee in this regard and I will be able to advise him further by letter on receipt of their reply.

Dr. Lockwood, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Primary Industries—

Has he obtained legal opinion from the Crown Law Office, Solicitor-General or legal counsel as to the legality of the Bread Industry Committee's attempt to restrict bread returns in the total absence of regulations pursuant to the Bread Industry Committee Act 1979 and, if so, will he now release that opinion and, if not, will he seek such an opinion as a matter of extreme urgency?

Answer:—

Whilst I have obtained legal opinion on various matters relating to the Bread Industry Act, I have not received advice on the specific matter raised and I do not propose to seek further opinion at this stage.

In accordance with the provisions of the Bread Industry Act, I have approved that the committee be empowered to establish a code of trading practice for the bread industry and I understand that the actions taken so far by the committee have been in this regard.

17. A.L.P. ATTITUDE TO POLICY STATEMENTS IN COMMUNIST PARTY PUBLICATIONS

Mr. Frawley, pursuant to notice, asked the Premier—

(1) Is he aware of policy statements and articles in the latest editions of Communist Party of Australia publications "Impact" and "Workers' Voice" which clearly establish a direct relationship between that party, the A.L.P. and the trade union movement in their stands on the 35-hour week issue and the Essential Services Act 1979?

(2) In view of the A.L.P.-supported union strike action on both issues in recent weeks advocated by the Communist Party, will he seek an assurance from the Leader of the Opposition that his party will oppose other radical protest action such as rallies, stop-work meetings, and other on-the-job agitation advocated by the Communist Party in the two publications?

Answer:—

(1 & 2) I do not think that any members on this side of the Chamber, or many people in the general community, would be surprised by the relationship between the Communist Party, sections of the Labor Party and the trade union movement, as highlighted by the honourable member.

The Communist Party publications referred to, "Impact" and "Workers' Voice", have been widely distributed by party and trade union sources, especially during recent trade union and A.L.P. campaigns against the essential services legislation and union strikes and other actions—supported by the A.L.P.—on the power industry 35-hour week issue.

Several statements in both publications have been repeated—almost word for word in some cases—by A.L.P. and trade union spokesmen in Press statements and on radio and T.V., during recent strikes and other union-initiated actions on both issues.

The Opposition Leader (Mr. Casey) is on record as supporting recent strike action and other tactics such as rallies, stopwork meetings and other protests promoted by trade unions and other radical groups, including the Communist Party, in these publications and elsewhere.

So, of course, I do not expect the Opposition Leader to "buck" his Trades Hall masters now, at this late stage, to show some concern for the community at large—for a change—instead of only the radical sections of the trades union movement which call the tune in the A.L.P. in Queensland.

This, and the link between the Trades Hall, the Communist Party and the A.L.P., was made very evident recently by the resolution supported by the A.L.P., which

was adopted at the mass meeting of trade unionists called to consider the Government's Essential Services Act.

18. OPPOSITION ALLEGATIONS OF INVOLVEMENT OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND POLICE IN DRUG MALPRACTICES

Mr. Frawley, pursuant to notice, asked the Premier—

(1) As the Leader of the Opposition and other Opposition members failed miserably, on the night of 20 November and the morning of 21 November in the House, to back up or substantiate their wild assertions on alleged connections or involvement in the drug trade by Government members and police, what action will his Government take to ensure that Opposition members are formally called on to fully substantiate their allegations or repudiate them and apologise to the House for deliberately misleading it?

(2) Will his Government ensure or ask that Opposition members be formally subpoenaed to appear before the joint Commonwealth-State Williams Commission of Inquiry into Drugs, where they will be under oath to give honest answers and proof to back up the as yet unsubstantiated claims made by Opposition members as part of the Opposition's publicity-seeking smear campaign on the drugs issue?

Answer:—

(1 & 2) Mr. Justice Williams has already been appointed as a royal commissioner to inquire into all aspects of the drug traffic in Queensland. The purpose of the reference of the latest allegations is to ensure that His Honour will give them whatever attention they deserve. One would expect that the persons making the allegations will now be prepared to give whatever information they possess, if they have any, to the commission. Mr. Justice Williams is assisted by senior and junior counsel whose task it will be to determine what matter is to be placed before His Honour. It is not for the Government to determine who should be called, and the Government has no wish to interfere with the functions of the commission. It is open to the commission to subpoena any person to appear before it. One would hope that, if the honourable members of the Opposition have any relevant information, they will voluntarily offer themselves to give evidence without being forced under penalty to do so.

However, I would point out that, if the members concerned do appear before the commission, they will have to be much more honest and open and produce evidence to the commission which can be substantiated and not adopt the sensation-seeking approach, as they have done in this House.

19 & 20. RABY BAY DEVELOPMENT
SCHEME

Mr. Mackenroth, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism—

(1) With reference to an item concerning mangroves in "The Courier-Mail" of 1 November that Florida (United States of America) authorities had found mangroves to be twice as productive economically as sugar-cane and ten times as productive as wheat, will the removal of mangrove areas, such as in the Raby Bay area, affect the environment and have a harmful long-term affect on aquatic life?

(2) Will the interruption of the prawn breeding grounds affect the Queensland fishing industry, and what socio-economic effect will be the result?

(3) What is the significance of the fishing industry to the Redlands area?

(4) Does the Raby Bay area play an important role in the perpetuation of aquatic resources?

(5) Is Raby Bay a suitable area for long-term marine management, e.g., is it suitable for the formation of fish habitat reserves?

(6) Is he aware that a significant percentage of the total sea-grass area of Moreton Bay falls within the Raby Bay canal development?

(7) What effect will the loss of this important sea-grass nursery ground have on the amateur and commercial fishing industry of Moreton Bay?

Answers:—

(1) The article in "The Courier-Mail" of 1 November is not based on local conditions. Mangrove areas are not all equally productive and, in consequence, removal of mangroves does not always result in significant effects on the environment or aquatic life.

(2)—(a & b) It is unlikely that there will be any significant socio-economic effect on the Queensland fishing industry resulting from disturbance of the Raby Bay area.

(3) The fishing industry of the Redlands area forms only a small part of the overall Moreton Bay fishery. Statistics are not available to separately identify its significance.

(4) Raby Bay forms a small portion only of Moreton Bay and is not considered to play an important role in the overall Moreton Bay region.

(5) It is not suitable for declaration as a fish habitat reserve, as the area does not meet established criteria for selection of conservation areas.

(6) This is not correct. The Raby Bay area is of minor importance compared to Moreton Banks and other similar areas in the eastern part of Moreton Bay.

(7) The loss of this area is not likely to be of significance to fishing activities.

Mr. Mackenroth, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Lands, Forestry and Water Resources—

As it was stated in the "Redland Times" of 7 November that he had received over 1,000 letters supporting the Raby Bay canal development, how many letters has he received to date supporting the scheme, and how many has he received against the scheme?

Answer:—

I am not aware of the origin of the statement that I have received over 1,000 letters supporting the Raby Bay canal development. I have in fact received a considerable amount of correspondence in this regard, and the relationship of letters in favour of the development as opposed to those against the development is in the ratio of 2 to 1.

21. NEW RAILWAY WORKSHOPS, TOWNSVILLE
NORTH

Mr. Mackenroth, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Transport—

Are new railway workshops proposed for the Townsville North yard and, if so, when is the likely commencement date for this project?

Answer:—

Yes. A new wagon-repair shop has already been provided as the first stage of this project. The continuation of this work is governed by the availability of finance.

22. WATER SUPPLY, IWASAKI PROJECT

Mr. Burns, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Lands, Forestry and Water Resources—

(1) Was the Iwasaki group given a six-month extension of an Order in Council relating to its tourist project to the end of this year to prove water was available on the land to supply its highly publicised international resort and its promised hundreds of thousands of tourists?

(2) If water is not available on the site and Iwasaki is not able to provide the necessary water supply, will the Livingstone Shire Council be required to supply the large amounts of water sought?

(3) Has his department investigated the works undertaken by Iwasaki and his representatives to date to prove water supplies?

(4) Will he give details of these investigations, as well as the results of any investigation into the problems the Livingstone Shire Council will experience in meeting the extra demand, and any potential water rate increases involved?

Answers:—

(1) Under the provisions of the Queensland International Tourist Centre Agreement Act 1974, Messrs Iwasaki Sangyo (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., were required within six months of the agreement coming into force to provide the Commissioner of Water Resources with a proposal for the detailed investigation of the ground-water resources of certain areas of land.

Representatives of the company submitted to the commissioner within the prescribed time a proposal which required the company to initially make an assessment of its water requirements. This proposal also included the proposition that consideration of the ground-water investigation programme be deferred until the location and time at which water is required was known.

The commissioner found this proposal acceptable but made it conditional upon the results of the assessment of water requirements being made known to him by 31 December 1979 and the proposal for the investigation programme being submitted before 31 March 1980.

(2) The Act provides that the company negotiate an agreement with the Livingstone Shire Council for the supply of water to the centre if supply from ground-water sources is not available. As I understand the situation the Livingstone Shire Council is prepared to enter into an agreement with the company for the supply of water to the centre on mutually favourable terms.

(3) The commissioner on 5 November received details of the ground-water investigation programme proposed by the company. This programme is currently being examined by the commissioner.

(4) The investigation programme as submitted provides for the sinking of a number of test bores throughout the centre area and for several of these to be subjected to pump test to enable an assessment of available supply to be made. The commissioner will shortly advise the company on the adequacy of the proposed programme.

I am not aware of any problems involved with supply from the Livingstone Shire Council, should this be required, or of any potential water rate increases that such may involve. I would presume, however, that any agreement entered into by the shire would seek to minimise the latter.

23. INVESTIGATION OF MEATWORKS BY PRIVATE INQUIRY AGENCY

Mr. Burns, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Primary Industries—

(1) Is he aware of statements by a person called Schaffinious that Pinkertons Detective Agency is investigating the meat industry in this State and that Keith Martin, a former policeman, is currently being employed by various meatworks to carry out this investigation?

(2) Is he aware of the unrest this person's statements are causing in meatworks?

(3) Will he provide details of this investigation, its cost, and the reasons for such an appointment and investigation?

Answers:—

(1) No. However, I am reminded that about two months ago serious allegations were being made that large scale illegal introductions of meat into the Townsville public abattoir area were seriously affecting the throughput at the public abattoir and jeopardising the jobs of persons employed there. The allegations were widely reported by the media.

(2) The Queensland Meat Industry Organization and Marketing Authority is the body responsible for control of the introduction of meat into declared areas. It had received representations from various bodies including the Australian Meat Industry Employees' Union concerning the situation in Townsville.

(3) The authority engaged a private inquiry agency for a short period to investigate the allegations. However, the allegations were not able to be substantiated.

24. BUS AND RAIL SERVICES, WYNNUM/MANLY/LOTA AREA

Mr. Burns, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Transport—

(1) Has a final decision been made on the application of Bayside Bus Services of Wynnum/Manly for substantial reductions in bus services to the bayside areas?

(2) What reductions were sought by the company, and did the company suggest that it provide no service after midday Saturday and no services at all on Sunday?

(3) What are the final number of services that will now be provided each day in and out of the city, and what number of services have been lost each way on each day?

(4) What subsidy or financial assistance has been paid to this company since the inception of the scheme to assist privately owned bus services? Is this subsidy paid on each ticket and, if not, how is it determined?

(5) What services will be provided on week-ends to suburbs such as Cannon Hill, Lindum, Hemmant, Wynnum West, Wynnum North, Murarrie and Tingalpa?

(6) What rail services are provided daily by the Railway Department on the Roma Street to Lota line?

(7) Have any of these services been reduced or altered in the last two years?

(8) What are the bus and rail fares from Brisbane to Lota, single and return?

Answers:—

(1) The Commissioner for Transport, after detailed investigation and in consultation with the Metropolitan Transit Authority and the proprietor, approved an alteration to the frequency of services conducted by Lewis Bus Lines between Brisbane and the Wynnum/Manly/Lota area to take effect as from 5 November 1979, following a reduction in patronage with the opening of the cross-river Merivale Bridge rail link.

(2) The company sought to reduce services as follows:—

Monday to Friday—

Inbound to the city—73 services per day to 62 services per day

Outbound from the city—69 services per day to 61 services per day

The company did apply to delete all services operated after midday Saturday and on Sunday and public holidays, but this was not approved.

(3) Services now being provided are as follows:—

Monday to Friday—

Inbound to the city—62 services, a reduction of 11 services per day

Outbound from the city—61 services, a reduction of 8 services per day

Saturdays—

Inbound to the city—12 services, a reduction of 12 services per day

Outbound from the city—12 services, a reduction of 12 services per day

Sundays and public holidays—

Inbound to the city—3 services, a reduction of 3 services per day

Outbound from the city—3 services, a reduction of 3 services per day.

(4) Since the commencement of the financial assistance schemes on 1 January 1976, Lewis Bus Lines has received subsidies totalling \$540,396.09 in respect of the provision of passenger services in the Wynnum/Manly/Lota area and between the city and these suburbs.

The subsidy is calculated as a percentage of the revenue earned from fares collected on these services. Currently a subsidy of 30 per cent of route revenue is provided to proprietors of urban bus services with an additional 10 per cent in cases where needed, determined on the basis of a prescribed formula.

(5) Week-end services will travel directly along Wynnum Road and will include the suburbs of Wakerley, Ransome, Manly West, Wynnum West, Wynnum North, Wynnum, Manly and Lota.

(6) Twenty-seven trains run from Lota to Brisbane Central and 28 trains run between Brisbane Central and Lota on each weekday.

(7) This represents an increase of four services over the number which operated prior to the opening of the Merivale Bridge in November 1978. Alterations have also been made to the departure times of some trains.

(8) The single bus fare from Brisbane to Lota for adults is 80c, for students, 55c, and for children, 40c. No concession is provided for return fares. The single rail fare between Lota and Brisbane Central is 90c.

25. TOURIST FACILITIES, MORETON ISLAND

Mr. T. A. White, pursuant to notice, asked the Premier—

In relation to a recent booklet published by "The Courier-Mail" entitled "Dollar Book of Great Weekends" where he has commended week-end trips to Moreton Island, will he inform the House—

(1) What provisions is his Government making to control matters such as garbage disposal and hygiene?

(2) Is his Government proposing to set aside defined camping sites for these people?

(3) Are rangers going to be appointed to supervise camping sites, littering and destruction of the natural habitat?

(4) Will his Government give urgent consideration to appointing an overall authority to administer Moreton Island, as recommended in the Cook inquiry?

Answer:—

(1 to 4) Following receipt of the report of the Committee of Inquiry—Future Land Use—Moreton Island, the Government established a committee to advise it on the future development of the island. I expect to receive the committee's report, which will deal with the matters raised by the honourable member, in the near future. Provision for the control of matters such as garbage disposal and hygiene is principally the Brisbane City Council's responsibility, but it is one of the issues under consideration by the committee.

26. MILK PRICES

Mr. T. A. White, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Primary Industries—

(1) With reference to the recent decision by the Milk Board to force Jack

the Slasher stores to discontinue discounting milk, is the policy of the Queensland Milk Board of maintaining regulated retail prices on milk in contravention of the trade practices legislation?

(2) If not, why is a private enterprise Government supporting such a policy when suppliers and manufacturers of other products are denied the right of regulated prices and operate under normal market conditions?

Answer:—

(1 & 2) Under the Commonwealth Constitution the power to fix prices resides with the States, and I would not consider the fixing of milk prices to be in contravention of the Trade Practices Act. The initiative in formulating milk prices rests with the Queensland Milk Board constituted under the Milk Supply Act 1977. The board's policy is designed to ensure the maintenance of a stable and viable milk industry in Queensland and that policy has the support of the Government.

27. THEATRE IN EDUCATION

Mr. W. D. Hewitt, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Education—

(1) What is the annual cost of Theatre in Education?

(2) How many teachers are involved in it?

(3) What is the estimate of the number of children who enjoy contact with it each year?

(4) What are the reasons for the proposed termination of its activities?

(5) At a time when greater emphasis is being placed on leisure industries, millions have been spent on a cultural centre and the need for more contact with the theatre is widely recognised, how can the curtailment of this most valued activity be justified?

(6) Will he reconsider the decision?

Answers:—

(1) \$277,425.00

(2) Twenty-one teachers.

(3) It is estimated that approximately 45,000 children attended and participated in performances during the current year.

(4) As stated in the Treasurer's Financial Statement, the Education Department was required to undertake a complete review of the whole range of its services and programmes with a view to increasing efficiency in every possible way and providing a more economic operation generally. My department was asked to look at the more effective use of existing teacher strength in terms of available needs. Existing procedures in relation to

a whole range of teacher activities were to be examined. Every effort was to be made to ensure that teacher time spent with classes was maximised. Following the consideration of these guide-lines, it was determined to reduce advisory and support services and to return such teachers to direct class duties. Theatre in Education, while recognised as a support service providing very considerable educational benefits, was one of such services discontinued.

(5) The clear statement of Government policy that expenditure on education must be contained in this and future years does not allow the development or maintenance of such programmes, no matter how educational or culturally desirable they may be.

(6) As additional funds are not available, I am not in a position to reconsider the position.

28. MOVEMENT OF SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COMPANIES TO QUEENSLAND

Mr. Houston, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Industry and Administrative Services—

With reference to his claim that 60 South Australian firms have moved to Queensland in the last few years, will he name these firms and advise where they have been situated and the nature of their business?

Answer:—

I do not see any good purpose being served by compiling a dossier along the lines suggested by the honourable member. Furthermore, I regard the matter as one which is the concern of those involved. If they wish to publicise the fact that they have moved their operations to Queensland, then that is up to them. However, let me assure the honourable member that the movements to which he has referred have taken place and cover a wide range of businesses.

29. POPULATION INCREASES IN QUEENSLAND AND NEW SOUTH WALES

Mr. Houston, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Labour Relations—

As Queensland's population from 31 December 1977 to 31 December 1978 increased by 36,923 or .97 per cent while the New South Wales population increased by 63,462 or 1.27 per cent, will he explain why Queensland had a lower percentage increase in population last year than the Labor State of New South Wales?

Answer:—

The honourable member's quotation of a population increase for Queensland of 36,923 between 31 December 1977 and 31 December 1978 appears in fact to be

the increase for Victoria. Between 31 December 1977 and 31 December 1978 the population of Queensland increased by 24,487, equivalent to an annual rate of growth of 1.14 per cent, while the population of New South Wales increased by 63,996 or 1.29 per cent.

Except for the year 1978, in every year since 1971 (the earliest year for which the Australian Bureau of Statistics has produced comparable population estimates) the rate of growth of population in Queensland has exceeded that of New South Wales. As the table below shows, the rate of growth in Queensland of 1.40 per cent for the year ended June 1978 also exceeded that of 1.11 per cent recorded in New South Wales.

ANNUAL RATE OF POPULATION GROWTH (1)

Year ended	Queensland	New South Wales
31 December		
1972 ..	2.92	1.08
1973 ..	2.92	0.93
1974 ..	2.70	1.30
1975 ..	1.36	0.35
1976 ..	0.92	0.76
1977 ..	1.58	0.94
1978 ..	1.14	1.29
Year ended		
30 June		
1972 ..	2.72	1.44
1973 ..	2.83	0.98
1974 ..	2.96	0.96
1975 ..	1.85	0.93
1976 ..	1.33	0.61
1977 ..	1.19	0.86
1978 ..	1.40	1.11

(1) Source: Population and Vital Statistics, Australian Bureau of Statistics (Catalogue No. 3212.0)

The recent departure from the trend is due to the pattern of migration, which, in recent times, has displayed erratic movement.

30. EMPLOYEES, T.A.B. AGENCIES

Mr. Houston, pursuant to notice, asked the Deputy Premier and Treasurer—

(1) What is the basis of payment to employees of T.A.B. agencies?

(2) Is there any restriction on the employment of males at T.A.B. agencies and, if so, what are they?

(3) If not, will he make sure the T.A.B. management is informed accordingly?

Answers:—

(1) Agencies are those T.A.B. offices that are conducted by an agent on a commission basis. Agents who are members of the T.A.B. Agents' Association and whose employees are members of the Federated Clerks' Union pay a flat rate to their employees under the appropriate industrial agreement. Agents who are not

members of the T.A.B. Agents' Association pay their employees in accordance with the Clerks' Award.

(2 & 3) There is no restriction on the employment of males at T.A.B. agencies.

31. SOUTH COAST FIRE BRIGADE BOARD

Mr. P. N. D. White, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Mines, Energy and Police—

(1) Who are the Government appointees to the South Coast Fire Brigade Board?

(2) When were they appointed?

(3) What is the procedure for appointing members to fire brigade boards, i.e., who makes the recommendations and who makes the appointment?

(4) What are the general criteria used in deciding whether a man is suitable for appointment to a board?

(5) Was the appointment of any of the Government appointees to the South Coast Fire Brigade Board discussed with any of the parliamentary members of the area covered by the board and, if so, which members?

Answers:—

(1) Councillor E. G. Wood (Redland Shire) and Alderman N. C. Rix (Gold Coast City).

(2) 24 February 1972 and 25 October 1979, respectively.

(3 & 4) Anybody can make a recommendation in respect of the appointment of a member to a fire brigade board. Generally, the parliamentary representatives in the area served by the board make recommendations to me of persons who they consider would be suitable for appointment to the board. The appointment is made by the Governor in Council.

(5) The honourable member for South Coast, the Minister for Local Government and Main Roads, made a recommendation to me in the case of Mr. Rix, following the vacancy created by the death of Mr. V. F. Thurecht.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

DEFERRAL OF UPDATING OF BRISBANE AIRPORT

Mr. CASEY: In asking the Minister for Transport this question I refer to the disgraceful recommendation by the Liberal and National Party-dominated Public Works Committee of the Federal Parliament to defer improvement works on the Brisbane Airport until at least 1986, and I now ask him: In view of his current round of discussions with the domestic airlines in relation to flight arrangements that emanate from and terminate in Brisbane, and in line with his ministerial responsibilities for air transport

within Queensland, what pressure is he applying to the airlines to ensure that the Brisbane Airport is upgraded in accordance with the needs of the State's capital? What assurances has he from the airlines that the present overcrowded terminals, with their standard amenities, will be rebuilt in time for the 1982 Commonwealth Games? Will he, in addition, make representations to the two airlines for a similar improvement programme to be carried out to their terminals at every provincial city in Queensland, where we now see the worst set of buildings and the worst lack of facilities for the travelling public in any State in Australia?

Mr. TOMKINS: I have had lengthy discussions with both airlines but they were not in any way about aerodromes. Caring for aerodromes is a Federal matter, it is covered by the Federal people.

Mr. Casey: Aren't you interested in it?

Mr. TOMKINS: The announcement has only just been made. I shall await developments.

REPRESENTATIONS TO PRIME MINISTER TO
DISMISS MR. AL GRASSBY

Mr. ROW: I ask the Premier: Will he make urgent representations to the Prime Minister to get rid of his court jester and salaried clown (Mr. Al Grassby) before he creates any further fallacious sensations against innocent groups of people such as the Queensland Aboriginal community?

Mr. BJELKE-PETERSEN: I have long since made representations to the Prime Minister about this person in relation to his supposed duties and the attitude that he adopts in trying to divide the nation, split the community and create different groups. His latest report proves to me that he has no understanding or appreciation of Aboriginal problems in Queensland which, again, would justify his dismissal from his present position.

Mr. R. J. Gibbs: He has more understanding than you. The only experience you have—

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! I warn the honourable member for Wolston.

Mr. BJELKE-PETERSEN: If Mr. Grassby were to go into areas administered by the Northern Territory or to any other State except Queensland he would realise that he does not know his subject and does not face up to his responsibilities. I can only say that if he had been employed in Queensland he would have been dismissed long ago for incompetence and lack of adequate knowledge of his subject.

ASSOCIATION OF MEMBERS FOR ARCHERFIELD
AND WOODRIDGE WITH PERSONS CONNECTED
WITH DRUG TRAFFIC

Mr. ROW: I ask the Premier: Further to the question asked yesterday by the honourable member for Barron River of the Minister in charge of Police about reports of association of the member for Archerfield (Mr. K. J. Hooper) and the member for Woodridge (Mr. D'Arcy) with persons connected with the drug traffic, is he aware of the statements in this Parliament on 10 October 1978 by the member for Archerfield about a combined police action last year at Billinudgel near Murwillumbah? Is he also aware that at a road block manned by Queensland and New South Wales police Luc Tournier, David Hallmark and Neal Hardman were arrested? Is he aware that the member for Archerfield complained in this House about the police action and defended these men who were arrested and charged in connection with drug offences? Is he aware that Luc Tournier absconded from bail granted during court proceedings at Murwillumbah? Will he ensure that this incident and reports of other associations between those two Labor members and persons connected with drugs are brought to the notice of the joint Queensland/Federal Government royal commission for investigation?

Mr. BJELKE-PETERSEN: Honourable members opposite may try to laugh this matter off, but it is very serious and has wide ramifications. It is completely hypocritical for Opposition members to speak glibly about wanting an inquiry into drugs and seeking to implicate Government members in the drug scene, when they are on record—much of it in "Hansard"—as having defended known drug offenders who have been fined heavily for dealing in drugs. They have denigrated police efforts to bring such offenders to justice.

It is very disturbing to consider the way the Labor Party and honourable members opposite have continually and vigorously supported and defended drug pushers. It is a very serious matter and I want to highlight that point today. Over quite a long period, the Labor Party and Labor members of this House and of the Federal House have been very strong in their support of drug pushers and drug criminals.

Let me use Cedar Bay as an illustration. This gives a clear picture of how the Labor Party is completely and utterly involved in the drug traffic and the drug scene in this State. Mr. Melloy, who is no longer a member, vigorously supported the people from Cedar Bay who were heavily fined. He continually tried to defend them in this House. When Mr. Burns was Leader of the Opposition, he strongly supported the people who were caught and fined because of drug-trafficking. There was also Mr. Hayden.

Opposition Members interjected.

Mr. BJELKE-PETERSEN: It is all in "Hansard", and they cannot get out of it.

Right across the board, the Labor Party has been heavily involved for a long time in the drug-traffic trade and in supporting these people. That is quite obvious. Senator Keefe, Mr. Wright, Senator Colston, Senator Georges and Mr. Jones supported what was going on. They vigorously supported the people at Cedar Bay. Mr. Yewdale supported them vigorously. It is all on record. These are some of the things that will come to the surface and show that the Labor Party in and out of season is the greatest champion of the drug pushers and drug industry in Queensland. That is its policy.

Mr. R. J. GIBBS: I rise to a point of order. The Premier made reference to drug-pushing being part of the policy of the Labor party. I find that offensive because no section of the Labor Party policy makes reference to drugs or legalisation of them in any shape or form. I find that remark offensive and I ask that it be withdrawn.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The Honourable the Premier.

Mr. BJELKE-PETERSEN: I am quite aware of the incident at Billinudgel.

Mr. R. J. GIBBS: I rise to a point of order. I took a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I do not know whether you ruled on it. I asked that the remarks made by the Premier, which I find offensive, be withdrawn. There is no reference in the Labor Party policy to the legalisation of marijuana or any other drug. I ask that the comment be withdrawn. It is completely untrue.

Mr. BJELKE-PETERSEN: O.K. I will put it this way: Labor Party's policy is set out, and I will give the honourable member a copy of its platform in regard to the decriminalisation of marijuana if he has not seen it. He cannot get out of it.

Mr. R. J. GIBBS: I rise to a point of order. I have asked—

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! I heard the point of order.

Mr. BJELKE-PETERSEN: I have made it quite clear. The honourable member has to accept it. He cannot get out of it.

Mr. R. J. GIBBS: I rise to a point of order. Honourable Members interjected.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The House will come to order until I have heard the point of order.

Mr. R. J. GIBBS: I have already outlined my point of order to the House. The Premier made reference to the fact that the Labor Party believes in the legalisation of drugs. Nowhere in the policy of the Labor Party is legalisation of marijuana, heroin or any other drug specified. I find the remark to

be a slur on the party and a slur on every member of the Opposition. It is offensive to me and I ask that it be withdrawn.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! I ask the Premier for a withdrawal.

Mr. BJELKE-PETERSEN: O.K. Part of Labor's platform is decriminalisation of marijuana. They cannot get out of it.

The honourable member for Archerfield has risen in this Chamber and strongly and vigorously continued to defend the people involved in the incident in New South Wales.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: I rise to a point of order. I hate taking points of order, so I usually do not take them. I certainly have never defended drugs. I have always attacked them and I have attacked the weakness of the Government in dealing with Queensland's drug connection.

Mr. BJELKE-PETERSEN: It is all in "Hansard". It shows the way Labor has vigorously defended them. I have read it carefully. In the interests of justice I shall bring these reports to the attention of the royal commission. Everybody can be quite sure about that.

At 12 noon,

In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 307, the House went into Committee of Supply.

SUPPLY

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE—ESTIMATES—ELEVENTH AND TWELFTH ALLOTTED DAYS (The Chairman of Committees, Mr. W. D. Hewitt, Greenslopes, in the chair)

ESTIMATES-IN-CHIEF, 1979-80

CULTURE, NATIONAL PARKS AND RECREATION
CHIEF OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE,
NATIONAL PARKS AND RECREATION

Hon. I. J. GIBBS (Albert—Minister for Culture, National Parks and Recreation) (12.1 p.m.): I move—

"That \$2,256,563 be granted for 'Department of Culture, National Parks and Recreation—Chief Office'."

It is my honour to present for constructive discussion the Estimates of the Department of Culture, National Parks and Recreation for the period 1979-80. In doing so I pay tribute to my predecessor in office, the Honourable Tom Newbery, M.L.A., who was given the complex task of establishing the portfolio as a separate department of State in December 1977. In those formative days the efforts of the Minister and his officers consolidated the various sections of the portfolio into a vibrant and viable unit and laid the foundations for greater achievements in the years to come.

The department being debated by this Assembly today is, perhaps more than any

other, a department of the future. It is a department concerned with the future of all Queenslanders—with the quality of life they will enjoy today, tomorrow and in the future. The great challenge of the new portfolio is to enrich the lives of all Queenslanders.

The Queenslanders of the future will be in the best position to judge its achievements by what is bequeathed to them in such fields as literature, the arts, sporting facilities and what is set aside to preserve the natural environment and to provide them with opportunities for nature-based recreation activities.

There has always been a recognised affinity between the benefits and enjoyment of cultural experiences and the similar aesthetic or physical benefits derived from coming close to nature and participating in sporting activities. The Government took the view that its involvement in these areas should be co-ordinated under a single ministerial control, and this was the basic rationale of the portfolio's creation. Since the establishment of the department the Government has pursued a policy of expansion of existing institutions and authorities and increased financial assistance where possible to stimulate interest and participation in cultural, recreational and sporting activities.

It has also added significantly to the State's store of nature reserves.

In the current financial year the department's total Consolidated Revenue Vote has increased from some \$16,000,000 in 1978-79 to \$18,700,000. This increase, in a time of stringent Government financing, is indicative of the recognition given to the part which cultural and recreational pursuits should occupy in the life of every Queensland. A significant amount of this increase has been directed to our cultural institutions—the Art Gallery, Museum and the State Library. All of these institutions, together with the Performing Arts Trust, will, by the end of 1984, be housed in the Queensland Cultural Centre being established on the south bank of the Brisbane River.

The construction of that tremendous State facility and its overall management are not the responsibility of my portfolio. However, I think that my Cabinet colleagues concerned will forgive my enthusiasm in mentioning the centre with my departmental Estimates and accept my congratulations on the manner in which the original concept is being fast turned into a structural reality.

It is only some two-and-a-half-years since Her Majesty The Queen marked the commencement of construction by activating the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Fountain. On that occasion, Her Majesty said:

"I am sure that the creation of a cultural centre where we now stand on the banks of the Brisbane River will be a great enrichment to the lives of the people of Queensland."

By any measure, the Queensland Cultural Centre is a vast project. While the centre will comprise a number of separate, self-contained operations, these will be integrated to project the image of a composite whole.

The centre will be a "living place" which people will be able to use day and night. It will represent a tremendous physical addition to the city of Brisbane and, more importantly, a tremendous enrichment to the lives of every Queensland. From the outset, the concept has been an imaginative one, and one of which all members of this Parliament, irrespective of party, will be justifiably proud in the years to come.

Of course, the involvement of the four institutions in the cultural centre is not the only area in which the Government has been assisting the cultural development of Queensland. Provision has been made for a total of \$2,987,000 for grants to cultural organisations in the current financial year. This is an increase of 13 per cent, or \$355,000, on the 1978-79 allocation. This amount is divided up as follows:—

Grants to 26 professional organisations towards their operating costs for 1979-80—\$2,637,280; a special non-recurring grant to the Brisbane Community Arts Centre Trust—\$45,000; a special continuing grant to the Queensland Symphony Orchestra—\$71,000; and grants to organisations receiving under \$10,000 and allocations to assist new ventures—\$233,720.

The special non-recurring grant of \$45,000 appropriated to the Brisbane Community Arts Centre Trust is to be used towards the cost of effecting renovations to the centre's premises in Coronation House, Edward Street, Brisbane. The building, which is owned by the Commonwealth Government and sub-leased to the trust through the Australia Council, is being renovated to provide a home for a number of small diverse arts groups in Brisbane. Commonwealth Government funding to the extent of \$700,000 has been granted to the project, and the building is expected to be ready for occupancy shortly.

The amount of \$71,000 for the Queensland Symphony Orchestra is to provide additional permanent orchestral players. It is hoped that an additional six string players (three violins, one viola, one cello and one base) will shortly be employed on a permanent basis, bringing the strength of the orchestra to 71.

Provision has been made for the appointment of a project officer in the Cultural Activities Branch. This officer will conduct research into the cultural needs of communities, young people and organisations. The officer will be available to advise cultural organisations and to assist with training and tuition in arts activities. He or she will also undertake feasibility studies on proposed cultural capital projects in the State.

The total allocation of \$67,565 for contingencies represents an increase of \$12,761 on the previous year's appropriation. In addition to an increase to allow for inflation, an extra \$10,000 has been provided to enable the services of the branch to be expanded. These services include the publication of the monthly Queensland Cultural Diary (the circulation of which is now 10,000, and increasing all the time) and the twice-yearly list of cultural organisations in Queensland, which has a circulation of 3,000.

The total expenditure of the Cultural Activities Branch amounts to \$3,170,000 and is indicative of the Government's interest in seeing cultural organisations develop and expand in all areas of the State. In giving expression to this interest, the Government must always ensure its role remains that of a catalyst generating, but not replacing, community support.

Government assistance to new cultural groups should always be a seeding process designed to encourage and activate new ventures, but not to totally support them in perpetuity. Grants to worthwhile cultural organisations should continue to be made within a self-help concept, allowing Government funds to be supplemented by a natural degree of community support. In general, the level of community support a cultural organisation attracts will be in ratio to its ability to produce a consumer product. In saying that, I echo the sentiments of my predecessor in this portfolio who hit the nail on the head when he said that cultural organisations should strive towards a viable balance between art and entertainment—between box office support and artistic self-indulgence. Given this balance, Government funding can attract reciprocal support from the community, ensuring the continued growth and patronage of cultural pursuits in all areas of the State.

I turn now to the activities of the Queensland Museum, which is required to carry out diverse functions under its legislation. These broadly relate to the storage of the State's scientific and historical collections, research on the collections or on topics associated with them and education through display and other means.

The museum's collections now comprise nearly 2,000,000 items. They cover the fields of zoology, geology, anthropology and archaeology, history and technology. A number of other State Government departments, including the Department of Aboriginal and Islanders' Advancement and the Primary Industries Department, lodge collections which require permanent protection and attention by museum staff. A number of tertiary education establishments and research groups do likewise. Such collections not only document the resources of the State and the history of the State's development, but also provide a continuing resource of inestimable value for further research and educational purposes.

The scientific research staff appointed to collate these collections form a team of highly skilled professionals available for consultation by other departments and the community generally.

The museum's educational activities now directly reach 325,000 people annually and, of these, about 250,000 are visitors to the display galleries. In addition, the museum has introduced training programmes intended to improve the expertise and quality of the more than 100 small museums across the State.

The 1979-80 museum endowment allocation totals in excess of \$219,835—an increase of \$52,395 over the previous year.

The museum's extension education service to schools in distant or disadvantaged centres of South-east Queensland will be improved through a special \$6,000 grant which has enabled the purchase of a new vehicle equipped to convey specimens and displays to the class-room. This service is now reaching 50,000 students annually.

In the current financial year consideration has also been given to the major task of preparing new displays for the new museum in the South Brisbane Cultural Centre. The board of the Queensland Museum rightly considers that the displays to be produced by 1983 should be of a quality second to none and should include techniques and technology comparable to those in contemporary developments elsewhere around the world.

Although certain items from the existing displays will be reused, the fabric and context of their exhibition will need to be extensively altered and considerable new material will be introduced. The magnitude of this task is immense, involving production of almost three times the existing displays in little more than three years. A special grant of \$27,500 has been provided to equip the museum to meet this challenge and to enable a start to be made on acquiring additional background items from throughout the State.

It is not possible for the existing museum technical staff to produce the vastly increased quantity of display work within the time prescribed, nor can the existing staff maintain the expanded displays, once completed. Therefore, the museum staff establishment has been increased during 1979-80 from 70 to 85 as part of a policy to gradually lift staff numbers to a level necessary for the operation of the new building.

A new section dealing with materials conservation is to be established at the same time to ensure that deterioration and damage to existing and incoming items is arrested or repaired, guaranteeing the retention of irreplaceable items in perpetuity.

The total appropriation made in the 1979-80 Estimates represents a realistic attempt by the Government to meet the specific needs of the Queensland Museum. At the same

time, it ensures that the museum can meet its State, national and international responsibilities as the organisation in which evidence of much of the State's heritage is vested.

The opening of the new Queensland Art Gallery, expected in March 1982, will be an event of major importance in the art world. It will also mark the completion of the first stage of the Queensland Cultural Centre at a time when world attention will be on Brisbane for the Commonwealth Games. Work on compiling a comprehensive catalogue for the State art collection and negotiating international exhibitions to mark the opening year, together with the restoration and presentation of the gallery's works, has commenced and must accelerate if it is to be completed in time and to the standard expected of a major State gallery.

To enable the completion of this work, a build-up of staff and of subsequent service programmes for the gallery will take place over a period between now and the time of the opening. As the first stage in this staff expansion, provision has been made for eight new positions in the current financial year at an additional cost of \$154,789.

As the gallery is open seven days a week, reasonably heavy costs are incurred in overtime payments for attendant staff. In 1979-80 the Government has also allowed sufficient funds for the gallery to open on Fridays until 9 p.m. in order to make the gallery accessible for people who take advantage of late-night shopping hours in Brisbane.

The Government has acknowledged the gallery's needs in preparing for the new premises by providing an increase of \$165,072 in endowment for the current financial year. This increase will allow for the progressive purchase of equipment for the new gallery as well as provide additional funds for the gallery's acquisitions programme, which needs to be accelerated in order to fill particular gaps in the collection in time for the opening.

I now turn to national parks. Queensland's National Parks and Wildlife Service has received an allocation of \$4,309,093 for the financial year 1979-80, which represents an increase of \$587,556 over the previous year's revenue funding. This amount provides for some increases in staffing and is also intended to cover award and basic wage increases and an increase for contingencies. Provision has also been made for additional costs associated with pay-roll tax, maintenance of buildings and parks and the cost of such items as postage and general operating expenses. The rapid increase in the area of national parks throughout the State, together with the provision of additional facilities, is reflected in the increased costs associated with the upkeep of these facilities. The amount provided for the State's environmental parks has again been set at \$150,000.

In addition to the \$4,300,000 available from revenue funding, an amount of \$1,600,000 is allocated from loan funds for

capital works on the State's national parks and the acquisition of further lands for national park purposes.

Resulting from the commitment which the service has for island national parks along the Queensland coast, a major item of expenditure will be the provision of three new boats to undertake patrols and supervision of these parks. Two boats, each 11 metres in length, will be provided for use at Cardwell and Rosslyn Bay, while a third of 8 metres will be provided at Shute Harbour. Total estimated cost of this new equipment is \$150,000.

Since the formation of Queensland's National Parks and Wildlife Service, the State Government has more than doubled the area of national and environmental parks in the State to a total now exceeding 2 700 000 ha. Another 64 000 ha will be added to this estate in the coming weeks with the declaration of the Mt. Moffatt National Park in Central Queensland. With that gazettal, Queensland will have 325 national parks and 77 environmental parks covering approximately 2 per cent of the total area of the State.

Provision has been made for expenditure of \$20,000 within the newly created Lakefield National Park, which covers 528 000 ha. An amount of \$10,000 has been provided for track construction at Edmund Kennedy National Park near Cardwell. Both these parks are expected to attract world-wide attention during the World Wilderness Congress to be held in Cairns in June 1980.

Another significant development will be the provision of boardwalks at Carnarvon National Park to enable visitors to see but not to touch the principal Aboriginal art sites. The service has provided \$12,000 to this project, which is considered essential to provide protection for these sites. At present, the service, with the assistance of a grant from the Institute of Aboriginal Studies, is engaged in a research programme to locate and record Aboriginal art and burial sites in the Central Highlands region. Some 120 sites have already been recorded and a number of these will be preserved within the boundaries of the new national park to be declared at Mt. Moffatt. Management strategies to protect other sites identified in the region will be formulated by relevant authorities following the completion of the survey.

A continuing programme at Chillagoe Caves will involve the provision of elevated walkways and lighting in the Trezinn Cave to cope with increasing visitor usage, while in Bellenden Ker National Park provision has been made for the completion of a residence at Josephine Falls at the southern end of the park.

The purchase of the former kiosk at Natural Arch National Park in the Numinbah Valley of South-east Queensland and its conversion to an information centre is expected

to cost \$16,000. The completion of camp-ground construction at O'Reilly's entrance to Lamington National Park has been allocated an amount of \$5,000.

Throughout the State, increasing expenditure is involved in the maintenance of picnic and camping-ground facilities resulting from public visitation, which is currently increasing at a rate in excess of 10 per cent per annum. Provision has been made for the completion of a large storehoused and temporary air-conditioned office at Pallarenda, in Townsville, to cope with the increasing need at that centre.

In the current financial year, the National Parks and Wildlife Service will continue the acquisition of additions to existing national parks, together with new areas. Major proposals include \$159,000 for additions to Girraween National Park near Stanthorpe and expenditure of \$68,000 for additions to Sundown National Park in the same region. Proposed extensions to Noosa National Park will involve expenditure of \$65,000 for land formerly owned by T. M. Burke at Noosa. An amount of \$32,000 will be used to extend the area of national park on the Scenic Rim in Southern Queensland and, in North Queensland, an amount of \$16,000 will provide additions to Edmund Kennedy National Park near Cardwell.

Research programmes are being undertaken by the service in a number of fields and include several that have attracted outside funding given because of the standard of research attained in Queensland. Notable among these grants has been the provision by the World Wildlife Fund Australia of \$46,300 to allow the commencement of research at Raine Island, a major sea-bird rookery at the northern end of the Great Barrier Reef.

Grants from the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service have assisted a turtle research programme, and the Australian Orchid Foundation has provided funding to locate rare species of orchids on Cape York Peninsula. A number of species of birds and animals within Queensland are considered to be endangered, and this situation highlights the need for continuing and increased study to ensure their survival. A number of other significant research projects are directly funded by the service.

Queensland's National Parks and Wildlife Service is actively engaged in a programme designed to increase awareness of the need for nature conservation and uses many means of communication including displays, publications, audio visuals, talks and guided activities. To assist these activities, the service produces brochures, maps and posters and gives talks to schools and other groups within the community to increase public awareness of the need to conserve our natural heritage. This work is an essential ingredient within the service's overall policy, which aims at assisting man to live in harmony with his environment.

The Library Board of Queensland will receive a grant of \$6,544,494 for the financial year 1979-80, an increase of \$513,883 over the previous year. One significant change this year is that subsidy on new buildings, or alterations and improvements to existing buildings, will now be paid totally by Treasury rather than partly by the Library Board and partly by Treasury. This change will simplify procedures for local authorities, some of whom in the past have been confused by the necessity to apply to two separate State Government bodies for subsidy on the one building. The level of subsidy will remain the same, that is, 50 per cent on the first \$40,000 plus 20 per cent on the balance.

There has been a considerable degree of criticism in recent years, especially by local authorities, regarding the level of subsidies paid for local library services. I can assure honourable members that this matter has been given very serious consideration. Unfortunately it has not been possible to raise the level of subsidy paid to individual councils, in spite of the fact that total subsidy expenditure has increased by more than 12 per cent. In addition to an 8 per cent consumer price index increase in per capita subsidy to individual councils, subsidy will be paid to an additional seven local authorities this year representing a population of almost 45,000. There will also be subsidy paid on the salaries of 10 additional professional staff employed in council libraries.

As a result of these new services commencing this year, there will be only 65,810 people living in 11 local authority areas not served by local libraries. Four of these 11 local authorities have had discussions with officers of the Library Board regarding library provision. It seems likely that within the immediate future all people living in Queensland will have access to a local library.

In the face of this criticism, I should point out that cash subsidies from the State Library have increased from \$283,394 in 1971-72 to \$2,700,000 last year. This is an increase of 923 per cent in seven years. During the same period, nett expenditure by local authorities on libraries has risen by only 406 per cent.

In addition, since 1975-76 subsidy has been given through the public libraries service to some small local authorities in the form of processed books rather than in cash. Thirty-two local authorities are currently subsidised in this way. Rosalie Shire will enter this scheme in 1979-80 and negotiations are continuing with Aurukun and Mornington shires regarding provision of library services under this scheme. During 1979-80, the South Western Regional Library Service will enter the public libraries service. This is being regarded as a pilot project. If successful, it could form a basis for improved library service to Western Queensland by combining the advantages of regionalisation and the public libraries service.

Under the scheme, the seven shires in the south-western region will receive one book per capita, fully processed, instead of a cash subsidy. The books will be exchanged at the rate of 25 per cent per annum.

The total allocation of \$2,527,235 to the Library Board of Queensland Fund for salaries will enable the creation of four new positions in the current financial year. The additional funds will allow the appointment of an arts librarian, a music librarian, a field officer for the John Oxley Library and an audio-visual technician to maintain this side of the library's equipment.

The arts librarian will be involved initially in surveying arts groups to discover their library and information needs, determining whether these can or should be met by the State Library and then recommending and implementing new programmes. This appointment will greatly improve services to arts and crafts groups throughout the State.

The position of music librarian (scale A) has been created to develop the State Library's resources in the area of printed music in conjunction with the needs of performing groups and individual musicians in the community. The library's intention is to utilise the existing music resources as a basis for a centralised music centre to serve both metropolitan and country areas, and to enlarge the reference collection by adding performer's scores.

The John Oxley Library provides a public information service in Queensland history by collecting, preserving and making available records relating to the history and development of the Colony and State of Queensland.

The appointment of a field officer will enable the library to systematically seek out important historical material throughout the State, which will augment and complement the existing collection. The field officer will also provide an effective contact between the library and organisations and individuals involved with local history.

During the year, particular attention will be given to the collection of records and photographs relating to sport and sporting organisations in Queensland so that an exhibition illustrating the history of sport in the State can be mounted to coincide with the Commonwealth Games in 1982.

The collection of historical materials necessitates adequate means of preservation for their future use. The storage of the John Oxley Library collection presents difficulties not encountered in other sections of the State Library. Primary source materials are unique and frequently fragile and special storage facilities are required to prevent their physical deterioration and destruction. A commencement will be made this year on a programme to rehouse the manuscript and photograph collection. Photographs will be displayed in transparent polyester to

allow usage of the collection without resulting damage. Manuscript materials will be housed in chemically neutral containers.

The Estimates contain provision of \$4,500 to enable the State Library to continue its computerised development. The funds will allow the installation of what is known as the "Midas" service, which will give the State Library access, via satellite, to major on-line retrieval services in the United States, such as the Systems Development Corporation's "Orbit" and the Lockheed Corporation's "Dialogue".

The service works in this way: a research worker in the Department of Primary Industries may want to find out what periodical articles or research reports have been written on a particular subject. The State Library would prepare an exact statement of the information that he requires. A librarian would analyse this statement to determine which of the 100 data bases available is most likely to have the information, which search words to use, and so on. The librarian would then interrogate the data base, via satellite, from a keyboard in the State Library. This would produce a list of references, possibly with a summary of each reference.

The service will enable staff in Government departments to track down, in half an hour, references which would have taken up to two days to research manually under the previous system.

"Midas" provides access to data bases containing information on subjects such as agriculture, business, education, health, patents, statistics and technology. The service will be offered to other State Government departments and to private enterprise organisations on a cost-recovery basis.

Included in the allocation of \$661,259 for miscellaneous expenditure is continued funding for the establishment of a computerised cataloguing, acquisition and circulation system to be known as "Oracle". The system will greatly enhance the speed and efficiency of State Library services and will enable the production of microfiche catalogues for public libraries in country areas which are part of the State Library service.

The "Oracle" system represents a considerable achievement for the State Library and is attracting considerable attention within the library profession in other parts of Australia.

Within the allocation for books and periodicals, an amount of \$15,000 has been set aside to commence a microfilming project to preserve existing files of Queensland newspapers. These files are available for consultation and research by the public.

Considerable attention has been directed to planning for the new State Library, which is to be built as part of the Queensland Cultural Centre in Brisbane. The State Librarian is currently visiting major libraries

overseas and will bring back ideas for incorporation in the new building, which is due to open in 1984.

The new Queensland Cultural Centre will also include the magnificent concept of a performing arts complex, and honourable members will be aware that a contract for the construction of this particular segment of the centre was signed a few weeks ago. The complex will be administered by the Queensland Performing Arts Trust and, in the terms of the relevant Act, that trust will receive Government financial assistance to enable it to function in the manner desired, particularly in its initial years. For the present, however, and in its early formative period the trust is receiving for the financial year 1979-80 a grant of \$70,000 as a special allocation. The trust's director has recently taken up duty and is presently the only paid officer. It is expected he will require some staff assistance during the latter half of 1979-80, but the main bulk of staff recruitment and appointment will take place in 1980-81 and 1981-82. In addition to salaries this year the grant provided is for other office establishment purposes, printing, board members' fees and various other sundry expenses.

The management of the performing arts complex, the working-up processes and the preliminary entrepreneurial planning which will have to be carried out during the period of its construction, provide a significant challenge to the trust, to the director and the staff that he will acquire. However, I am confident the expertise and ability of all concerned will provide Queensland with a world-standard venue for the performing arts that will bring great benefit and enjoyment to the people of this State in the years to come.

My department has maintained its interest in the operations and preservation of historic Newstead House in Brisbane. The property is administered by a trust established by an Act of Parliament. The trust comprises representatives of the State Government, the Brisbane City Council and the Royal Historical Society of Queensland. There is no need for me to retrace the well documented history of Brisbane's oldest occupied home, except to say that the trust has done a tremendous job over the years and, with Government financial assistance, continues to do so. A grant of \$20,000 is provided in the current financial year to assist the trust with its work.

I turn now to the operations of the Queensland Film Corporation which was established in 1977 to develop a Queensland film industry. This is done through investment in feature film, television series and documentary productions. The investment entitles the corporation to a proportionate share of film profits, to be reinvested in further productions. The corporation concentrated at first on developing scripts and a good flow of suitable scripts is now being

received. With this foundation laid, the corporation has now begun a three point programme for future development involving:—

- (1) Promotion through advertising and distribution of brochures to sell Queensland's advantages of widely diversified locations and good climate for film production.
- (2) Compilation of a directory of skilled film personnel residing in Queensland.
- (3) Increased investment in film production.

The marketing programme has brought a good response from interstate and overseas film producers and companies, including a number from Britain and the United States. The directory of personnel has revealed a pool of very experienced people ranging from script-writers to general hands available for productions. The first two feature films made in Queensland with Q.F.C. investment are now under way. The corporation invested \$192,000 in "Final Cut", being made on the Gold Coast by a Queensland company, Wilgar Productions. "Final Cut" is a murder-thriller. The comedy "Friday the 13th" began production on the Sunshine Coast this week. Three television series—"Confessions of a Beachcomber", "Silent Reach" and "A Town Like Alice" are now in the negotiating stage. All will be made in Queensland.

The Literature Board of Review, which functions under legislation introduced in 1954, continues its invaluable work of prohibiting the distribution in Queensland of literature which is deemed objectionable in accordance with the provisions of the Act. The Board's success over the years is reflected in the fact that the distribution of pornographic material—particularly child pornography—is effectively prevented. Many of the problems experienced in other states in these areas have not arisen in Queensland. Similarly, the Films Board of Review may prohibit the distribution in Queensland of films regarded as objectionable in terms of the relevant legislation. The industry co-operates in a large measure with the board in this regard and the results have been of great benefit to the people of this State.

The final section of my portfolio to be discussed is the Department of Sport which, this financial year, received a record allocation of \$2,646,410 to provide assistance to clubs across the whole spectrum of sporting activity. This amount is made up of \$1,716,120 from revenue funds and an allocation of \$930,290 from the proceeds of Soccer Pools. It represents a total increase of \$624,634 over the allocation for the previous year.

All the additional funds have been allocated towards junior coaching programmes to enable all applications which qualify under the department's guide-lines to be met. Subsidies for junior coaching

are available on a dollar-for-dollar basis against funds raised by individual sporting clubs, which this year will receive in excess of \$1,500,000 in assistance under this scheme. The Government has rightly placed great emphasis on junior coaching programmes as part of a policy to lift Queensland sporting standards. The allocation of these funds represents wise investment in Queensland's sporting future and the development of our youth.

More than \$1,000,000 will be allocated in subsidies to assist clubs with the development of new player and playing facilities—ovals, dressing-rooms, tennis courts, lighting, indoor sports, stadiums, and the like. These subsidies are available on the basis of one-third of the capital cost of approved projects. The scheme enables the spread and development of first-class sporting facilities to even the most far-flung corners of the State.

In addition to the \$2,600,000 previously mentioned, a further amount of \$270,000 will be made available from Soccer Pools to assist State sporting associations through the Sports and Youth Fund. This money will be allocated to State associations to help pay the salaries of State directors of coaching and administration staff and to finance seminars for coaches and sporting administrators.

The popularity of the scheme for assistance and encouragement to sport is shown by the number of clubs and associations applying for assistance, which in this year numbered 1,162. These covered a broad spectrum under 75 separate and distinct sports. Applications for assistance exceeded the funds available. Whilst I know there will be some disappointed clubs and associations, I can assure them that it was not without a great deal of regret that their applications could not be approved, but there are also very many happy sporting administrators throughout Queensland whose applications for construction of new and additional playing facilities and for coaching of juniors did receive approval under the extended allocation.

In concluding this section of the debate, I wish to mention the work of Mr. Ron Leahy, my Director of Sport, who retires from the position in the new year. As the foundation director of the department, he was responsible for implementing the policies of assistance and encouragement to sport formulated under the guidance of the late John Herbert. I know that honourable members on both sides of this Chamber have found Ron Leahy to be an able administrator, always willing to assist with information and advice throughout his term of office. I am sure honourable members join with me in expressing appreciation for his efforts and dedication over the years.

In recommending the Estimates of the Department of Culture, National Parks and Recreation for the approval of honourable members, I can say with confidence that the

new portfolio has been established on firm and efficient foundations. It has the potential to continue to achieve much for the people of Queensland and, with officers of the department, I look forward to the prospect of being able to play a part in those achievements in the years ahead. I commend my report to the Committee.

Mr. WARBURTON (Sandgate) (12.44 p.m.): From the way in which the Minister has approached the Estimates of the departments under his control, one could easily gain the impression that everything was rosy. But there is a lack of funds, a shortage of staff and other factors, some of which I will have time to outline in what I regard as the disgracefully limited time available to me today to discuss matters that must be of grave concern to the public of Queensland.

Whilst the Minister has been speaking, the annual report of the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the annual report of the Queensland Art Gallery have been placed in the offices of members. Those reports should have been available well before this Estimates debate. Their late arrival is rather disgraceful. The Minister should explain why such a very important document as the report from the National Parks and Wildlife Service, one of the major departments under his control which was presented to him on 22 October 1979, is received in Parliament House on 20 November and not distributed until the Minister is on his feet presenting his Estimates. The Queensland Art Gallery report was received at Parliament House yesterday, but when the Minister received it is unknown and difficult to establish for the very strange reason that the date of presentation to the Minister does not even appear on that document.

At this stage I wish to devote some time to the discussion of the Department of Sport. When the Soccer Football Pools Bill was introduced in April 1976, Sir Gordon Chalk stated that a Sports and Youth Fund was to be established into which two-thirds of the tax received from Soccer Pools would be placed. That money was to be used to develop sporting and youth facilities. That fund began making assistance available to State sporting associations from 1 July 1977 in the form of subsidies to State associations for full and part-time administration costs, for full and part-time directors of coaching and training and for the conduct of seminars and courses for the training of coaches, officials, umpires and referees.

For the year ended 30 June 1978 a total of \$87,564.45 was received by the fund in the form of subsidies. For the year ended 30 June 1979 the subsidy payments increased to \$216,489.16. What is not generally understood is that the major part of the funds received from Soccer Pools is not directed to the Department of Sport. If one examines the 1979 annual report of the Department of Welfare Services—the Estimates of that department were discussed

recently—one sees that a total of \$197,116.84 was made available to State youth associations. Most of the 39 recipients were church organisations. The 1979 report of the Department of Welfare Services specifically mentions that \$109,686 of total subsidies, which in the main come from Consolidated Revenue, was a charge against the Sports and Youth Fund. In 1978 the charge against the fund was only \$600 for the year, the rest of the subsidy payments, as all payments made in previous years, coming from Consolidated Revenue appropriation.

I do not say this in any way disrespectful, but one wonders whether the Lutheran Youth of Queensland, which received \$52,506, the Churches of Christ Centre, Caloundra, which received \$50,300, the Salvation Army which received \$37,357, or the Order of the Knights (a Methodist young men's organisation), which received \$4,520, are aware that the money received by way of subsidies is derived from gambling on the Soccer Pools. I have no doubt that the subsidies are well received and well spent, but on the other hand it seems to me to be most unreasonable that only \$216,489 has been allocated to the Department of Sport, out of a total of \$523,291, in other words, only 40 per cent of the total money available from Soccer Pools revenue.

I refer now to subsidies and grants paid to various sporting associations and clubs from monies allocated for assistance and encouragement to sport. Again we see a cut-back in the total amount paid to sporting bodies in the 1978-79 period. The 1977-78 payments amounted to \$2,335,400. In 1978-79 the amount dropped to \$2,021,776. I am most concerned about the manner in which this large sum of money is distributed. I am also concerned about the manner in which the Department of Sport is forced to operate. This Government should be ashamed to admit that what it calls a Department of Sport consists of one director, a clerk of sport and a typist. When I make this criticism it is no reflection whatsoever upon the staff of the department. I join with the Minister in thanking Mr. Leahy for his past efforts in that department.

The Department of Sport, by virtue of the Government's failure to recognise the real needs of our State's sporting fraternity, is confined to dealing with applications for hand-outs in the way of subsidies and grants in accordance with the guide-lines set down by the Queensland Government. It was these guide-lines that allowed what I would describe as a misuse of public money, and the same guide-lines that undoubtedly give a far greater benefit to those sporting clubs and organisations that have the ability to raise the most funds. There is no doubt whatsoever that the system is loaded against junior sport and small sporting groups that are battling to give the children of their districts a chance to participate in a sport.

They are disadvantaged because they either do not belong to one of the State associations, do not have the money-raising capacity to meet the subsidy guide-lines or are unaware of the financial assistance for which they may apply.

That last point is very relevant. It is in that sphere that the Government falls down badly. The Department of Sport should be manned with enough field officers to ensure that all clubs and organisations are aware of the scheme for assistance and encouragement to sport. The smaller sporting groups that may have an opportunity to lease some land and to erect a small clubhouse complex are, in the main, under the direction of mums and dads and other volunteers who devote all their available spare time to their organisation's activities. These people need to be visited. They need to be properly advised and given assistance to complete application forms. The department should have sport advisers with expertise in administration who can be called upon by the sporting clubs and groups, whether they be large or small, to help them with their management programmes and ideals.

There are numerous instances where the amalgamation of small clubs playing the same sport in the same district would be of tremendous advantage to the people involved. The Department of Sport should, through its field officers, without interfering with the running of such clubs, be showing the advantages of getting together and giving administrative assistance wherever possible. I simply use this as an example of the type of expertise which needs to be attached to the department. If some of our top sporting personalities and identities can be trained to carry out such activity, I would suggest that they would be the ideal persons to fill those positions.

Earlier I mentioned misuse of public funds because of the way the guide-lines for grants and subsidies were framed. It is interesting to look at the early reports. In 1976-77, the Little Athletics Association of Queensland received \$1,284 as a subsidy for the coaching of juniors. Other subsidies were as low as \$29 and \$63 for junior gymnastics. However, licensed bowls and golf clubs were taking advantage of the Government's generosity. \$10,700 went towards building a green and fencing at a Redcliffe Peninsula bowls club; \$18,714 towards toilets, showers, two greens and fairway drainage at the Gold Coast Burleigh Heads Golf Club; \$38,484 towards the construction of the second stage of the Hervey Bay Golf Club; and \$36,028 towards improving water reticulation at the Indooroopilly Golf Club. That was the club, if I remember rightly, that was recently talking about setting membership fees at some hundreds of dollars a year.

The position remained the same for 1977-78, with licenced clubs still receiving large hand-outs from the fund. The Ayr Golf

Club received \$17,420 towards course extension and improvement. The McLeod Country Golf Club was given \$16,637 to build new showers and toilets, etc. Remember that the money that I speak about comes originally from Consolidated Revenue, not from Soccer Pools or the like. The Surfers Paradise Golf Club received \$21,581 towards the cost of redesigning and improvements to the course.

The guide-lines for grants and subsidies under this scheme have now been reviewed to some extent, not because the Government believed that its priorities were astray—that is important to note—but, as the 1979 annual report of the Department of Sport states, “because of the need to contain expenditures within Consolidated Revenue appropriations”. The reasons were economic.

As somebody very closely associated with and participating in some of the State's major sports, I defy any honourable member to prove to me that licensed bowls and golf clubs need financial hand-outs from the public purse at the expense of junior and other less fortunate sporting organisations and bodies. Certainly the clubs cannot be blamed for making application for money that is freely available, and they would be regarded as foolish if they did not make application. However, the 1978-79 distribution of funds clearly shows how the Queensland Government's guide-lines are slanted in favour of the strong professional football, bowls and golf clubs, which continue to head the list as far as amounts of subsidy and grants are concerned.

There can be no question about this Government's inability to grasp the nettle in relation to the State's sport. The whole lop-sided system needs to be turfed out and a new-style organisation established. It is important that the Department of Sport be dismantled and replaced by an organisation that will do the right thing by both junior and senior sport throughout Queensland.

There are many problems peculiar to junior sport, one in the forefront being the difficulty in raising operating funds, and I have no doubt that the more fortunate recipients of assistance in the form of Government grants or subsidies welcome it, irrespective of how small the amount might be. Junior and women's sporting clubs do amazingly well to keep their heads above water financially, but they will never have their own facilities of the type they deserve till the hand-out syndrome is cast aside as the only means of assistance and a new and fairer form of financial assistance, coupled with a revamped Department of Sport, is brought into being.

The development of high-standard sporting facilities is important to the growth and improvement of sport, and I suggest that consideration be given to low-interest loans being made available to clubs that can show viability and management capability for the purpose of erection of club houses and amenities and for the development of sporting complexes, preferably on a regional basis initially.

Loans at 5 per cent interest have been made available under the Sporting Bodies (Natural Disaster Relief) Act 1974 and the Associations (Natural Disaster Relief) Act 1976 on previous occasions, so the concept of low-interest loans is by no means new.

In the few minutes remaining to me, I shall speak about the Films Board of Review. One of the 17 Acts administered by the Minister is the Films Review Act 1974, and the mode of operation of the board set up under that Act has been the subject of heavy criticism on a number of occasions since the board's inception.

I make no secret of the fact that I consider the Films Board of Review to be an expensive, ineffective imposition upon the industry and the financial resources of the chief office of the Minister. This State persists with a double system of film censorship, apparently because the insularity of Queensland's Ministers is such that they consider that the morals of Queenslanders need protection greater than that given by the Commonwealth censor to all the people of the other States in Australia.

Earlier this year, when it was being suggested that the Government was moving to close loop-holes in the Films Review Act 1974, it was said in one of the major newspapers that we in Queensland have a Government of unflinching conservatism, a Government that is led by men from remarkably similar backgrounds. It has to be realised, especially by the men who lead us, that Queensland's border is a line on the map, not a barricade against ideas.

[*Sitting suspended from 1 to 2.15 p.m.*]

Mr. WARBURTON: The Minister must surely realise that true censorship can be achieved only by ensuring that all films subject to censorship are viewed prior to any move for distribution. The operations of the Commonwealth Film Censorship Board are such that no film can be shown anywhere in Australia before a certificate of registration is issued to the distributor by the board. In Queensland, as I have stated on a number of previous occasions, film theatre operators who after showing certain films during numerous daily and evening sessions—such films in some cases having been shown throughout Queensland over a number of years—have been summoned to bring the films to the Films Board of Review theatre for showing and have subsequently been advised, just prior to screening-time that evening, that the films were banned.

This part-time, sit-when-it-suits-them board has caused exhibitors to suffer financially and to lose hard-won goodwill because of advertising commitments and resentment from patrons who paid or travelled to see an advertised film.

The thing that disturbs me, and is most offensive to me as an individual, is to have people like Desmond John Draydon, Patience Thoms, Thomas Heike and the like deciding

what films I should or should not be allowed to view. Just as important, particularly as it relates to the Estimates, is the money wasted in propping up such a phoney operation.

The Minister and his Government no doubt hope that the very existence of the Films Board of Review portrays an impression of their concern for moral values. The point is that the portrayal of the board as an efficient, effective unit preventing corruption of our morals as a result of viewing corrupt films is the facade of all facades.

To give yet another example of the manner in which the Queensland board operates, I refer to what took place on Friday, 30 March 1979. The proprietor of the Lutwyche Imperial Theatre was phoned during the progress of a screening session of the film "Bibi" by a representative of the film distributor Greater Union Organisation. He was informed that the film was required at 2.30 p.m. that day for viewing by the board. This call was received at 11 a.m. Now, "Bibi" is certainly an R-rated movie that was first shown at the Graceville Theatre three years ago. It had been shown all over Queensland since that time and during the weeks just prior to Friday, 30 March last, was screened at the Alhambra at Stones Corner, the Boomerang at Annerley and the Capri at East Brisbane.

Surely the film theatre proprietor who was called upon to take the film "Bibi" to the 136 Elizabeth Street theatre for review had every reason to believe that the film was not subject to banning. On Monday, 26 March 1979, he advertised "Bibi" in the daily "Telegraph" at a cost of \$250. Subsequently advertisements on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday cost \$180, and a further advertising cost of \$250 was incurred on Friday, 30 March, the day he received the news from the board of review. His total advertising costs, which included poster and suburban column advertising, was in the vicinity of \$800—a very significant amount when one considers the difficulty that hard-top theatre proprietors have in getting enough custom to make their business viable. The end result was that the film was banned by the Films Board of Review after screening on the afternoon of Friday, 30 March. I would suggest to honourable members that my outline of events leading up to the banning of the film shows just how stupid and futile is the form of film censorship that this Government has forced onto the people of Queensland.

Each and every annual report of the Films Board of Review, under the heading of "Meetings of the Board" states that the board held a number of formal meetings during the period under report and that members spent much additional time viewing films and having discussions with distributors and exhibitors.

The reason for the Labor Opposition's repeated calls for a joint parliamentary public accounts committee is to ensure that the Queensland public get value for their money. I have repeatedly been refused information concerning the number of board meetings held and which members attended those meetings by the Ministers concerned, the present Minister going so far as to say that it is not his function to ascertain which particular members constitute the quorum of the board at any particular viewing.

In my opinion, it is the Minister's responsibility to see that board members are giving value for money. The Minister should remember that, contrary to normal procedure, Films Board of Review members receive a certain level of remuneration per annum. They do not receive an allowance based on actual attendance, as do the members of other similar boards responsible to the Government. For this reason, I refuse to accept that I, as Opposition spokesman on Culture, National Parks and Recreation, together with other honourable members of this Parliament, should be denied access to information relating to the work activities of board members which should be readily available.

The Government Gazette of 28 July 1979 advised of an amendment to regulation 2 of the Films Review Regulations 1975. A previous amendment of 8 February 1979, which lifted the annual payments of board members from \$2,000, \$750, and \$500 to \$3,000, \$1,250 and \$1,000 respectively (effective from 1 February 1979) was to be rescinded. The July amendment provided for increases to \$10,000, \$1,800, and \$1,500 respectively (effective from 1 January). Then regulation 2 was further amended on 9 August 1979, evidently because the July amendment was invalid.

(Time expired.)

Mr. SIMPSON (Coorooora) (2.21 p.m.): Good government must provide as many activities as possible that are beneficial to the people of this State, and part of good government is the Estimates before the Committee today. I support the Minister on their introduction, particularly as they affect the development of a number of new pursuits such as those undertaken by the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Firstly I should like to refer to culture. Because of the interest shown by a number of historical societies in Queensland, the knowledge of our local history and culture is being improved. Unfortunately, many of the people who had contact with our early pioneers have been lost to us through the passage of time. I should like more schoolchildren to undertake projects to obtain from the senior citizens in our community information on their links with the past and the early history of this State.

Mr. Moore: We have not even done that in regard to Parliament; why should we do it in other cases?

Mr. SIMPSON: The history of Parliament is important, too. The restoration of Parliament House is important. It is regrettable that a number of records have been lost from the Parliamentary Library.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: What about the Bellevue?

Mr. SIMPSON: What about the Bellevue?

Mr. K. J. Hooper: Don't you think that was part of our history?

Mr. SIMPSON: It was part of it, but even the National Trust could not agree that it should have been preserved as an example of that style of architecture. The people should be made aware of the fact that the joint parties have decided that any building erected on that site will have a lace-work facade that will be in keeping with the precinct.

The Queensland Cultural Centre being established in Brisbane will provide facilities for musical and dramatic performances that will bring enjoyment to the community. This project is very difficult to equate in terms of work or productivity. It is, however, a reflection of our civilisation and our standard of living. That centre must be pursued in the interests of preserving music, drama and other forms of the arts that are desired by the community.

The community would be in a sorry state if we did not have at least some people who are prepared to try something new, to reach out for new horizons. At Noosa a man is endeavouring to set a new sailing speed record, and people ask why he would do such a thing, but it is an inherent part of man's nature that he should endeavour to extend his horizons and climb even higher peaks.

I now want to turn to the State Library service and the most important work being done in relation to historical records, especially in the Oxley Library. I was pleased to hear the Minister announce that there will be an additional field officer attached to the Oxley Library. If his talents are used in the right way, he could do worthwhile work, in co-operation with historical societies throughout Queensland, in preserving historical records and collating them into a form in which more people could enjoy them. The State Library is now available for use on late-shopping nights. It is most important that this extension of hours keep up with the movement evident in the commercial field. However, I do not think that goes far enough. Something should be done about opening certain Government offices at times when the public are more easily able to use them, for example, on late-shopping nights. The same reasoning could be applied to banks. Recently the Commonwealth Bank in Perth decided to extend its opening hours to 8.15 a.m. to 5.45 p.m. As I said, I commend the Minister for extending the hours during which the facilities of the State Library are available.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service is a most important and expanding part of the Minister's portfolio. The new Minister, the Honourable Ivan Gibbs, has continued the very good work begun by the Honourable Ken Tomkins and the Honourable Tom Newbery. The Minister faces a tremendous challenge in improving even further our national parks and other beauty spots. Not only do they provide resources for film-making but also relaxation therapy for people normally cloistered in the high-rise buildings in the cities. High-rise buildings have a detrimental effect on the well-being of their occupants and the community generally, but we still continue to build them, purely to improve the bank balances and balance sheets of certain people. We have to offset this detrimental effect on the community by enabling people to enjoy the free and open surroundings of national parks, even though it costs the Government quite a lot to provide them.

An example of the need to properly manage national parks is the Cooloola National Park, part of which is in my electorate. The management plan for this park has recently been released. It is obvious from the plan that the officers of the department have tried to provide some small incentive to persuade people to help preserve the park, for example, by not seeking an extension of the roads that presently traverse the park such as the road from Gympie to Rainbow Beach. There are points in the report upon which I would like to briefly touch today. It does contain some misleading assumptions. For instance, people in my electorate are complaining about a rumour that the beach from Rainbow Beach to Double Island Point and Freshwater to Double Island Point may be closed. The beach does not form part of the national park and does not come under the management plan, so therefore it will not be closed. There is no worry there.

The question of access to the park and how much the park will be used is most important. We have to make parks available to the people for their enjoyment, yet we have the responsibility to look after the parks and ensure that we do not place them in jeopardy or cause them to be substantially spoiled. The Cooloola National Park is well defined on its eastern seaboard, which is the side from which people will approach it. The report seems to suggest that most people will approach the park from Rainbow Beach. This is not the case now, and I do not believe that it will be the case in the future. The access is from the south through Noosa and Tewantin.

The boardwalk-type roadway that has been proposed in place of the forest gorge track that runs from Rainbow Beach to Freshwater on the eastern seaboard of the national park will be longer and extremely dangerous. The road in its present form has tight turns and sharp crests. From my experience of it, it is very dangerous,

and it will be only a matter of time before someone is seriously injured or killed on it. We do not want any accidents there, because it would be very difficult to get an injured person out of that area. I would not like to think that the new rescue helicopter service for the Sunshine Coast will have to spend all its time rescuing people in the national park.

I believe that management has a responsibility to provide a road over this sandy country. It has to provide a surface on which vehicles can travel. But the alignment and design of the road must be such that it is safe. Otherwise, it should be a one-way road. I am in favour of reopening the original route down the forestry gorge. I believe that it should be maintained not as a gazetted road but by the national park management. Its construction should be similar to that of the one in the Noosa National Park.

If it is found later that that gorge road through the beautiful rain forest is not capable of handling two-way traffic, I believe that that would be the time to consider a down road from Rainbow Beach to Freshwater. It would be on the new alignment and, although it might be three times as long, it would allow people to see a far better cross-section of the vegetation of the Cooloola National Park. It would be of great advantage from that point of view. The return trip could be made via the rain forest gorge road, which is a shorter route.

Experience in the management of national parks in other countries can tell us a lot about the management of national parks here. In the Yosemite National Park, the authorities built roads in order to make it possible for many people to visit that park. However, that had a very detrimental effect on the park. The authorities had to introduce a new management plan which limited entry to the park. Another important element in national park management is the provision of quiet means of transport so that people can get greater enjoyment from the park. These are aspects that should be incorporated in the management of our national parks, particularly the one at Cooloola.

Unfortunately, some people have a hang-up about allowing horses as a means of transport in national parks. I am in favour of it and I think they should be allowed. Just because they were not indigenous to Australia does not mean they should be excluded. If that reasoning was adopted, we would be excluded as well. I believe it was stupid, petty and childish to cut down some existing trees in national parks simply because they were not indigenous to the park. However, that has been done. Part of the Cooloola National Park was leasehold land in the early days, and the groundsel and lantana on that part of the park have not been eradicated. A lot of the area has an early history of control by timber and

forestry interests. Some land adjacent to the Cooloola National Park will continue to be used in that way.

The management of our national parks could be improved by the development of co-operation with naturalists' clubs that could be attached to particular parks. People in those clubs could be properly trained, and are well motivated and dedicated. They would help greatly with the collection and dissemination of information relative to our parks. That would be a way of effecting economies in the running of national parks in Queensland.

I am in favour of charging for entry to national parks where substantial facilities are provided. I do not see why they should be run at a considerable loss.

In the Cooloola National Park I see some dangers associated with the greater use of the waterway along the Noosa River. I invite everybody to view the information centre adjacent to Kinaba Island, which is beside the water entrance to the Cooloola National Park. It is at the north-west corner of Lake Cootharaba. That information centre has been thoughtfully designed. It is built of natural timber and is the entry point to the park, where people can view water birds. The use of boats in the Noosa River, particularly where it is part of the Cooloola National Park, must be very carefully considered.

I do not believe that fishing should be banned in the Noosa River. The management plan agrees with that, as the fish are very difficult to catch. However, fishing in the park needs to be closely monitored to make sure wash from boats has no detrimental effect. I am sure that is an important aspect.

Just as fishing is important, so, too, is the provision of access points and directional signs to inform people of the location of camping sites. People travelling along the beach north of Noosa do not now know what is available in the Cooloola area.

In a period of four years this Government has doubled the area of the State's national parks. That is a wonderful achievement. National parks will prove to be a tremendous tourist attraction and could be a revenue-earner to this State in the future.

I move on to the area of sport. I am very disappointed in the way in which funds have been used this year, as they have been allocated with preference to junior coaching. Although the Opposition criticises the Government over the groups to which it allocates money, surely it cannot criticise the Government for the allocation of funds to the coaching of juniors. However, I am concerned that in my electorate there was no subsidy at all for the construction of buildings. The only money allocated was for a building that had previously been approved.

What is the point in having a subsidy for juniors when they have nowhere to play or completely inadequate facilities? That

is an example from Cooroy, a small town with a population of some 1,400. However, for the second year running it has half the members of Queensland's junior badminton team. That is incredible in itself; but it is even more incredible when one sees the conditions under which they are presently playing in Cooroy. It certainly grieves me. They have worked extremely hard to improve their facilities and have received wonderful co-operation from the community.

I believe that our sporting subsidies must be allocated according to a priority of need; otherwise we will not make the best use of our funds. This is a most important sphere, and I advocate that we on this side of the Chamber endeavour to obtain more and more funds from the Treasury to give further assistance to sport, in particular to those organisations that do not have liquor licences or the sponsorship of affluent membership. I make the plea that we foster those sports that are family oriented, such as golf, tennis, badminton and swimming—those sports that parents and children can participate in together. Not all sports come into that category.

(Time expired.)

Mr. P. N. D. WHITE (Southport) (2.42 p.m.): I commence my contribution to this debate by remarking on the cultural side of the Minister's portfolio. I congratulate the department—and, of course, the Government—on the provision of funds for Brisbane's cultural centre. It will be of great benefit to the people of Brisbane and to Queenslanders generally.

Having said that, I now become a little more parochial and talk for a few moments about the proposed Gold Coast cultural centre. Its development is long overdue. The area has a permanent population of some 100,000; yet we have nowhere of any significance for a cultural activity to be held. We have experienced the cancellation of A.B.C. concerts on the Gold Coast for the very reason that there are no adequate facilities for concerts to be held. The lack of suitable facilities means that there is no encouragement for other cultural activities on the coast.

As I have stated the problem in outline, I must now answer the question: what are we going to do about it? Basically, the Gold Coast City Council is responsible for building a cultural centre. I believe that it has accepted that responsibility. In this morning's "Gold Coast Bulletin" the mayor of the Gold Coast expresses what I believe to be not only his opinion but also that of the council when he says that the time has come to get on with the job of building the centre, which has been proposed for some years now.

It is a very expensive project. Preliminary plans that have been drawn up indicate that it will certainly cost in excess of \$10,000,000. Of course, that does not all have to be

spent at once. The project can, and should, be carried out in stages. The funding will have to come partly from the Gold Coast City Council and partly from the Albert Shire, which has an interest in it. I hope that the Gold Coast City Council will very quickly have detailed plans drawn up and submitted to the Government for approval. Once the plans are approved, a cultural centre project will attract a one-third subsidy from the Government. I would hope that the council will look at other avenues to fund the cultural centre. There is no reason why funds cannot be made available, for example, through the Elizabethan Theatre Trust or such institutions as the Utah Foundation.

Over the years there has been a strong lobby in the council that holds, in brief, that we should have drains before drama. I can understand that point of view. Drains, kerbing and bitumen are very important, but no society is complete unless it has a proper balance between its physical and cultural facilities. I believe that the time has now come to make a determined start on a cultural centre for the Gold Coast.

There is a very active cultural life on the Gold Coast at present, even with the poor facilities that are available. The people concerned operate under adverse conditions, and it is a tribute to them that to date they have managed to keep culture not only alive but thriving. But the stage has now been reached at which, at last, there is real hope that the community on the Gold Coast will have the facilities that it wants and deserves. That is a tribute to all those who have fought so long and so hard for the centre. It also is a tribute to the man who recently was Administrator, because he dusted off the plans and got things moving while he was there. The present councils of the City of Gold Coast and the Albert Shire also deserve credit for maintaining the momentum on this important project, and I pay a tribute to the Minister for initiating and supporting activities that have assisted to maintain that momentum.

However, I should like to deliver a warning to the people of the Gold Coast and, in particular, to some developers. Recently, there was a proposal to include in one shopping centre development on the Gold Coast what was rather glibly called a cultural centre. It was nothing of the sort; it was a glorified hall. I warn the people of the Gold Coast that they should not accept carrots of that type as a substitute for a proper cultural centre, which would be owned by the people of the Gold Coast through the Gold Coast City Council.

What is required is not a glorified hall but a complex that will include a theatre, a visual arts area, exhibition areas and rehearsal and reading rooms. Developers on the Gold Coast can go ahead and incorporate in their developments what they might call cultural centres; that is entirely their own

affair. Of course, they have to get permission to proceed with their developments, and I sincerely hope that permission is not granted for the one to which I referred earlier. I firmly believe that it is in the wrong place and will do nothing but create massive traffic problems.

I turn now to the subject of national parks. First, I congratulate the staff of the National Parks and Wildlife Service. The service is now on the move, and not before time. In the last few years, the acreage of national parks under Government control has trebled, but that is not to say that there are now sufficient national parks. There certainly are sufficient in some areas of the State, but in other areas people do not have access to such parks, and I have in mind particularly areas in Central and Western Queensland. It would be a great mistake to assume that, because acreages are now greater than they were before, we have sufficient. That is not so, and it will become apparent as the population of the State increases and pressure on parks such as Girraween National Park increases.

The general aim in setting aside national parks is to preserve areas of the State so that future generations can see what they used to be like. Of course, it is no use declaring an area a national park and then keeping people away from it. Facilities must be provided in the parks to enable people to enjoy them. They cannot be left as a wilderness, and roads, tracks and toilets must be provided. Some people say, "For God's sake, leave it alone. Let it remain natural." If honourable members want to see examples of what happens when areas are not properly managed, I suggest they go to South Stradbroke Island or some parts of Moreton Island.

With the declaration of over 1,000,000 acres of land at Lakefield as a national park we have entered a new era with national parks in Queensland. However, we cannot manage the large parks in the same way as we have managed the smaller ones in the past. I have no doubt that the Minister and his department are considering whether it is unreasonable to provide decent accommodation in large parks so that people may stay in them and enjoy facilities. In future, will it be reasonable at Lakefield not to permit fishing? I should think that not only is it reasonable, but also something that should be encouraged. We should develop the three homesteads on Lakefield as accommodation centres, probably on lease. In that way we would have better control and management of the large parks. In future, will it be reasonable in the Cape York area not to allow people to carry arms, when some parts of that area are very dangerous? Although a prohibition applies to the carrying of arms in small areas (which is very sensible), I wonder if we should continue to manage the large parks just as we have managed the small ones in the past. I believe that we should not.

Like other departments, the National Parks and Wildlife Service has money and manpower problems. One serious problem referred to me quite often comes from graziers with properties adjoining national parks. They are interested in the proper management of national parks so that their grazing properties can be properly managed. I know that departmental officers are concerned about the proper management of grazing properties adjoining national parks. The blame can be traced to both parties, but sometimes one side is more to blame than the other. Of course, the sensible answer is close co-operation between graziers and those who manage national parks. Without co-operation the problems created by vermin, animal and noxious weed infestation will become worse. I suppose that animals, particularly feral pigs, cause most damage.

The elimination of feral pigs presents massive problems. Frankly I do not know the best way to tackle them. I am told that unless 90 per cent of feral pigs in an area are eliminated, it is just as well to eliminate none. Any percentage under 90 allows rapid breeding that ensures complete repopulation in a short time.

I congratulate the department on the assistance given to sport in Queensland by way of coaching and other facilities that are provided. However, I am disappointed that the amount spent last year was somewhat down on the previous year. I hope that the amount will be increased in the current financial year.

While I am talking about sport, one important point should be made. In some instances a very fine line is drawn between the assistance that the department gives to sport and the assistance given by the Department of Welfare Services. To many people the life-saving movement is a matter of welfare, but to many others, it is a sport. For the people of Queensland and the State's tourist industry, it could well be regarded as an essential industry. The life-saving movement receives a subsidy payment of 75c in the dollar. I would certainly like to see the subsidy increased. What I am saying is that a close watch must be kept on where funds are going from this department and the Department of Welfare Services, so that an essential service, such as life-saving, is not disadvantaged by money being given to other projects which, while they might be important, are certainly not in the same category as the life-saving movement in Queensland.

All that the people know is which department the money comes from, and it is reasonable that they look upon it as Government money. The allocation of Government money is a matter for the Government, and that is why I make this plea for a very careful watch to be kept on where

the money is going. Care should be taken to ensure that the allocations do not reach a serious state of imbalance.

I conclude with a few remarks about an environmental reserve on the Gold Coast which the Minister knows well, because it is in his electorate. I realise only too well the Minister's dilemma in providing not only a reserve but also an educational facility in that area. I do not wish to intrude into something that is in his electorate other than to say that that environmental reserve does belong to the coast and the people of Queensland, and I hope that a satisfactory solution can be found which would place some emphasis on leaving the park as it is and finding another site for a school.

Mr. CASEY (Mackay—Leader of the Opposition) (2.57 p.m.): I am entering this debate this afternoon because I wish to raise some matters that are of grave concern to me. Actually, the set-up of the department is completely wrong. Recreation is the most important aspect of the portfolio, and sport is of much greater concern than any of the other activities covered by it.

In his speech, the shadow Minister pointed out clearly the concern of the Australian Labor Party for the way in which some of the sporting grants and subsidies have been given and particularly the problems confronting junior sport in this State. The junior sporting associations in Queensland have bigger problems than the associations in any other State, for the simple reason that, in order to gain the particular skills players require, they have to meet the high costs of travelling from place to place.

A Government Member interjected.

Mr. CASEY: That is not of much concern to some of the Liberal Party members who are trying to interject. They are not very sports minded or, judging by the look of them, very sports gifted.

Queensland has a large number of tremendously dedicated people who man food and drink bars, and run chook raffles, barbecues and other functions to raise money to provide just the simple things for the junior sportsmen and sportswomen of this State—the young kids who want to develop their sporting prowess. Of course, these organisations have to pay large fees to the Justice Department of this same Government for the privilege of raising that money.

In addition, an army of officials organises sports. On Saturdays, in every electorate, those officials are organising the children and acting as referees, linesmen and umpires in one way or another. The presidents, secretaries and other officers of the clubs help to organise the various sports. As well, there are a tremendous number of dedicated coaches who give their time voluntarily. I know, Mr. Kaus, that you have done this over the years to help junior sport in your area. A great many other

former sportsmen do likewise. I know that the shadow Minister for this portfolio, the honourable member for Sandgate, has done a considerable amount of coaching as well. Now and again sporting organisations are able to run special coaching courses not only in country areas and provincial cities but also here in Brisbane. Government financial assistance helps them considerably, and a number of organisations have received such support. But usually we find that it is only a few lousy dollars—if I might use that term.

I feel sure that this great army of Queenslanders who raise funds and help to coach and organise junior sporting teams would be interested, even amazed, to hear about something of a public scandal that I have stumbled on in this area. I will relate the story in the same way that I was able to unravel it.

Most members of the Committee would know that under the present scheme most sporting clubs must submit their applications, whether they be for subsidy or capital grant, to their State body by the end of March so that they can be lodged with the department by the end of April. As usual, late in October this year I received a number of letters from the Minister relating to sporting grants that have been allocated to organisations in my electorate. As usual, I also noted the small amounts allocated for coaching for hack and pony clubs, football and softball clubs and other junior sporting organisations in my electorate.

I was, however, amazed to see one letter that indicated that a subsidy of \$10,000 had been allocated to the Canelands Roller Skating Club at Mackay. That is a pretty hefty sum for coaching, because on the basis that that is a 50 per cent matching grant, that means that supposedly \$20,000 will be spent by that club on coaching this year. Based on State average earnings, that is the salary of two people for a year.

As one who keeps himself very closely associated with the electorate, this amazed me, because I had never heard of the Canelands Roller Skating Club. I was aware that a new skating rink had just been completed alongside the Canelands Shopping Centre in Mackay. The construction of that project did not begin until the end of April, the date by which State associations had filed all applications for coaching subsidies. The building was not completed until September, and consequently it was October before roller skating began.

I stress the point that this skating rink is run wholly and solely as a business venture. Yet this supposed club that is operating in conjunction with the business suddenly receives a subsidy for this year, a year in which it should not even have been entitled to make application for such a subsidy. I understand that the application was made through a subsidiary company in Townsville.

Mr. Powell: If it is a club, why shouldn't it be entitled to a subsidy?

Mr. CASEY: If the honourable member just hangs on for a moment, I think he will find out why so many junior sporting organisations in his electorate, too, have been deprived of finance. The more one goes into it, the more astounding it becomes.

As I said, the skating rink is run as a business operation. I investigated this business and found out that it is controlled by Skateway Pty. Ltd. of Inala, here in Brisbane. The company owns at least three other skating rinks, one in the Brisbane metropolitan area and one in Townsville. Its headquarters are situated at the third rink at Inala. Further inquiries revealed that the skating rink in the metropolitan area owned by the same company received a subsidy in the vicinity of \$15,000 for coaching. The Townsville skating rink received a subsidy of \$17,250 for coaching. The Inala skating rink received a subsidy of \$19,500 for coaching. Those are subsidies of 50 per cent of the cost of coaching.

Mr. Powell interjected.

Mr. CASEY: Never mind the member for Isis. In a very short time, he will be a former member of this Parliament. Apparently, he is not concerned about junior sport in his area.

If we double that figure of \$19,500 for coaching for Inala, we get a figure of \$40,000 for a year's coaching at Inala. We could get Bobby Fulton to coach all the junior footballers at Inala for a full year for that figure. We could get Greg Chappell to coach all the junior cricketers at Inala for a full year for that figure. That is a tremendous sum of money to be spent on junior sport coaching, particularly when we look at some of the lousy amounts that are provided to various sporting clubs in our own areas.

Mr. Frawley interjected.

Mr. CASEY: We would even be able to get the member for Caboolture to coach junior athletics for a lesser fee than that. However, I would be dubious about the results. None the less, he is dedicated to athletics.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I rise to a point of order.

Mr. CASEY: Oh, he's a ratbag!

Mr. FRAWLEY: I am not a ratbag, and I take exception to that remark. I coach for nothing. I do not take any money for it.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN (Mr. Kaus): Order! There is no point of order.

Mr. CASEY: I do not know what would be the honourable member's worth as a coach in the sporting field. However, if he does not want praise, I will not give him any more.

Those four skating rinks received a sum of more than \$60,000. This is a subsidy virtually for one company. What a tremendous

boost \$60,000 would provide for some of the junior sports in the State of Queensland! However, \$60,000 has gone to this one company. I guarantee that the figure provided for coaching junior cricket, junior Rugby League and junior soccer, which would be the three most popular junior sports throughout Queensland, would not reach that figure.

It is obvious that the wages of this company are being subsidised by the Queensland Government, to the detriment of junior sport in this State. Other companies are involved in this, but it is very difficult to get particulars about them because most of them are in Liberal and National Party electorates. If the attitude of the member for Isis is to be taken as the attitude prevailing in those electorates, they seem to be quite happy that ordinary junior sports are being deprived of funds while a commercial operation in this State is receiving such a large hand-out from the Queensland Government.

There is another organisation called Five-ways Sports Centres. It is a subsidiary of a firm called Queensland Associated Industries, whose headquarters are at Acacia Ridge. Again, this company owns several skating rinks in the State. I also understand that at least one of its skating rinks receives a large figure as a subsidy for coaching by the so-called club that is operating at that rink.

The method used is that the company concerned hires the rink for a particular afternoon, at an inflated figure, to the so-called sporting club that is operating there. This means that the company gets money through the commercial enterprise and also the subsidy that is paid by the Government to the particular sporting club. This is the way in which these companies are operating. Irrespective of the way one looks at this matter, because of the smart way in which these companies are conducting their operations the Queensland Government is subsidising the wages of the people who are employed in them, and, as I have said, this is to the detriment of the sporting clubs throughout the State.

It goes even further than that. Because they have this type of advantage they are using it to further their own ends and have deliberately threatened some of the independent operators of skating rinks in this State that they are going to squeeze them out of business so that they can gain total control. The first company that I mentioned, Skateway Pty. Ltd., has as its director's a person by the name of Con Galtos of 2 Sycamore Street, Inala, and his wife, Beverley Joy Galtos, of the same address. The said Con Galtos is, of course, well known in the Inala area as he is a strong and prominent supporter of the Liberal Party there and has worked for the Liberal candidate who is opposing my friend and colleague the member for Archerfield. Through his political associations that man has clearly revealed himself to be a friend of somebody in the

Government. There is no question that he has political associations with the Government. He also has the Australian franchise of a few American companies that are very much involved with the world-wide distribution of skating equipment.

The situation gets even worse. The four clubs I have mentioned received between them almost \$4,000 by way of capital grants, supposedly to assist them to set up frames for playing hockey on the skating rink and that sort of thing. That sounds to be quite a good thing, but the skating rinks concerned charge fees for training and coaching in the sport concerned. So it is a nice old lurk for the companies concerned. They are making money both ways. The capital grant is to the advantage of the company; it finds its way back to the company. Sporting subsidies in this State were never intended to bolster private organisations. The granting of subsidies in this way should be stopped immediately, and the Minister should have a thorough investigation of the matter. He may already know. He should already know because they are some of the highest grants for coaching in Queensland. They are far higher than any of the subsidies given to the small bodies that cater for junior sport in Queensland.

I want to move to another point that I have previously raised in this Chamber, that is my suggestion to the Minister for Culture, National Parks and Recreation that a sporting hall of fame be established in Queensland to give proper and true recognition to those prominent Queensland sportsmen and sports-women who have brought great fame and honour to this State. Many of them are personally known to us at this stage of our lives. Some of us have been closely associated with them. Many who did so well in the past are now starting to be forgotten by the young junior sports people of today. Many of us in this Chamber recognise that our first great feelings for sport, particularly for sport in which we did eventually excel, came from our own childhood feelings towards the sporting heroes of those days. That is obvious when one looks at the history of former well-known sportsmen of this State and nation.

Moves are being made in Canberra to establish a national sporting hall of fame as part of the proposed national history museum. While the so-called cultural centre is being established on the south bank of the Brisbane River there is an excellent opportunity to incorporate within it a Queensland sporting hall of fame. The Queensland Museum will be shifted from its present location near the Royal Brisbane Hospital to that complex. The Queensland Museum has achieved prominence and recognition over the years for the high standard of its displays. Nonetheless, many of the exhibits deal with subjects that do not interest the ordinary person. It is very difficult to interest him in museum exhibits unless he can be encouraged to visit the museum.

It is very easy to interest children in sport. Most children play sport. If a sporting hall of fame were to be established within the cultural centre at South Brisbane, in conjunction with the museum, I am quite positive that it would help to further their cultural development in other spheres. I do not restrict those remarks just to museum exhibits. It would encourage them to visit the building more frequently, thus assisting in their overall cultural development.

That is something that we should closely consider. The books and records held by the Oxley Library have established it as a place of great historical interest. Many of the people who visit that library to obtain historical records become very interested in libraries, their work and activities. In like manner, I believe that a sporting hall of fame would be very supportive of the cultural pursuits for which provision is being made at the cultural centre on the south bank of the Brisbane River.

Finally, very briefly I raise my own personal protest at the way in which television coverage of sporting events is developing. People in country areas, who are already deprived of so many services, are not receiving their due and just coverage of major sporting events. This occurs particularly in areas where only the A.B.C. transmits. In those areas, because there is not sufficient coverage for advertising, commercial channels do not transmit. Most country people are sick and tired of watching golf very late at night. There is nothing very stirring or interesting about watching golf on television or, for that matter, watching "Pot Black" for the sixth time, which is the forte of the A.B.C. Apparently the A.B.C. purchased "Pot Black", and it seems to continually transmit repeats.

(Time expired.)

Mr. NEAL (Balonne) (3.17 p.m.): I rise to support the Minister in this debate on his Estimates. In so doing, I congratulate him on his appointment to that portfolio. In addition, I congratulate the officers of the department for the work they are doing. We can all be very proud of the new Queensland Cultural Centre being built in Brisbane. It is befitting of our State capital, and something that we can all be proud of as Queenslanders.

Mr. Bourke: It should have been built in Toowoomba.

Mr. NEAL: Unfortunately, that is the way a number of people view such a development. Whilst it will be a tremendous asset to the people of Brisbane, unfortunately a great number of people in western areas will possibly never know what it looks like, let alone what happens there. However, that is no reason why the State should not have such a cultural centre. I certainly support it.

I shall now advert to our State's national parks. It is very pleasing to see the tremendous amount of support national parks are receiving from the public and the way in which they are being maintained and managed. It is also heartening that we have 2 700 000 ha of national parks. The area is increasing yearly through departmental acquisitions when and where land becomes available. National parks are very well patronised. It is a pleasure to see the number of people who visit our parks. It is absolutely amazing to find that hundreds of people take advantage of the facilities offered in them, especially during holiday periods. Naturally, for city dwellers, they provide an opportunity to get away from the hustle and bustle. It is somewhere for parents to take their children, to get them out into the country and to learn from nature. Of course, national parks close to heavily populated areas are visited most frequently and receive most attention, and that is only to be expected.

In dealing with the subject of national parks, the honourable member for Cooroora said that he thought a charge should be levied for use of the facilities. I know that a tremendous amount of work is required to maintain the walkways, toilet facilities, barbecue areas, and so on, but, although it would be one way of recouping some of the Government's expenditure on national parks, I do not think that a charge should be levied. At one time I did believe that a charge should be made for the services provided. However, I now realise that they are one of the few places to which families can go and have an enjoyable but inexpensive time, without continually having to put their hands in their pockets.

Some of the officers of the National Parks and Wildlife Service have made it clear to me that they would not like to see charges levied. They put it this way: while no charges are being levied, they believe that they have a certain amount of authority over behaviour and the disposal of rubbish in national parks; whereas, if a charge is levied, people will say, "We are paying for this. We can do what we please." In my opinion, while people do not have to pay and while officers and rangers of the Wildlife Service adopt the approach that they are now adopting, people will respect national parks and maintain them in the way in which they should be maintained.

Some very large areas in Western Queensland have been set aside as national parks. I wonder how many people will visit areas that are off the beaten track for tourists and are too far away to visit for a week-end. Perhaps some people who are really desirous of seeing them will venture out there on a holiday or for long week-ends. However, they are virtually untouched at present, and I wonder what type of management and control and what type of facilities can be provided by the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

The honourable member for Southport also referred to the management of such parks. They certainly pose problems. They are havens for feral pests, vermin, and so on, and they become a bone of contention with people living alongside them when feral pigs cause damage to improvements such as fencing and to crops or when they lose lambs. It is a problem that must be considered, and I believe that control measures could be taken to reduce the number of feral pigs in national parks. In my opinion, they are the worst pest in the State at the moment, and I was pleased to see recently that the Federal Minister for Primary Industry had given approval for the establishment of a processing plant at Goondiwindi at which scrub pigs would be treated for export as game meat. That will partly control feral pigs, because their elimination would stop the income of the processing plant and the operators would not want that to happen.

Over the years much has been said about various species of wildlife being endangered. We must be very careful to maintain wildlife species and ensure that they are not exterminated. I have been pleased to note an increase in the number of emus, curlews and koalas in my area. Like other animals, they suffer from drought and disease.

Mr. Moore: What about the 1080 campaign? Did it get rid of the dingoes?

Mr. NEAL: Thank heavens we have only an odd one or two of them.

As I said, the native animals and birds suffer from drought and disease, but after a run of reasonable seasons, coupled with a bumper season last year, the wildlife species have built up in my area. I know that a tremendous build-up has taken place in the number of ground birds and small marsupials as a direct result of the 1080 pig-baiting campaign carried out in 1976 or 1977. While the meat-bait campaign could have been conducted more cautiously, large numbers of feral cats, foxes and scrub pigs were destroyed. That was one of the good things which flowed from that campaign. It is well known that foxes and feral cats cause tremendous havoc with small marsupials and birds. While many conservationists were concerned about the impact on wildlife of the 1080 campaign, I believe that it did infinitely more good than harm. I did not see any evidence of real harm, apart from that caused to domestic dogs. The advantages far outweighed the disadvantages.

We are often told that we must be careful with the koala population. One night when I was going home from Parliament, I reached the area near the Ipswich bypass road and had to stop in a line of traffic. I thought that there had been an accident. When I drove past slowly, I found a large number of people shepherding a koala across the road. It is quite common for me and

members of my family to see koalas on our property. As a young lad, I did not know that they were there. It was only after I started to look for them and found how to find them that I learnt there were plenty of koalas there. When we know how to look for some of these animals and are prepared to spend a little time doing so, we find them.

Last year the dramatic increase in the number of kangaroos caused severe problems. Most landholders have no desire to wipe out kangaroos. They are prepared to live with them; in fact, they have to do so whether they like it or not. Kangaroos will never be shot out in Queensland. Queensland has many millions of inaccessible acres in which kangaroos can live. Man has no chance of getting into those areas to wipe them out. The problem of plague numbers of kangaroos this year is the direct result of the ban placed on the sale and export of kangaroo products by the then Federal Minister for Export and Trade, Senator Murphy, in 1973.

Mr. Davis: I supported it, too.

Mr. NEAL: I quite understand that the honourable member would support it. That is indicative of his sympathy for the rural areas. He is always saying how sympathetic he is.

The closing of the American market and the ban resulted in a number of shooters and companies that were dealing in pet meats, kangaroo products and skins going out of business. Nobody will shoot large numbers of kangaroos if he does not get anything for the product or the skin.

Mr. Davis: Then why are you always wanting more tags?

Mr. NEAL: I am referring to the time when the export ban was in force and the products could not be sold. Nobody would shoot kangaroos, and that is how the problem of large numbers of kangaroos this year arose. The numbers increased simply because of the wonderful season we had last year and because they had not been shot back. That created a tremendous problem.

The officers of the National Parks and Wildlife Service did everything in their power to obtain tags. They foresaw the problem and they had approximately 750,000 or 800,000 tags on order for this season. Unfortunately, that number was nowhere near enough and they had to get more tags half-way through the year. The difficulty arose partly because only one company in Australia manufactures the tags. It could produce only about 50,000 a week, so it was not possible to get the number of tags to satisfy the demand.

In addition, the Federal Government was reluctant to increase the quota unless a scientific count was taken. I was very pleased that the Director, Mr. Saunders, authorised those counts to be taken, and

the number of tags was increased. I should like to think that this coming year the department will have more than adequate tags on hand to cater for the demand, because a number of professional shooters and many semi-professional week-end shooters depend on kangaroo-shooting for their livelihood. I am hopeful that, at the beginning of the coming year, we will have adequate tags. I believe that we could have an open season on kangaroos, as we had before the introduction of the tag system. By "open season", I mean that we could operate without the tags, because the departmental officers are quite capable of handling the matter.

I should like to touch briefly on the other areas of the portfolio. I am disappointed that the allocation by way of sporting grants is not as much as it was last year. As I have said before, in times of economic stringency we must expect some belt-tightening. It is not unreasonable to expect that there will be some curtailment somewhere, and this is obviously one area where this has occurred. Grants and subsidies to sporting clubs have been of tremendous benefit to organisations in my area. It enables them to provide facilities much better than they could expect if they had to rely completely on their own resources. Because it is an indication that the Government is giving the people in my electorate some assistance, they are most appreciative.

I am also appreciative of the assistance given to the various cultural groups such as pottery clubs in my area. These groups are most necessary in country areas and deserve support. It is one way for the ladies of the area to get together. Many of them travel long distances to attend such gatherings. It is not uncommon to find women travelling 50, 60 and even 100 miles to take part in pottery and drama groups and the like.

The other matter with which I would like to deal briefly relates back to the area of sport. I know that the department does not give assistance for the renewal of sporting facilities, but I think that it is something that could be looked at, particularly for the smaller clubs which provide very necessary sporting facilities in country districts. It is very difficult for those clubs to raise the sort of funds necessary, for instance, to renew bowling greens.

I look forward to the Minister visiting my electorate so that I can show him through the Southwood National Park and the new area near Goondiwindi that was declared a national park only yesterday or the day before. I would like to show him some of the areas of the national park where feral pigs are a real problem. They are causing landholders in the area a great deal of concern.

Mr. AKERS (Pine Rivers) (3.37 p.m.): Today we are debating the Estimates of the portfolio of Culture, National Parks

and Recreation. It covers a fairly wide range of not totally related subjects, and it is my duty and pleasure to support the motion moved by the new Minister to cover the expenditure for this Budget item.

I know it always sounds bad to say, "I support it, but", but I do have some criticism of the Estimates that have been produced. They just do not give us enough information to conduct an informed debate, and so the discussion covers a very wide range of subjects that are not really related to the Budget. The Estimates for this portfolio cover only four pages plus a summary, and yet the figures concerned are quite large. The estimated expenditure under this portfolio is \$18,710,677. As usual, we see the item "Contingencies", which is a very vague term and is not sufficiently explained, although I must admit that it does contain more information than it has in previous years. Of the amount of \$18,000,000, \$2,200,000 has been allocated to the Chief Office. The Library Board is not now included under that heading. The Cultural Activities section takes another \$3,172,000.

There is a "Special Allocations" subdivision, for which \$6,878,799 is required. It takes up five lines at the bottom of page 25 of the Estimates. Not enough detail is given of what is intended. I would urge that, when future Budgets are presented, more information is made available to Parliament so that members can really debate the Estimates and not do as I am about to do, that is, to cover all the functions that are performed by the department.

The Minister is responsible for cultural organisations, giving encouragement and assistance to sport, the National Parks and Wildlife Service, the Queensland Art Gallery, the Queensland Museum, the Queensland Theatre Company and the State Library, as well as a few other less important but detailed matters that are listed in the Estimates. As I say, those items are not detailed enough in the Estimates.

One of the most visible, and probably more expensive, projects that is underway at present is the new Queensland Cultural Centre on the south bank of the Brisbane River. The Minister mentioned this in introducing his Estimates. This morning, in a question to the Minister for Works and Housing, I congratulated the Department of Works for this year winning virtually all of the major prizes awarded for buildings by the Institute of Architects in Queensland. I praised the co-operation between the private sector and the Works Department. The Queensland Cultural Centre is another excellent example of what is happening in Queensland through co-operation between the State Government and private architects, consultants and others involved in building.

I give my warmest congratulations to Mr. Robin Gibson, the architect in charge of the Queensland Cultural Centre project. He is one of the most imaginative and capable architects in Australia.

This project is an excellent example of what is possible in Queensland. It includes a performing arts complex, a permanent home for the Queensland Museum and the Queensland Art Gallery, a full State Library, a restaurant and auditorium. Out in front are the structures that are obvious now—the landing stage and the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Fountain, which Her Majesty turned on when she was here a couple of years ago.

It is an exciting building. If one looks at the drawings and understands the model, one sees that there will be some very interesting volumes and spaces in that building. It is a credit to both the imagination and the ability of the architect, Robin Gibson, and to the trust itself, which is very ably led by Sir David Muir. I am informed that the trust is co-operating very well with the architects and allowing them to work properly on this project. The present budget for the project is \$42,400,000. Since 1974, the budget has had to absorb quite a number of changes, but it is still under control.

The changes that have been made include the relocation of roads, which is now being undertaken. A left-hand turn detail has been enforced by the traffic planning committee. Since the initial design, the fire services to the building have been upgraded. Toilets have been provided for the members of the public using the plaza areas. Accommodation for the cultural trust has been added to the building since that time. The project is presently within its budget. The only escalation of cost so far is that based on the materials and wages index. That is the same as for any other project. I am reminded by those involved in the construction of the Queensland Cultural Centre that even the salaries of members of Parliament are based on the same type of index. So we cannot complain about that sort of escalation in cost.

The project is within its budget and it is on schedule. That has been established by proper control of the project. One reason for that control is the method adopted of calling public tenders for separate subcontracts, all of which are under the control of the architect or the consultants involved. The criteria for the selection of the final subcontractors have been essentially the ability of the firm to finish within the time of the contract, and to perform to the required standard. Those two things are essential if a project is to proceed properly and to provide the best result for the public. That has been done at every stage to date, and that will continue to be the case.

Another feature of the project has been the planned construction programme produced by the architects and other consultants both from the Public Service sector, under the excellent control of Mr. Roman Pavlyshyn, the Director of Works and from the private sector, with all the consultants working under Mr. Gibson. They have worked in unison to manage this project properly in terms of stringent cost control, both on the individual bits and pieces of the project and also on the total, overall complex. Over the years there has been a long history of problems in the construction of public buildings, brought about by a lack of co-operation.

Quality control in the project has been maintained by a very high degree of architectural skill of the teams under the direction of both Mr. Pavlyshyn and Mr. Gibson. Quality control in a project such as this is paramount, as it is a public building that will influence the cultural atmosphere of Queensland for many years to come. Of all the other things that are involved in a building, what remains are the final quality of the material finish and the overall design. All the other aspects are soon forgotten.

Co-operation has helped to give proper control over the project. The co-operation given by the trust has been constantly praised by the people involved. I previously mentioned Sir David Muir. Many other very capable people are involved in the trust. Mr. Leo Hielscher, the Under Treasurer, is the deputy chairman of the trust. He is involved because the Treasury is financing the project. He has exhibited enlightened and capable control. The co-operation has been described to me as ideal. The words used by the architects involved were, "The trust has been an interested body as opposed to an interfering body." I think that is a very good description of what is happening. It has allowed the professional people, both inside and outside the Public Service, to co-operate and work together in the full sense.

The fourth aspect that has helped the project is that all people associated with it, especially the workmen and artisans, are honouring their commitment in terms of productivity and quality of workmanship. That is an exciting thing to see. Anyone who looks at the site can see that the building is being constructed with real care by all persons working on it. I believe that they are really creating a building for all of the people of Queensland, their children, their grandchildren and many generations after them.

Mr. Davis: It will be particularly good if a flood comes. It is on the wrong side of the river.

Mr. AKERS: That statement just shows that the member for Brisbane Central has not had a look at what is involved in it. A comment like that shows that he has not made any check at all.

Mr. Davis: It is in my electorate.

Mr. AKERS: The flood must really have got into his head for him to make a statement like that.

It is extremely interesting to note that the information pavilion that has been built on the project is being visited by a large number of people, who have recorded their enthusiasm for the creation of this home for cultural pursuits in Queensland. I suggest that people such as the member for Brisbane Central, who apparently does not know anything about it even though it is in his electorate, and others who are opposed to the project, should visit the information pavilion, read what has been said by visitors and appreciate how it has engendered interest and excitement in the population.

Mr. Davis: I didn't say I was opposed to it. I just said that it was built on the wrong spot; that's all.

Mr. AKERS: The member for Brisbane Central would not find anything right in anything the Government does. He is quite happy to go out and present the cheques that the Government provides to sporting groups in his electorate; but, like the member for Sandgate, he gets up and criticises the whole project. Then, when the cheques are distributed, they will go out and make heroes of themselves.

Mr. WARBURTON: I rise to a point of order. The honourable member for Pine Rivers indicated that I criticised the cultural centre project. That is entirely incorrect.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member for Sandgate will find that he is misinterpreting those comments.

Mr. AKERS: The cultural centre, even though it is being built by another department, comes under the Minister's portfolio. It is an example of what can be done by a completely and totally enlightened team, both administratively and professionally. I believe that it proves incorrect those criticisms that have followed recent major projects. Criticism of architects and their control of jobs can be overcome without the loss of quality and public accountability that is inherent in the so-called project management schemes presently being entered into by sections of governmental responsibility such as the Health Department and the S.G.I.O.

I urge the Government to look at the control that is exercised on the cultural centre and the total co-operation the public servants have been given, and to understand the way in which finances have been controlled in the project. Cash flows have been followed. The management of the project has been entirely satisfactory. The Government will find that it is wasting money on ventures such as project management and package deals that it is involving itself in at the moment.

The comment I earlier made about the member for Sandgate, which he misinterpreted, was a reference to his speech as Opposition spokesman in this field—shadowy Minister, or whatever term they use on that side of the Chamber. One of the things I heard him say was that the Minister should provide officers of his department to make sure that all sporting groups in Queensland know that subsidies are available. Later on he said that we should force people in small groups to amalgamate, so that if there are two separate scouting groups they should be amalgamated to save money. That is typical of the bureaucratic attitude the A.L.P. tries to impose in all spheres of activity.

Mr. Warburton: You are misrepresenting the facts.

Mr. AKERS: The honourable member cannot deny that he said that officers of the department should go out and do his job and let the people of his electorate know what is available from the Government. He is quite happy to go along and hand out the cheques—

Mr. Warburton: Only you people get that advantage; we don't.

Mr. AKERS: I am sure that is not true. If the honourable member for Sandgate has not the gumption to organise himself and keep his electorate informed, he should step aside, stop being the shadow Minister and let someone else do the job properly.

Grants for sport in Queensland are far ahead of those in other Australian States. They were introduced in this State first, and they are giving really effective support to sporting and cultural groups. It is not a system, such as the A.L.P. wants, of just handing out money and leaving it at that.

Mr. Kruger: Oh, you are critical of the Labor Party.

Mr. AKERS: It is easy to be critical of the Labor Party.

The system, which was introduced originally by the late John Herbert, involves committees or executives of clubs and organisations in real forethought and planning. I congratulate every group to which I speak on the real effort they have made and the planning that they have done in order to have the money made available to them. The system certainly encourages them to do that, because the most difficult part of raising money comes when one has almost succeeded and has to raise a little more. When the last third becomes available, groups become really enthusiastic.

There are some faults in the system and some valid criticism may be offered. For example, it could be criticised as being too

loose. However, I prefer it to be too loose than too tight, to be available to too many people than to too few. I congratulate the Government on the tremendous effort that it has produced and the Minister on keeping the scheme going this year. I hope that the relevant Vote will be increased year after year.

One of the major projects in my electorate is the Brisbane Area Forest Park, which comes under the control of several Ministers because it covers different bits and pieces of land. It was suggested originally in this Chamber by Sir Douglas Tooth, and it has now gone ahead. One of the projects opened recently was Bellbird Park at Camp Mountain.

(Time expired.)

Mr. PREST (Port Curtis) (3.58 p.m.): After studying the Estimates, I see that, as stated by the Minister earlier today, additional funds have been made available for 1979-80 and that an additional 21 people will be employed. I note that in 1978-79 a little over \$16,000,000 was spent and that the allocation for 1979-80 is \$18,710,677.

As the honourable member for Pine Rivers said, it is fairly difficult to ascertain how that money is to be spent because very few details are given in the Estimates. Unfortunately, as the honourable member for Sandgate pointed out, the reports have only recently been printed and are now coming into the hands of honourable members. In the Chief Office, 23 people were employed last year and \$2,101,613 was spent; this year, 25 people will be employed and how that money is to be spent because very there is to be an increase from eight to nine in the Cultural Activities section and an increase in expenditure of about \$400,000.

The number of employees at the Queensland Museum is to increase by five and expenditure will increase by about \$200,000. The Art Gallery will have an additional five employees and an extra \$350,000 to spend. The staff of the National Parks and Wildlife Service is to increase by five, with an additional expenditure of \$700,000. Whereas the Library Fund received \$6,000,000 last year, it is to get almost \$6,500,000 this year. The Library Fund assists people throughout the State; all people benefit from it. Under the heading "Special Allocations" in the Estimates, I see that amounts are granted for the Queensland Performing Arts, Newstead House and the Film Industry Development Fund. The increase in funds allocated is about 16 per cent, which is above the inflation rate of about 10 per cent. I hope that we may see an improved performance by these bodies but in the light of the number of extra employees the increased allocation will be used up administratively. Even if we employ an additional 25 people, I would not hesitate to say that the money is being well spent.

I have some reservations about the money being spent by the Films Board of Review. The honourable member for Sandgate covered the matter fairly well, but I have some further comments to make. In August 1979, an amendment to the regulations ensured that the board chairman would receive a 500 per cent increase retrospective to 1 January. That, in itself, was more than strange considering that an amendment introduced in February lifted the chairman's yearly hand-out from \$2,000 to \$3,000 and, in fact, was effective from 1 February 1979, not 1 January. I ask the Minister why, after a lift from \$2,000 to \$3,000 effective from 1 February 1979, it was decided to scrap that arrangement and give a \$10,000 a year bonanza to Mr. Draydon, effective from 1 January 1979.

If the Minister asks how and where he can obtain some extra revenue, I will seriously suggest that he scrap the board of review. A payment of \$10,000 a year, irrespective of effort, and with no need to prove value for money, is not a bad hand-out for a Liberal-cum-National Party candidate who was to relinquish his position on the board if he became the endorsed National Party candidate for Sherwood. He conveniently chose to maintain the lucrative position of board chairman following his disastrous defeat in the Sherwood by-election. During Mr. Draydon's campaign lasting many weeks, film censorship in this State came to a halt. If we could do without that extravagant nonsense at that time, we can certainly do without it now. I am not one to criticise too harshly, but I do believe in this instance that criticism is warranted.

I read in the Press lately that the Queensland Cultural Centre is to be, in effect, another Sydney Opera House. I hope that it may be, if only for the beauty and appeal that the Sydney Opera House has to offer. It will not be as costly to build or as expensive to run as the Sydney Opera House. Only recently the Opera House showed a terrific loss for the past financial year. I hope that our cultural centre will be so designed that it may be used for the benefit of all groups, which will not be priced out of using the facilities at the centre.

The money made available to assist in the payment of coaching juniors has been well spent. Unfortunately, insufficient money has been allocated. I would like more money made available for the purpose. In the past, country youngsters who had tons of talent were not coached in the finer points so as to give them an equal opportunity to compete with city boys and girls. Now that coaches are available and clubs are assisted by way of subsidy, we will see a vast improvement in the standards of the young sports people from country areas. In no time they will be representing the State.

It would be remiss of me not to say how proud I am of the young sportsmen and sportswomen from my area who have been

selected in State teams, at this stage only the age teams, in cricket, hockey, karate, boxing and trampolining. They have all performed well for the State. I do not intend to name each of them individually for fear that I might omit to mention one. I do not want it to be claimed that I did not treat equally all of the sports boys and girls who have made such an impact in sport in my area.

I can assure the Committee that junior sport is improving. Clubs, irrespective of the sport involved, support their teams and the teams do not let them down. They play the game and play it well. They are real sportsmen and sportswomen. I am proud of the children who make the grade—in fact of all children who take part in sport.

Sporting fields and amenities are essential. The demand for them is growing each year. Therefore, the Government and the people are having greater demands placed on them for finance. These days, many people have free time; unfortunately because some of them are unemployed. Others are shift-workers whose hours of employment allow of their devoting time to play sport and to supervise and administer sport.

I express my thanks to Queensland Alumina Limited. It has been helping to finance the activities of the Gladstone Sports and Parks Development Committee, which is developing a sporting field and facilities in the centre of Gladstone. Over the past few years more than \$1,600,000 has been spent on this project, of which Q.A.L. has contributed at least \$1,000,000. Sporting clubs, such as the Port Curtis Tennis Association, the hockey association and the basket and netball association in Gladstone have made major contributions. They have played a very important part in making the project successful.

Before Mr. Fraser and his party gained power in Canberra, the Federal Government paid a subsidy to the committee. Over the past few years, the only subsidy has come from the State Government. Of course, we are most grateful for it and appreciative of it. We did not receive any assistance for two years, but this year we received \$170,000 subsidy, and we will be spending \$500,000 this financial year. The Gladstone Sports and Parks Development Committee is doing a wonderful job and appreciates the subsidy paid to it and the help given to it by Mr. Ron Leahy. He is a very fair-minded man. I thank him for the work that he is doing and the assistance that he has given to me. I wish him well in the future.

Because of competition from many other clubs and organisations that raise funds by way of raffles and so on, sporting clubs are finding it harder and harder to raise money to start this project. Because of the delay, inflation and rising costs are causing great concern to the committee, and it has had to delay plans to approve the necessary facilities.

The Commonwealth Games are just a couple of years away. We must show people from all over the world who will come to our State what fine sportsmen and sports-women we have. These men and women are appealing for money to enable them to compete against better competition. There is no doubt that this is the only way our sporting people will ever again reach the top. We should support them to the utmost. The State and Federal Governments should remember that these are Commonwealth Games. We are part of the Commonwealth, and our reputation depends on our doing the utmost we can to make sure that the Games are a success. Our representatives are ready to give a performance of which we know Australians are capable, but if our Governments want to be lousy with financial assistance then in return our representatives can only be expected to give a lousy exhibition. They do not want to do that, and I do not want to see them do it.

One thing with which I do not entirely agree is that when clubs make application for grants or subsidies, they must do so through their State body or association. Therefore the State association has the right to decide whether it will support that application. It could be said that that places full responsibility on the State association to say that what is requested is necessary and that the club should receive assistance. One might say that as the Government's cake is so small the State association might want to give preference to the bigger clubs and neglect the smaller provincial clubs. The association could keep on doing this over a long period. It could even be that the association might mislay an application and find it only after the closing date for applications. It would then be too late for the club to begin a certain project. If it is necessary that some body supports the application, it could be that the local authority should be asked to do so. It would be in the position of knowing whether the club was worthy of assistance. After all, the members of the State association might never get out into the more isolated and remote parts of the State. They might not appreciate the need for sporting facilities in those parts of the State. Therefore I believe that instead of the parent body submitting the application we should consider allowing the local authority to do so.

It is very pleasing to see the number of not only young children but older people playing sport throughout the State today. In this day and age, it is vital that people play sport, and with so many organisations competing for the available local finance it is apparent that the State Government has to make extra funds available to sporting clubs. In the past year or so there has been some cutting back in the areas for which subsidies are available, and it is obvious that one of these is irrigation systems for sporting fields. The irrigation of sporting fields today is almost a necessity.

It is impossible for sporting fields, which have multiple uses, to get by with only ordinary hosing or waiting for the good Lord to send down rain. The centres that are presently being built, particularly in the green-belt area in Gladstone, are used for hockey, softball and cricket. Many clubs are using the facilities that have been provided by Queensland Alumina Ltd, with assistance from the clubs themselves and a subsidy from the Government.

I agree with what the Leader of the Opposition said. More money should be given to the amateur sporting associations that are providing the necessary facilities for so many thousands of boys and girls and men and women. This money should not be going to commercial sports such as skating. If skating clubs can prove that they are not connected with the owners of the rinks, I believe that they should receive some form of subsidy. But, as has been stated, the amount that is being provided in some areas for the sport of skating would provide a full-time coach for that sport for one year.

I thank the Minister, and particularly the department, for the way in which they have assisted me during the past 12 months.

Mr. POWELL (Isis) (4.17 p.m.): It is well said that the complete person is the one with a sound mind and body. The Government is to be congratulated for drawing together a number of departments under one ministerial portfolio. Perhaps it could be said that some sports or sporting and recreational activities have not been included under this ministerial portfolio, but I think it is fair to say that when culture, national parks and recreation are grouped together, a fairly complete section of human endeavour is covered.

Much has been said this afternoon about sport and sporting grants. I guess that this matter is fairly near and dear to the hearts of many politicians. They like to be able to grant sums of money to various bodies within their electorates. They think that this gives them some sort of aggrandisement. We must look at this matter realistically, and I think that that is what the Government has done, and will continue to do.

I applaud the Government's decision to increase the amount of money available for coaching juniors. I also applaud the way in which it distributes money to sporting bodies. I think that this is commendable. I am rather disturbed about the attitude that some previous speakers in this debate have adopted. It is fairly clear that some organisations are aggrieved. Some sporting bodies within my electorate and in electorates adjacent to mine have not received all the money for which they have applied. I guess we would find that that is the position throughout the State. As applications represent \$2 for each \$1 available, it is fairly clear that some bodies will miss out on getting a grant.

I was very disturbed to hear the speech made this afternoon by the Leader of the Opposition. We all know, especially if we read today's "Telegraph", that his famous sporting endeavour is hot-air ballooning. At least, that is probably the sport that the Labor Party uses him for. In his speech today, he endeavoured to tip some buckets. Perhaps the Government should consider giving the honourable member for Archerfield a coaching grant so that he can coach the Leader of the Opposition in tipping buckets. It is fairly clear that the Leader of the Opposition left a lot of information out of his speech. He criticised a club for receiving a coaching grant. I find that to be a rather astounding proposition. The guide-lines are quite clear. Only bona fide clubs are able to receive coaching grants.

One of the other members of the Opposition, I think it was the honourable member for Sandgate, spoke about the fact that many people know nothing of sporting grants. I might well ask what he has been doing about it. All members of Parliament should publicise the fact that grants are available. Certainly in my own area I tell people as often as I can of the time when they will be available. The Minister puts out a Press release on it. To my knowledge two Labor members, whose electorates adjoin mine, do exactly as I do. There is no excuse for a member of Parliament who stands here and says that sporting bodies within his electorate know nothing about the grants. If that is so, that is his fault, and it is about time he did something about publicising the matter in his electorate.

I would hate to see the limited funds of this Government going to a great bureaucracy—that is what the member for Sandgate asked for—that would travel around the countryside to tell people how to apply for grants. If a sporting body, or any other body for that matter, has enough initiative to form itself into a club, then it jolly well knows how to go about getting a grant. Certainly in my electorate that applies to sporting bodies and cultural bodies, both of which receive large sums of money from the Government.

I am completely in favour of supporting junior sport, and I am completely in favour of supporting participation in sport. However, I get sick and tired of people saying, especially in this place, that large sums of money ought to be given to experts in sport—to the people who have already achieved a measure of success. If money is to be given to those people, it has to be taken from someone else. The Government should direct its financial support towards the teaching of sport to as many people as it can, especially young people. They should have the opportunity to learn the handling skills and other skills involved in team participation. I personally think that the Government should provide money in that direction. Maybe I am out of step with

a number of people, but I am tired of hearing claims for money for people who have already had a sense of achievement and are already experts in sport. Because of my belief, I applaud the Government's attitude towards coaching grants. It is a very good way of going about the matter. In country areas there are young people who do not have the opportunity to meet the Greg Chappells and other sporting personalities of the nation. Consequently, in country areas teachers give their limited time to coaching local teams. Quite often their ability is not as great as it might be. I therefore think it is a marvellous thing that the Government provides money for swimming clubs, hockey clubs, soccer clubs, cricket clubs and what have you. I support the Government for continuing with that sort of approach that was introduced by the late John Herbert.

The Director of Sport, Mr. Ron Leahy, who will retire in the near future, deserved the tributes paid to him for the amount of work he has done in steering this Government policy through. I wish him all the best in his retirement. I hope it is long and he has the opportunity to enjoy some of the sport he has fostered throughout the State.

I will now make some remarks on the cultural activities of this State. As I said before, a complete person is one with a sound mind and a sound body. Many people do not warm to vigorous physical sports and are more interested in the cultural activities in our society. I applaud the way the Government supports these people.

The Education Department of late has introduced a programme which encourages children to learn music in schools. As a result a number of societies and organisations are growing up in our community that gather children together and give them extra-curricular activities in music. I refer to two in particular, the Bundaberg Youth Orchestra and the Bundaberg Concert Band. Some honourable members were fortunate enough to be in Bundaberg in July and heard those two groups of young people perform.

Mr. Ahern: They were very good.

Mr. POWELL: I thank the member for Landsborough.

I am happy to be associated with those groups and to foster them as much as I can. I am grateful that the Minister has been able to support them financially. Here we have an example of people voluntarily going out of their way to gather the young people together into those two organisations. They are two fine examples of young people getting together, making themselves busy and creating happiness for other people. The self-help displayed by both organisations and similar ones throughout the State is to be applauded. While Governments have money to distribute to foster this sort of activity,

each community must decide which activities it wants for itself. Some communities concentrate on one particular aspect of culture while others concentrate on another aspect. The community itself should decide; but, having decided and having made the need known to Government, the Government should step in and assist where it can. That is what happened to both the organisations I referred to.

Reference has been made to the "Brisbane" Cultural Centre that is being built on the south bank of the Brisbane River. I prefer to refer to it by its correct title, the "Queensland Cultural Centre", because it is for the whole State. Perhaps the pity of Queensland is that our capital is in the far south-eastern corner. Too many people who visit Queensland come to Brisbane, go as far north as Nambour and think they have seen our State. Of course, that is not so. It might have been beneficial and far-sighted if our forebears had situated the capital somewhere to the north or west. However, that was not done. I certainly support—reluctantly, I guess—the establishment of the cultural centre in Brisbane, and hope that all Queenslanders will have the opportunity of visiting it.

The Queensland Art Gallery was mentioned earlier in the debate. The Minister himself referred to it in his speech. I applaud the action of the art gallery in taking some of its valuable collection to country areas. In Bundaberg last week my wife had the honour of officially opening a Queensland Art Gallery display, which I think is the first to move outside Brisbane. Here again, the Government is to be applauded for advancing money for such a venture so that country people can see at first hand the treasures the Queensland Art Gallery has.

I understand that the former Minister for this portfolio (the Honourable Tom Newbery) made the famous statement that has been often quoted, "There should be a viable balance between art and entertainment." I agree with that. It is completely correct. If people are to receive support from the Government—and many art forms do—they ought to take into consideration the entertainment value of it. Having looked at paintings that have won first and second prizes around the State, I am sure that my 4-year-old daughter could do as good a job. In fact, she comes home from preschool with some examples of art that I think would probably win first prizes in some contests in our State. Therefore, we have to concentrate on art being displayed for entertainment value as well as for its pure art form.

The Minister is responsible for the contribution the State Government makes to libraries throughout the State. Honourable members will know that I have supported the Government on this action. Libraries are an extremely important part of community life, and I am disappointed that the

Bundaberg City Council is still having difficulty in having a library built and opened to the public. The people of Bundaberg are looking forward to it as a worthwhile addition to the community life of the city.

There are a number of small shires throughout the State, but the Minister said that only 11 of them are without library facilities. That is really good. Queensland is a huge State and some areas are very sparsely populated, and it is pleasing to know that people in those areas are able to receive new books and reference material that is continually provided by the State Library service.

The Minister's portfolio also includes the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Although it is only four years old, it has made tremendous steps and been able to project an image that I think is very healthy indeed. When national parks were first thought of, people believed that they were stuffy little pieces of land, locked off, to which nobody ought to be able to go. I have said on a number of occasions in this Chamber that national parks should be selected and established throughout the State but that by no means should they be locked off.

There are three large national parks in my electorate, and throughout the State there are a number of national parks that are extremely important to the ecology of Queensland. In the Fraser Island National Park, which, of course, is a very popular one, a wide range of flora is available for viewing, but some of it is fairly inaccessible. In fact, many of the State's national parks have in them country that is quite inaccessible. A number of them were formerly parts of forestry reserves or parts of grazing properties, and they have tracks through them. I disagree with the policy that those tracks should be closed. I believe that they should remain open and that the National Parks and Wildlife Service ought to carefully control the types of vehicles that use them.

Most of the tracks are suitable only for four-wheel drive vehicles, and if foolish people go into national parks—and this is true especially of the two that I know very well, Woodgate and Fraser Island—without four-wheel drive vehicles, there is a very strong possibility not only that they will become bogged but also that danger will be created for those who go to pull them out. I should like to see all vehicles other than four-wheel drive vehicles banned on Fraser Island, because I do not think there is any excuse for people to use two-wheel drive vehicles on a sand island. People with dune buggies and trail bikes have no excuse for going to a place such as that. They only cause damage to the existing tracks.

In the Fraser Island National Park there is a track known as the A track, where the National Parks and Wildlife Service has its headquarters. Until it became popularly used by beach buggies, that track was always trafficable by four-wheel drive vehicles. It is

not now because of the damage that has been done to the sand. The fact that this is the fourth year of drought does not help, of course.

In my opinion, it is important that careful management planning should be implemented for the use of vehicles in national parks. You will note, Mr. Row, that I said "for the use of vehicles in national parks", because I do not believe that they should be excluded. Everybody should have the opportunity of traversing the parks and seeing for themselves the marvels that they contain. Although it could reasonably be said that one will not be able to see some of the rarer birds and other animal life in national parks unless one is fit enough, and has the time, to be able to hike in the park, one certainly will not see them if one is using a noisy vehicle. A tremendous amount of scenery is available. Consequently, I believe that we should be making provision for carefully controlled use of national parks by motor vehicles.

I might conclude by making another plea in relation to Fraser Island, which is in my electorate. The national park area in the north of the island is administered by the Hervey Bay Town Council, while the southern part is administered by the Maryborough City Council. Therein lies the problem. Councils, naturally, are unwilling to spend money in an area that does not return money. They are no different from other authorities. The rates received by the two local authorities from Fraser Island are very small indeed.

The Government should take the bit between its teeth and form a management committee to administer Fraser Island. Through no fault of their own the local authorities are just not up to it. A management committee similar to that which met to form a management plan should be regularised. It should administer Fraser, Moreton and similar islands—*islands that have national parks, forestry, maritime service and other departmental interests.* For the correct management of such places, it is important that they be taken out of the hands of local authorities and put under a Government authority that can be approached and has officers already stationed there.

Rubbish is a non-existent problem in the national parks on Fraser Island. The park officers do an excellent job. However, it is a problem in other parts of the island. The 40,000-odd visitors who go to the island every year—and the number is increasing continually—are conscious of the problems. They believe that the Government should take action. I plead with the Minister for Culture, National Parks and Recreation to take the initiative with his Cabinet colleagues in trying to get something done along these lines. I know that it was Government policy to put all these islands in the hands of local authorities because of mistakes that had been made.

(Time expired.)

Mr. INNES (Sherwood) (4.38 p.m.): I welcome this opportunity to take part in the debate on the Minister's Estimates. Many honourable members have raised pertinent points about the administration of this very important department. It is not important in the sense of being essential to the commercial life of the State, but commerce is not the only thing in life. It is very important to the activities that people enjoy when they are not at work.

The department covers all of the most significant areas of what I might call recreational activity. It is not that commerce is excluded from recreational activity. Indeed, in this State, we are fortunate to have a growing relationship between recreation and commercial revenue earning. It is probably a mistake to freeze anything at any time, or to isolate anything from participating in community life by suggesting, "This earns revenue and is worth while; that does not earn revenue and takes a lower priority."

Obviously there is a problem in the management of areas that do not fall into one category or another. Problems occur on Fraser and Moreton Islands where parts of the island are covered by national parks, parts by forestry, and parts are subject to freehold or leasehold tenure on which people can build residences of some sort or another. It appears that on sand islands some type of overall committee is necessary to deal with the total problems as opposed to the individual problems of specific areas. The Cook committee of inquiry into Moreton Island recommended precisely such a body for Moreton Island. It recommended a body with representation from all of the strands that are necessary to deal with the totality of the island. It left the island in the local authority area of the Brisbane City Council, because it will still have a role in the subdivision of land and the approval of building applications.

The problem generally relating to national parks, as with all other current governmental activity, is revenue. Many of the criticisms that are levelled from time to time—one would say they are only slight—really relate to the fact that all of the money that is necessary to do everything that the National Parks and Wildlife Service would like to do is not available and, as applies to all other Government departments, never will be available.

In the case of the National Parks and Wildlife Service, I might say that the Government's dollar goes further than it goes in many other areas of governmental activity. The enthusiasm and the dedication of the officers of that service ensure that the Government gets far more for each dollar spent by that service than it gets for each dollar spent in many other areas of governmental activity.

The service has done a magnificent job, being a very young department that is burgeoning in the sense of the area that it

has to administer. The enormous growth in the declaration of national parks and in the acquisition and eventual declaration of national parks that is now in the pipeline has far outstripped the growth in the manpower in the department and the money that is being made available to it. What it has done with its resources in the few years it has under its belt as a service speaks well for what it will do in the future.

The importance of this service has not yet been fully recognised by all. The Parliament will recall the figures that indicate that the use of national parks is growing at the rate of 20 per cent per annum; in other words, it is far outstripping the growth of the community. The estimated figures that were made available this year indicate that the use of national parks in this State is equivalent to a visit by all persons in this State once a year. That is a vast usage and a vast service that the National Parks and Wildlife Service is providing for the community.

The service has to play a variety of roles. I do not agree totally with the honourable member for Isis when he says broadly that tracks and roads in national parks must be kept open or must be provided. In some parks that would be perfectly reasonable and proper, and in other parks it would not. For instance, the modern technical term "wilderness park" bespeaks an exclusion of vehicles and all other forms of travel except human locomotion—Shanks's pony. That term has perhaps acquired a breadth which leads to confusion at times. Some areas will have to be kept totally intact because of the rarity of the ecology or a particular species. Some areas should be kept completely intact so that people can enjoy and experience walking in completely virgin country. Other national parks should, and must, be provided to allow for far wider human access.

I shall now deal with the park situation in general. The Minister has highlighted the significance of the new acquisitions and declarations in Cape York next year. I understand that the accommodation available in Cairns in June next year for the fortnight surrounding the Second World Wilderness Conference is virtually booked out. Perhaps the national park itself will employ only a small number of people, but, if it generates that type of visitation to a city or town on its borders, it is quite clear that we cannot stop looking at its commercial relevance. We must look at what it brings to nearby towns and communities in terms of visitor use and revenue from people passing through.

Mr. Burns: Look at the money that goes to South Africa from their national parks.

Mr. INNES: Absolutely. Everybody in the world has heard of the Kruger National Park. Everybody who goes to South Africa thinks of going there.

Mr. Yewdale: It was named after the honourable member for Murrumba.

Mr. INNES: Perhaps the honourable member might live to have a couple of acres in the electorate of Murrumba named after him.

There is no doubt that in the years to come the Cape York national parks will become, if not the greatest, certainly among the greatest of the world's national parks; those areas of unique virgin territory that have been set aside in an extraordinarily far-sighted action by the Queensland Government in the past few years. As I say, by isolation those parks are virtually under their own care and management now. They have not yet been developed to any extent by the National Parks and Wildlife Service, yet in their earliest days they will generate enormous income for Cairns, particularly in June next year. They might become show-piece national parks for visitors, although they will have to make a long journey to see them, even from within Australia.

National parks have to be provided in other areas for more direct access by greater numbers of the community. In the south-east corner of the State where the majority of people presently reside, there is, in my view, a dearth of national parks. Indeed, there are very few areas where national parks can be provided because of the extent of urban development. One is not calling on anybody to go back into history or for the re-creation of natural areas, but it does mean we must look to the efficient management of what we have and at the acquisition of other areas where parks can reasonably be provided, having regard to the many competing interests of man.

Referring briefly to the report that has been printed and tabled today, I see with some pleasure that there is a proposal to consolidate the scenic rim. That proposal received the support of the Premier some two or three years ago, and it has been furthered by the Scenic Rim Association which, like so many in these areas of conservation, does magnificent, totally voluntary work in attempting to persuade both the authorities and the public of the urgency and importance of preservation to the community, both now and in the future. It will be gratifying if next year the Forestry Department and the Mines Department take the steps that they could take to release the very small areas that those behind the scenic rim proposal are presently seeking in order to provide a trail from Mount Mistake almost around to the ocean, through some 400 miles of what is left of previously magnificent, splendid, scenic, virgin country.

The visitor use of national parks in South-east Queensland, as some members will know, is of an enormously high order. A total of 1,250,000 people a year visit Springbrook, Tamborine, Natural Arch and Lamington alone. The camping areas at Binna Burra, which provides access to the Lamington National Park, are full throughout the main holiday periods. Indeed, Binna Burra has a very high visitor occupancy throughout the

year. Some three years ago, the owners of Binna Burra took out figures on their turnover. Even at that time, I think it was about \$350,000 or \$360,000. There has been considerable reinvestment by that small public-spirited company since then. I think that 70 per cent of that money was spent within 40 miles of the park. That shows the potential importance of national parks to the local community.

When the forests are logged out, when other rural industries or short-term industries have come and gone, when dairy farms become marginal, employment can be provided in certain locations by national parks. Binna Burra has turned away from the employment of the sort of international carpet-baggers, the working-holiday type people, to the employment of the locals. It now employs the sons and daughters of the local farmers and the marginal dairy farmers and provides a total support within the community. It buys locally and it employs locally. It is an essential part of the local resources for employment, and for the future.

Generally with regard to the administration of national parks, whilst the administrative and technical echelons should be centrally trained in order to provide the continuity that is required throughout the service, on a local basis the buildings should be constructed, the tracks and signposts should be maintained, and the place staffed and serviced by local people. There is no better way of showing the relevance of national parks than by the members of the local community looking upon it as the place where they earn their income. Also, the service acquires the benefit of local eyes and ears. There is no better police service than the local community. The locals know who the strangers are, and can see the people coming and going. They will take steps to protect their own livelihoods.

Within the last three weeks, I have stayed at the Girraween National Park. The existing camping area, which takes some 350 persons, had been booked out for the last five week-ends. It is not just at Easter or Christmas that Girraween is booked out. The camping area is full throughout the spring and summer months. There is the same story at Lamington and Carnarvon at peak times, and demand for these camping areas is growing.

Already, national parks provide an essential recreational area for an increasing number of people throughout the State and, in particular, in South-east Queensland. The danger of over-use is clear. The need to spell some of the camping areas is obvious. The concern of the service and of its officers for that necessity has been frequently expressed. We must take steps to provide additional areas and to fully staff the present areas to allow as much utilisation as is reasonably possible, having in mind the preservation of the parks.

I congratulate the Minister and his officers. I also congratulate the members of the National Parks and Wildlife Service for the excellent work that they have done. I congratulate them on the quality of the work that they are doing to educate future generations. The quality of the educational material—the guides, the posters and the specialist material that is produced and distributed throughout our community—is absolutely first class. In fact, it is world class. I think that a special commendation should go to the National Parks and Wildlife Service photographer, Mr. Steve Parish, who must produce some of the best wildlife photography that can be seen anywhere in the world. It is a tribute to the department that it has retained his services, and continues to use his services so imaginatively in the education process that is so vital for the future of that service in the State.

I now turn briefly to other areas of the Minister's portfolio. One remembers past civilisations mainly through their achievements in public buildings and in works of art. One tends to concentrate on those types of achievements in other countries when one is holidaying or wants recreational diversion. It is wonderful to see the steps taken in this State in this area. The Queensland Cultural Centre will be a world-class development, better than anything else available in Australia. The imagination of the building as a concept is absolutely outstanding, and the integrated functions that it will serve will bring Queensland to its golden years of cultural attainment.

Queensland has some great artists. It has produced some great artists and will continue to do so. Our very fine art collection will be housed in the new State gallery. That collection is a tribute to Queenslanders such as the late Sir Leon Trout, and now his widow, Lady Trout. They gave first-rate Australian art works for the benefit of future generations of this State. The report illustrates that presentations were made by Lady Trout, Mrs. Nancy Norman, Dr. Norman Behan, Mr. Brian Sweeney, Father Peter Bryce and Mr. James Wieneke, together with Russell Cuppaidge. Those people have made outstanding bequests to the art gallery in the last financial year. The development is for Queensland; the future is for Queensland. One must congratulate the department, the gallery itself and those private citizens and organisations interested in laying the way open for the future.

Mr. BURNS (Lytton) (4.57 p.m.): In speaking to the Estimates of the department today I make a plea for increased assistance to women's sport. Sporting facilities for women in this State are a disgrace. When one looks at the sporting facilities in Brisbane, one sees that whilst the facilities for rugby league, soccer, Australian rules and cricket are the best in the world, they are certainly

far better than anything available to women. Women cannot raise funds for sporting organisations in the same way as men can—through chook raffles in pubs and things like that. They are severely disadvantaged in their efforts at fund-raising.

Many years ago Clem Jones said that each of the major Brisbane sporting groups should have a home ground, and he acted to provide them. However, some of the Brisbane grounds used for interstate and overseas competitions in women's athletics and other women's sporting groups are a disgrace to us as a sporting nation.

As a person interested in the marching girls' organisation, I make the point that next year is the 25th anniversary of the foundation of that organisation in Queensland. The first State secretary was Ray Bousen, a former member of Queensland Parliament. In fact, Doug Sherrington, a former member of Queensland Parliament, was one of the early instructors. The first section of the marching girls' organisation started at Brighton. The Queensland championships will be held there next year. People such as Reg Gillingham and his wife who were involved in the commencement of the organisation are still involved in it today. A proposal of the Brisbane Combined Marching Girls asking for support for a special 25th anniversary carnival was put to the previous Minister. They were told they would get no assistance as no money was available. Last year less than \$4,000 from Soccer Pools was given to women's sport in the entire State. Surely we could set aside a miserable \$5,000 for the 25th anniversary of the marching girls' organisation.

With that amount we could invite people from other States and turn on a successful carnival. The association has a rule that provides that the Minister responsible for sport shall be the patron of the association. I am the patron of the Brisbane combined organisation. I know that on my side of the Parliament we have the patrons of Brighton, Calliope, Cannon Hill/Morningside, Gladstone, Inala, Mayne, Rockhampton, Wynnum/Manly, Zillmere and Pine Rivers. I am sure a large number of members on the other side are similarly involved. I make an appeal to the Minister to give special consideration to the 25th anniversary next year. \$5,000 will neither make nor break Consolidated Revenue or wherever the money would come from for the marching girls. I believe that it is in our interest to do something to assist them if we possibly can.

I would like to talk about the Commonwealth Games and the way in which we train our competitors involved in games events. I am reminded of the report by Mr. Sweetenham, the Q.A.S.A. director of swimming coaching, after the games in Canada. He said at that time that the hosts of the games emerged as the premier country because they deliberately set out to

assist in the training of their competitors. I do not think that we are doing the right thing by our own people.

Mr. KAUS: We are doing the right thing by the shooters.

Mr. BURNS: The Government is not doing the right thing for a lot of the sports.

It always fills my old Australian heart with pride to hear "Advance Australia Fair" played and to see an Australian flag raised while one of our competitors stands on the dais to accept a gold medal on behalf of our country. In the days of Dawn Fraser, and now Tracey Wickham and the rest of those kids, all of us turned on our television sets to watch them perform. The events were replayed a dozen times, by the end of which we swam every stroke with them, we had seen it so often. Yet, the week after Tracey Wickham came home to a ticker-tape welcome, when she returned to her morning training she was charged 30 cents to get in to the Valley pool. Our authorities charge her \$200 a year! The Canadians give the top 50 amateur sportsmen and women in each field up to \$1,500 a year as a grant. It is given to them and it was not opposed by the Olympic Federation. I can show honourable members cuttings from American papers where the lists of names appear. The lists of grants given there are printed in the newspapers. I suggest to the Minister that we give consideration to financially assisting our sportsmen and sportswomen.

In swimming events, 99 times out of 100 we will be required to compete against countries in the northern hemisphere in their summer, which is our winter. Brisbane has one privately owned 25 m indoor heated pool. The Valley pool is not suitable for mid-winter training. Of necessity, training will be in our winter—even for the 1982 Brisbane Commonwealth Games. We need a number of indoor heated pools, notwithstanding our own beautiful summer weather, because 99 times out of 100 we will have to compete in the northern hemisphere and have to train our people in the winter months.

In recent times Australian coaches have recommended overseas training camps. How else could they have an all-expenses-paid stay in an exotic holiday resort, as they did in Hawaii last year? They have a vested interest in seeing that such camps continue. It appears to me that funds spent on these overseas camps could be better utilised in providing proper at-home winter training facilities in the capital city and in major country centres. Certainly, we will have a top-grade pool at Chandler by 1982; but Montreal had at least three locations where the Olympic Games could have been held. We need these facilities, not necessarily on such a grand scale, in various locations to ensure ease of access. Let us not forget—and I was talking to the member for Rockhampton North about

this only a moment ago—that the parents have to drive their kids across the town every morning and every night. If the pool is at Chandler, parents will not drive from Ashgrove each morning and each night. Facilities are needed in various parts of the city.

There are some advantages in having training in the home environment. For example, the father and mother know better than anyone else a young child's mental propensities and dietary needs. A young child needs proper parental supervision when he is training to keep him under control. We all remember the stories about what happened in Hawaii and other problems we have when kids get away from home. They get bored. They get sick and tired of swimming, too. Mum and dad, who live with them and know them, understand their problems. Other advantages are proper and less expensive medical facilities, continuation of education while they are at home and savings in costs of accommodation and food.

Coaches will say that jet lag has to be overcome and the children have to be acclimatised. That is not exactly so. People do not bring million-dollar race-horses up here and say that the only food available is the food in Queensland. They bring a load of food with them. There is no reason why diets cannot be supervised and arranged in other countries. I can give the Committee instances of kids leaving Australia one week-end and swimming record times in Europe, where it was snowing, the next week-end. So the effect of jet lag on a superbly fit young man or woman is minimal.

Australia's overseas teams have been too large and have included too many competitors without a bolter's chance. As a result, those with some hope of success have not received the proper diet because of lack of funds. Supervision has not been adequate and accommodation has been overcrowded, and funds have been wasted.

Ron Leahy was at the Olympic Games, and he should have written a report to this Parliament. It is about time all public servants and Ministers who go overseas report to the Parliament. When I went to the department seeking a copy of Leahy's report, I was told that it was a report to Cabinet. We should know what he learnt at the Olympic Games. It is not secret. Surely it is not the sort of material that should be made available only to Cabinet. It should be available to anyone in the State, and it should be available to all the organisations in the State that are training young men and women to represent this country at the Olympic Games.

I am satisfied that most Ministers for Sport, both State and Federal, take a great deal of pride in handing out money but do not seem to supervise the spending of it. They do not give a damn how it is spent. In the main, the allocations are handed over to well-meaning, amateur organisations

unused to handling funds of this nature, and usually they are incapable of planning sufficiently far into the future for the expenditure to have any worthwhile effect.

It was disappointing to hear the reports attributed to our politicians on their return from the Olympic Games. Newspaper reports indicated that they were critical of some of the kids concerned. Again, Mr. Leahy was in Montreal, and he should have had contact with similar officials of other countries and should have reported to us on what is happening with sport in those countries. He should have reported to the people of Queensland, not just to Cabinet. The various associations—amateur swimming, amateur boxing, and all the other associations—could have reviewed the report and taken some notice of what he said or been critical of it and a dialogue could have continued.

It must be understood that success in international competitions is the result of dedication. The kids are dedicated and train as hard as those from Russia, Canada, East Germany or West Germany. Those people enjoy their sport as much as Australians do. The difference is that they are given assistance and our competitors are not. We could beat each and every one of those countries. The kids are doing it today without assistance. If we gave them the necessary assistance, there is no reason why Australia should not be back on top of the swimming pedestal at the Olympic Games and the Commonwealth Games.

As I said earlier, there has been talk about money and financial assistance. Overseas countries give the money direct to the swimmer or sportsman. Harry Gallagher, who was an Australian coach, in "A Report on 'Olympic Land 1976'", which appeared in "International Swimmer" of May 1976, referred to direct grants of up to \$1,500 per annum to Canadian swimmers. I have copies of newspaper cuttings and cuttings from various journals stating the money they receive.

It is to be noted that under the heading "Ottawa names List of non-Olympians to receive grants", the "Montreal Gazette" referred to a grant of \$350,000 being made available to 190 athletes "chosen by the National Selection Committee from several thousand applications received by the Department of Fitness and Amateur Sport". Note the word "amateur"! Those amateur sportsmen and sportswomen were given \$1,500 each, not only to assist them to pay their training costs but also to travel to other places, interstate and elsewhere, to gain interstate and international competition. That competition is very necessary. The East German story is a similar one.

I should like to see another major swimming complex built at what is now called the Centenary Pool. A place at which a national carnival could be held is needed on that side of the city. A heated pool

should be available on the northern side of the city. The Centenary Pool is close to the Exhibition Ground. Now that the south-side railway system is connected with the north-side system, a railway station could be built beside the pool on land that is available.

The existing pool could be used as a warm-up pool. We could build a decent, heated pool on that site for our young men and women involved in swimming.

That is only one part of the Olympic and Commonwealth Games scene. As the honourable member for Mansfield said, we have people involved in shooting, archery and other sports. The city council has been forced to cut back on spending in some areas because the Federal and State Governments have not assisted properly. When we are running the Commonwealth Games, \$1,000,000 or \$2,000,000 should not stop us from providing the necessary facilities. At Murarrie, a grandstand with gymnasium facilities underneath was supposed to be provided, but they have disappeared from the scene.

Mr. Kaus: They are spending \$2,000,000 out there, but everything is to be pulled down after the Games. That is wrong.

Mr. BURNS: If a little more money were to be raised, permanent facilities would be provided rather than the temporary facilities that are to be carted away later on. A sensible allocation of an extra few million dollars would make the Games more successful than they will be, would assist us to sell the State better, and would provide facilities in the future for our athletes.

When dealing with culture we seem to talk about opera, art, and the other more snobbish sections of cultural activities. Recently, one of my colleagues in the South called for an inquiry into Australian opera. Last year, of about 200 performances, 160 were held in Sydney. The opera was not even taken to some States. I again submit that it is time we started to think of our own local music and culture. I think of our own country music, our Australian song writers and the people involved in our big Queensland music industry. Those things are part of our culture.

I suggest that a section of the proposed cultural centre on the south bank of the river be set aside for the use of local artists and creative bodies such as the local song writers' guild. I am sure that they would be more than happy to administer such a section or to do so on a rotating basis in conjunction with similar bodies.

It is time that the Government provided a course in schools to enrich our children's imagination and help them become aware of their musical and imaginative potential, so that they could eventually write our own music and songs and we would not have to listen to canned trash from America which is sold to southern-based companies and is then sent up to us. Such classes could be

funded by the Arts Council. That was done formerly but the allocation was cut out, we were told, for more essential things. I suppose it was more essential for the Prime Minister to have a V.I.P. jet than for our kids and artists to develop their potential. With the funds we have, we must provide recording facilities for our song writers and musicians and display the work of our artists so that they may develop their potential. We must make workshops available for all interested parties and cultivate talent and imagination in music and writing.

It might be in our own interests for the department to sponsor a segment each week on a couple of radio stations to allow local musicians, poets, scriptwriters, etc., to air their skills and problems. The workshops and the talk-back programmes would provide an area for dialogue.

I object, and I believe the Minister should also object, to the exclusive control and operation of the music industry—the recording, publishing and promotion—by southern interests which, in most cases, represent overseas interests. I resent the lack of interest and response from radio stations, including the public broadcasting sector, in relation to the promotion of local talent, and even in providing air time for local artists or their work. I would like to secure at least some percentage of Queensland content in air play.

It is about time that the new Department of Culture stood up and said, "It is time Australian radio stations played Australian music and that local Queensland artists were given an opportunity to be promoted." It is not unfair to say that before broadcasting licences come up for renewal. When they do, I should like the department to be there making submissions and asking, "What content of Australian or Queensland recorded music have you played in the last few months?" This is part of our heritage.

A member spoke earlier today about old buildings, including the Bellevue. It is time that we spent money on preserving, for instance, horse-drawn vehicles. Anybody who goes to the Exhibition and witnesses the tradesman's turnout class or the shows run by the Brisbane Harness Driving Society and the harness driving societies at Caboolture, Gympie and Maryborough, will see thousands of dollars worth of wonderful old vehicles that have been restored. We should be assisting to ensure that they are maintained. Many articles are rotting away in garages and barns in country areas.

It was very disappointing to me to learn of the sale of the horse-drawn equipment at Kuraby, and the sale of so many old horse-drawn vehicles to Americans and southern interests. They brought and removed this material that is part of the history and development of this State. Our forefathers—the settlers—used horse-drawn vehicles. In those days, the postman, the butcher and other tradesmen used horse-drawn vehicles. I can remember them when

I was a lad. When I take my daughter to the harness society meetings and various shows, I find that the young kids we take with us are stunned when they see some of the beautiful old turnouts on display. They should be maintained.

We talk about maintaining buildings such as the Bellevue and the lovely old homes in Brisbane. A beautiful booklet has been produced by the National Trust about the stately homes of the city. I support that action. But we should also record the other parts that make up our history.

It is time that the department considered the establishment of a museum dealing with the Labor movement in this State. The first Labor Government in the world was elected in Queensland. While the Minister might not support its policies, he should remember that tourists come from all over the world to see the material, pamphlets and other documentation dealing with that period.

(Time expired.)

Mr. STEPHAN (Gympie) (5.18 p.m.) I rise to compliment the Minister on his elevation to this portfolio. I thank him for the help and assistance that he has given to me in the short time that I have been a member. In many cases he has helped me with the problems confronting people in my electorate. I join with them in complimenting him on the work that he and his department have done.

Some parts of our history go unnoticed; we take them for granted. One that we do not appreciate very much is place names and their history. Quite often I am almost laughed at and looked at twice when I say that I come from Goomborian. Perhaps it is this that has made me appreciate the value of our place names and their history. Other names that come to my mind are Tagigan and Wolvi. People should come to appreciate the history that attaches to many of these names. We should endeavour to use local names rather than import them from America, England, Europe or anywhere else. We are proud of our sporting achievements and our educational achievements and we should be proud of the history attaching to some of our place names.

The Directorate of Cultural Activities does a lot more than just what we see in the newspapers. It is tied up with amateur theatrical productions in country areas. A large number of enthusiastic people spend hours, days and even weeks on research, training and other work involved in staging these amateur productions. The satisfaction of not only the producer and the players but also those who go along to watch an amateur production is something that has to be seen to be believed. Perhaps those of us in the smaller provincial cities appreciate this sort of thing a lot more than do the people in the metropolitan area. Although a lot of them are not asking for any financial

support, they would like the moral support they receive merely from people turning up to watch. I compliment the people involved on their enthusiasm and hard work.

The honourable member for Isis mentioned orchestras. There are youth orchestras in many towns, and there is one in Gympie. It operates under difficulties, but it is working, mainly because of the enthusiasm of one person who is willing to fill the role of conductor. She is helped by a number of other people who do a great deal of work to ensure that it continues to operate. These people go to the extent of using their own time to organise week-end camps in order to keep the children interested and to show them another facet of this cultural activity.

A lot of work goes into the organisation of activities of this nature. The whole week-end of these people is tied up not only in ensuring that all the instruments are taken along but also in keeping the young people interested in what they are doing. I compliment these people very much on their efforts. I feel that a little more could be done in this area, particularly with the appointment of more teachers of musical instruments. I know that Gympie does not have one at the moment, but moves are under way to overcome the problem. If we can get children enthusiastic and interested at an early age, there is a good chance that they will carry on their enthusiasm and join the youth orchestra, because they will not have to start from scratch.

There are a lot of small groups and committees in country areas that run functions of special interest to them. For example, of special interest at the moment in Gympie is the organisation of a picnic race meeting. We would not have heard of this sort of activity in a country town 18 months or two years ago. A number of people interested in horses have organised this picnic race meeting. They are willing to do the work because they get a lot of fun out of it. A large number of local halls have been built only because a handful of people have been prepared to take an interest in, and work for, their own area.

The encouragement given by the Minister to the construction of sporting fields in my area is very much appreciated. Two bodies in particular have worked very hard, and by helping themselves they have attracted Government support. This helps to overcome the hand-out syndrome that seems to be encouraged at times. A number of people in the area have been prepared to take on the building of a 25-metre swimming pool, with all the necessary showers, dressing sheds, and so on. When we see these people build this facility in a couple of months, we realise that they are interested in their area. They are also interested in the people who will come to live there. Such facilities will help to make life so much more interesting and enjoyable for themselves and for the people who will come to live in the area in the future.

We will have a complex consisting not only of a swimming-pool but also of tennis courts, bowling greens and hockey fields. This complex is situated in an area where there are only hundreds, not thousands of people. It will be used not only by the people in the area but also by people who come there from surrounding areas.

I always used to think that we did not need to encourage people to take part in sport. I suppose that we still do not need to encourage people in the country areas to take part in sport, but we need to encourage them to reduce the financial losses that they incur in maintaining sporting facilities. When we consider the cost of building a tennis court, we realise that many chook raffles and dances have been held to raise the money. When people receive some assistance, they know that somebody else cares for them, and they work so much harder. The subsidies that have been provided to these people are appreciated.

Of course, some organisations do not get quite as much assistance as they would like, but we know that, with their Australian heritage, they carry on regardless. Although they might be disappointed for a short time, their disappointment does not last. I am sure that they will put their heads down again and work so much harder for their particular project. Perhaps the story will be different next year, and they will not be so disappointed.

This afternoon much has been said about national parks. There are two national parks in the near north coastal area that are of vital importance. They are within driving distance of the large metropolitan areas of South-east Queensland. When people go to these parks, they are not disappointed with what they see. I speak mainly of the Cooloolo National Park—

Mr. Davis: We had to fight like hell to get it. This Government did not want to make it a national park. We got it because of people like myself, Doug Sherrington and others.

Mr. STEPHAN: That is the honourable member's opinion. The park is there, and we have to ensure that it is maintained for the use of the people. There are still some problems with it.

I go along with the statement that national parks are there and they should be utilised by the people. The Freshwater area of the Cooloolo National Park is beautiful in its own right, but it is not within walking distance of the main highway. It is important to consider constructing a reasonable road in this area. I suppose that one of the few remaining rain forests along the coastal strip is in this area. It is important that it not be destroyed but retained so that people can see it.

Although the coloured sands are not in the national park, they are very close to it. I do not suppose that I need tell anyone here about the value and beauty of this particular area. As many people as possible should be able to see these coloured sands without destroying them. The main destroyers of some of these areas are not the wild animals that have roamed there for many years, but the idiots who come along and try to show off to their mates or to anybody else who happens to come along. We have to be reasonable and realistic and try to keep these young fellows and young girls in a right and proper frame of mind.

Fraser Island is another area of concern. The main access is from Tin Can Bay and Inskip Point to the southern part of the island. It is a beautiful island. At the present time, it is used mainly by people in four-wheel-drive vehicles. If people want to take their cars to the island and run the risk of having them rust out, that is their business. If people do not want to run the risk of running their vehicles along the beach, they can leave them at home. There is a need for balanced thinking on national parks and a balanced use of them. No endeavour should be made to have them closed. I am sure that that is not the thinking of the department.

The local people around Freshwater would like to be able to gain access to that area without a great deal of hardship. They want to enjoy walking and other activities in it. The National Parks and Wildlife Service has done a great deal to provide camping reserves and to keep them clean. I gain a great deal of enjoyment when I see the areas kept in that way.

Anyone who lives in an area such as mine might perhaps take the work of the wildlife section for granted. Farmers, however, do not take wildlife for granted when great droves of wood ducks strip a patch of beans in a matter of a week. Scare guns have been used to frighten them away, but when they get the taste of an evening meal they are very difficult to discourage. Farmers have gone to great lengths to try to scare these ducks away, but still they return. While crops with young green shoots are growing, nothing will keep the ducks away.

The deer is another animal of interest. Deer-farming has been commenced in an area that was previously their natural habitat. It is an enormously expensive enterprise, but the interests of the deer have not been forgotten. Hunters would never be able to completely wipe out the deer herds, and grazing of deer will ensure that they will live in healthier and better conditions and that they will never become extinct.

Areas of my electorate are often frequented by the wild hen. Many farmers enjoy seeing the wild hen on their own properties. They do nothing to discourage them from coming.

I am very pleased to see the growth of the use of library facilities. Perhaps that has occurred partly because school students are being taught and encouraged to use books. Perhaps they will be given enough interest and enthusiasm in books to induce them to turn the television set off and enjoy reading. This will not happen if they are not taught the correct way to handle books and encouraged to keep them and use them. By giving \$6,500,000 to the Library Board in 1979-80, the Government is putting its money where its mouth is, as it were. Obviously the Government realises that this is vital to the future of our State.

In the past the film industry has come in for some criticism. However, anything that can be done to utilise our natural assets should be encouraged. Film production is labour intensive, involving a large number of our population. I feel sure that the industry will take off in our State because of the ability of Queenslanders and their desire to ensure that it is successful.

In conclusion, I again thank the Minister and his staff for the work they have done and the enthusiasm with which they have gone about their work. I pass on the thanks of my area for that.

Mr. DAVIS (Brisbane Central) (5.36 p.m.): It is a pleasure to speak on these Estimates, not so much because of the Minister but because of the Estimates. I could not let this opportunity pass without reminding the Committee about the Cooloola National Park. Three or four Country Party members paraded the beauties and glories of Cooloola. I am sure a number of my colleagues will vividly remember that the Country and Liberal Parties did nothing for a long time until there was agitation by members of the Opposition and the Cooloola committee—

Mr. Akers: You mean the Government took notice of the Opposition?

Mr. Shaw: It was dragged in screaming.

Mr. DAVIS: As my friend from Wynnum says, it was dragged in screaming. I did not notice the member for Pine Rivers assisting the Cooloola committee. He always pretends that he is a great conservationist. He was not a conservationist in 1971 or 1972. He only became a conservationist in 1979. The Government cannot wriggle out of this. People like Doug Sherrington, an esteemed former member of this Parliament, led the fight for the saving of Cooloola. I would like to see it placed on record that men like Doug Sherrington and Dr. Harold led the fight to retain such a wonderful area as part of a national park. Further areas should be annexed to make it an even better national park.

I take this opportunity to give credit to the Queensland Museum. For years the museum, which is in my electorate, has worked in cramped quarters. It would be fair to say that it is in a building that is not suitable for the purpose. It certainly

was not suited for the art gallery, which was removed from the building when it was declared a fire risk. I do not know how the other side of the building has not been declared a fire risk, too. Nevertheless, the staff of the building maintain an excellent service to the community. I give credit to them, and I believe that they are second to no museum staff in this nation.

The general public would be absolutely amazed at the number of exhibits that are not displayed. There is not enough room in the building for everything available to be shown. The historical and technological collection, which has been mounted over a number of years, is getting so large that I very much doubt that it will be fully displayed when the museum is shifted to the new cultural centre. I hope that the Minister will be able to tell us what is going to happen when the museum moves to the Queensland Cultural Centre complex, because I do not think that, even with the additional space available there, the exhibits will be displayed as they ought to be.

Even though the museum is in my electorate, I think it would be only fair and just if one of the two aeroplanes flown by Bert Hinkler and now in the museum went to Bundaberg, which was the birthplace of that great aviator. Members representing the Bundaberg electorate have made similar suggestions in the past, but they have not been acceded to. I believe that one of the aeroplanes is subject to a trust and cannot be moved, but the Minister and the trustees could well consider my suggestion.

Although the exhibits at the museum are to be better housed, I make it quite clear that the residents of the area do not wish to see another Bellevue-type confrontation over the old Exhibition building. It is a very historic building, dating back to the turn of the century, and it must be preserved. We do not want to see it given to the R.N.A. so it can knock it over; we certainly do not want to see it given to greedy speculators so that they can make a fast dollar out of it. We want to see it preserved.

Mr. Neal: Where would you preserve it?

Mr. DAVIS: On the same site. Does the honourable member think I would have it preserved in his electorate? We don't want it preserved out there.

I turn now to the Films Board of Review. I was pleased to hear the spokesman for the Opposition highlight some of the problems of the board. You were in this Chamber, Mr. Gunn, when the Films Review Act was introduced, and I suggest to you that if ever a farcical committee was set up in this State it was the Films Board of Review. It was set up purely and simply to try to embarrass the Federal Labor Government in office in Canberra in 1974, and the Queensland Government's only motive was to make some political mileage out of the liberalisation of censorship. To put the

record straight, I point out that the main liberalisation of censorship—the R certificate, and so on—took place when the present leader of the Australian Democrats (Mr. Chipp) was Minister for Customs and Excise. The Premier and his cohorts set up the board and provided an additional income for a member of the National Party. As the honourable member for Sandgate said earlier today, Mr. Draydon has been given an additional \$10,000 just to view films.

In my opinion, the public and the exhibitors should be told why a certain film has been banned, and I should like to know the criteria used in banning films. There have been rumours about the way in which members of the board view films and decide which ones should be banned. I have heard—and I might as well tell honourable members—

Mr. Austin: You are going to, anyway.

Mr. DAVIS: Well, the honourable member has asked. I have been informed—perhaps the Minister can tell me whether this is correct—that the board uses a points test. It goes something like this: firstly, if they view a film and hear heavy and uneven breathing, it scores five points. Secondly, if they incur dizzy spells, that scores another five points. Thirdly—and this is the supreme test—if there is licking of lips, the film scores another five points.

Mr. Warburton: What about the ice cream?

Mr. DAVIS: Perhaps sucking of ice creams would also score five points.

If a film scores 15 points that means an immediate ban; if it scores 10 points that means the board will look at it again, and if it scores five points that means the board will debate whether it imposes a ban.

Mr. Frawley interjected.

Mr. DAVIS: The honourable member got in just before I referred to him, Draydon and the rest of the crew—I would like the honourable member to name the other members—who went to the pornographic show.

Mr. Frawley: I saw it, and why shouldn't I?

Mr. DAVIS: That is right, and the honourable member has nothing to be proud of.

The report should show how many meetings board members attended. As the honourable member for Sandgate said, we are led to believe that time and again the chairman makes a decision on his own.

Mr. Frawley: You are only jealous.

Mr. DAVIS: I am not jealous. I have been dead set against the board from its inception.

Mr. Frawley: You are in favour of pornographic movies and all sorts of rot.

Mr. DAVIS: When the legislation was introduced I remember that member after member, and Minister after Minister said, "We must have the Films Board of Review." Every one of them had seen the "Last Tango in Paris" at least four times for therapeutic reasons. They could be seen outside the Paris Theatre time and time again. They saw every R film, but I have not seen one. When this debate was on every one of them lined up outside the Paris Theatre to see "Last Tango in Paris".

Mr. Prest: They reckon that Mr. Frawley took a season ticket.

Mr. DAVIS: That is right. It was said that sales of ice cream went up, and sales of butter went up very much.

Mr. Simpson: Would you lift censorship?

Mr. DAVIS: I look at censorship from this point of view: so long as no-one tries to push anything on to me or my family I believe it should be up to any adult—if he is an adult—to see and read what he wants to.

Mr. Simpson: Are you against censorship?

Mr. DAVIS: Good heavens, we have enough censorship in this State!

Mr. Simpson: Dunstan found he could not abolish it in South Australia.

Mr. DAVIS: My personal opinion is that anyone who is adult enough to see a show can do so, as long as he does not push it down my throat or the throats of my family.

If we must have this board of review, which I believe should be banned immediately, the report should include the ages of members of the board. I have heard it said that a couple of old dodderers are on the board.

Mrs. Kyburz: Surely it is their expertise that counts.

Mr. DAVIS: No, it is not. In all seriousness, a young person has a very different view of life from an elderly person.

Mr. Akers: Mr. Draydon is not very old.

Mr. DAVIS: So far as I am concerned the board should be abolished. If the board is to continue it should have an infusion of young blood. At least a male or female under 25 years of age would give some credibility to the board by being able to view films in a different light from someone raised in a completely different age.

Mr. Akers: Are you saying that no-one over 25 years of age would give it credibility?

Mr. DAVIS: A person under 25 is—

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gunn): Order! The honourable member will address the Chair.

Mr. DAVIS: Wouldn't it be bright if the honourable member for Pine Rivers was on the board?

Mr. Akers: I don't want to be.

Mr. DAVIS: And the honourable member for Cooroora. They would outlaw, "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" because Snow White was living with seven men, and they would outlaw "Cinderella" because she was living with a rat.

Mr. Simpson interjected.

Mr. DAVIS: I do not see why the people over there should be the judge and jury of people's morals, either.

Mr. Simpson: It is a responsibility that a good Government accepts.

Mr. DAVIS: It was the same with the old friends of the Government members, Adolf Hitler and Goebbels. They applied censorship. They did not allow anybody to read anything that they did not read. This is only the beginning of censorship. The next step is political censorship. Government members say that they did not like Adolf Hitler, but on his birthday half of them light a candle and wear a black armband.

Mr. Scassola interjected.

Mr. DAVIS: I am not talking to the honourable member for Mt. Gravatt. He is out. I have told him that I will not accept any interjections from him because he will not accept any from anybody else. I have put a black ban on him.

Mrs. Kyburz interjected.

Mr. DAVIS: The board should be banned, to be truthful. The honourable member for Mt. Gravatt is out. "Pin-ball" is out. He is finished. I am now finished with the Films Board of Review. I have had enough of it. It should be thrown out.

Mr. Austin: We have had enough of you. Why don't you sit down?

Mr. DAVIS: The honourable member should get back to tyres.

I shall now deal with sport and recreation, which is something that the honourable member for Caboolture and I agree on for once. Many months ago we discussed sporting facilities in this State.

Mr. Scassola interjected.

Mr. DAVIS: Mr. Gunn, I will have to ask you to give that fellow a bit of Standing Order 123A.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: Order! I suggest that the honourable member ignore interjections if he does not wish to take them.

Mr. DAVIS: It is very hard to ignore "Tomtit" all the time.

Mrs. Kyburz interjected.

Mr. DAVIS: I refuse to talk to that other person, too.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member will continue with his speech.

Mr. DAVIS: Government members are always talking about how great its sporting policy is. Over the years, all that the Government had done was provide money. It should be doing what was recommended in the Bloomfield report on the Role and Scope of Development of Recreation in Australia in 1974. He said that each capital city should have a Tartan track. How many years did it take to get one? It was only because of my efforts and those of other people, using our influence with the Brisbane City Council, that an all-weather track was provided. How many all-weather tracks has this Government provided? How much assistance, other than financial assistance, has the Government given sport?

The Department of Sport should have a section conducting research into sport. We should hold the Queensland Games involving all sports, and then we should hold the Australian Games.

Mr. Booth interjected.

Mr. DAVIS: If they were held in Warwick, the sporting facilities there would improve 100 per cent.

As I was saying, we should have the Queensland Games, followed by the Australian Games. Then we could go on to the Commonwealth Games. I get sick and tired of people complaining about the poor performance of our athletes at the Olympic Games. It happens every time. But what can we expect when we look at the money and amenities provided by the Government? In England—fancy talking about old mother England—there is a gymnasium in every school.

Mrs. Kyburz: They have a gymnasium because of the weather.

Mr. DAVIS: That is right. Why don't we have them here? The British Government provides such amenities in all schools.

Another matter that I have raised time and time again is the opening of school facilities to the general public.

Mr. Simpson: Aren't they open in your electorate?

Mr. DAVIS: Are they open in your electorate?

Mr. Simpson: Of course they are.

Mr. DAVIS: There! As I said earlier in the day, there is a difference between what happens in the electorates of country members and those of metropolitan members. The school facilities in my electorate cannot be used for community activities.

(Time expired.)

Mr. WARNER (Toowoomba South) (5.58 p.m.): In rising to speak to these Estimates, I would firstly like to congratulate the Minister on his appointment and, secondly, on his approach to the portfolio since his appointment. There is no doubt that Queensland can look forward to continued progress in the areas of culture, national parks and recreation. As the Minister said, the quality of life for us all in the future is bound up in the decisions which will be made within his portfolio.

For some considerable time I have been interested in the operations of the Queensland Film Corporation, which was established in 1977 to develop a Queensland film industry, and I cannot pretend that I am excited by its achievements. In fact, I am more than disappointed in the corporation's involvement with such matters as the proposed industry training scheme and the upgrading of production equipment. There also seems to be no headway being made in the provision of facilities for both interior shooting and post-production work. Of course, if we are to believe that this is being formulated, then all we can hope for is that someone gets on with the job, because, apart from anything else, there is little or no information available not only to me as a member but to rank-and-file members of the community.

I have spoken to many young men who have gone into the corporation's office seeking information and not been able to obtain it. If they did obtain any information, it was inadequate. They want to obtain down-to-earth information, but apparently they are not getting it. I am told that this situation is currently under review. That phrase has been used before, but unfortunately it means nothing. It is always on the lips of those who have not done anything. Action is what is needed, and as far as I am concerned surely two years is long enough to frame and co-ordinate the corporation's varied activities. Few, if any, projects were considered worthy of financial assistance in 1977-78, and yet I was a party to a submission, along with the honourable member for Flinders, asking the Government for financial assistance for the film "The Irishman". It is now history that the Government would not assist and finance was obtained elsewhere. Although the corporation was not properly formed at that time, the Government's negative attitude certainly did nothing to help.

[Sitting suspended from 6 to 7.15 p.m.]

Mr. WARNER: As I was saying before the recess for dinner, that negative attitude at the time when an application for assistance was made to the Government for a film did nothing to give producers, such as Mr. Buckley, who is presently a member of the corporation and whose major feature films included "Caddie", "The Irishman" and "The Night of the Prowler", a feeling that

any help would be forthcoming. This view certainly was passed on to many other people I met in the different States.

I am informed by the Minister that the first two feature films with Q.F.C. funding are under way, or will be under way shortly. "Final Cut" is a murder thriller, and is expected to be finished in a few weeks. I took the trouble of going to Surfers Paradise last week-end and saw two days of the filming on the Gold Coast. All I can say is that the people involved in making this film are really trying to make a Queensland film work within the budget that has been given to them.

The film attracted \$192,000 from the Q.F.C. and, if all goes well, it will break all records for the time taken to make it and for low cost. Mr. Williams, who is the producer and also a member of the Q.F.C., is to be commended, as is his Queensland crew, which includes my son Philip, who is an art director on that film. Every member of the crew has worked an average of 14 hours a day and has given up many hours of his time so that the film will be produced on time. That has gone on week in and week out. I emphasise the point that "Made in Queensland" could be written all over that film.

It was a bitter pill to swallow to learn that the second feature film, which is called "Friday the 13th", was to be produced not by a Queensland producer, but by a New South Wales company. It is also reported that the crew will be drawn from New South Wales. It is to be hoped that some of the filming will take place in Queensland, as is stated in the report, especially as it has attracted, I am told—I have not been able to confirm it—a subsidy of \$300,000.

Mr. I. J. GIBBS: I rise to a point of order. The Q.F.C. does not pay subsidies. It makes investments.

Mr. WARNER: Well, it has invested the sum of \$300,000. Is that the correct amount?

If this film is not to be made wholly in Queensland, where will it be filmed? As I said before, if it is not to be made in Queensland, it should be. What gets me is that the Queensland crew on "Final Cut" will be out of work by Christmas. If what I am told is true, the other work will have gone to New South Wales personnel in the making of the film "Friday the 13th". Nothing could be more upsetting to the Queensland personnel, especially when it is a stated obligation of the corporation to provide, first and foremost, continuity of employment for Queensland actors, technicians and ancillary staff. As I have said, I am disappointed that this has happened. We should promote Queensland companies and attract the best script-writers, technicians and actors who reside in Queensland by giving them the highest priority when making films.

The Minister stated that three television series are now in the negotiating stage, and that they are all to be made in Queensland. I am sure he would agree that, wherever possible, Queenslanders should be used in their production. As he stated, there is a pool of very experienced people available for productions, so let us use them.

I now turn to that section of the Minister's portfolio that relates to sport. I was amazed to hear the member for Sandgate criticise this area of the Estimates, as I believe that tremendous advances have been made by the Government in assistance to clubs across the whole spectrum of sporting activity. That church authorities could be upset because the money comes partly from Soccer Pools is hard to believe. In fact, I do not believe that any church has made representations on this point. If any such point has been raised, it certainly has not been brought to my attention or to the attention of other members of this Chamber with whom I have spoken. Many of the denominations of church schools mentioned by the member for Sandgate are in my electorate. None of them has expressed anything but praise for the assistance given.

Allocations for student coaching programmes have not only increased but are now reaching many more organisations than they did previously. The allocation of funds to junior coaching in gymnastics has nearly trebled, which has enabled that sport to be taught to three times as many juniors, with spectacular results. In this regard I can speak only for Toowoomba. That city produced the Australian champion, Max Stirling, who is now overseas in Texas representing Australia, and many other champions in the making are being coached every day. All these achievements are a direct result of the Government's dollar-for-dollar subsidy for junior coaching. The junior coaching programme is proceeding along the lines intended by the Government, and is certainly lifting Queensland's sporting standards and developing our youth in the proper manner in every sport, and the programme is to be commended.

Another significant development that has taken place is the formation of the National Parks and Wildlife Service. The area of the State's national parks has more than doubled, and more will be added in the weeks ahead. National parks now represent 2 per cent of the total area of the State. In anyone's language, that is an enormous area. The Labor Party states that the coverage should be more like 5 per cent, but with the money available that is nearly impossible.

In the future the increased operating expenses of maintaining such a large area of national parks will necessitate the levying of entry charges so that the parks can pay their way. That is done in New South Wales and Victoria, especially where facilities are provided. The public who visit those areas have shown

no apparent resentment. The revenue thus obtained has helped to keep the parks in very good condition. One can go into them at any time and see some very worthwhile things. Sealed roads, parking bays and cooking areas are some of the facilities provided. In some parks even firewood is provided so that visitors will not chop down trees and interfere with the park itself. Because of their vastness some of our parks could not possibly be properly policed. However, some of them could return some revenue and I believe that, wherever possible, that should be Government policy.

By this time I had hoped to see a national park bordering Toowoomba. I agree with the Premier that all cities and towns should have a large adjoining area where people can enjoy the bush. At present one has to go many miles away from Toowoomba and get off the beaten track to get into the bush. Very often a person finds that his favourite spot has been fenced off. It is probably private property, and previous visitors had destroyed something on that property. Every week-end hundreds of Toowoomba people drive their cars beyond the end of the bitumen to try to find a place to boil the billy. Unless the Government provides entry into national parks—and I mean proper entry—people will trespass on private property. One only has to live in the West to know what is going on out there. Many people travel into country areas believing that they have an unrestricted right to fish and shoot. However, in many cases they do not have that right because the land they are on is private property, even though it is not fenced off.

It is all very well to say that national parks should not be disturbed and that only hikers should be allowed. That has been said from time to time. However, the population is not made up of bushwalkers only. Therefore, as I have said, access should be provided into parks so that older people can enjoy them as well. I hope that the Minister will provide such an outlet for the population of Toowoomba in the not too distant future. There are some beautiful areas bordering the city that could be developed for that purpose.

Once again, I commend the Minister and his director for the tremendous work being done all over Queensland. I commend the Estimates to the Committee and the Minister on his work so far.

Mr. LANE (Merthyr) (7.26 p.m.): I shall make a brief contribution to the debate on the Estimates of the Minister for Culture, National Parks and Recreation.

Opposition Members interjected.

Mr. LANE: I will not be interrupted by the bad manners of honourable members opposite, who do not seem to know how to behave themselves in this Parliament and continually heckle across the Chamber with

inane remarks that are pointless and quite disgusting. They should conduct themselves with some decorum.

In this brief contribution I would like to put forward two positive suggestions for the Minister's consideration. If they were implemented, I believe that they would be of benefit to his department and the community in general. The first proposal is that a wildlife ranger be assigned to various regions or districts throughout the State to lecture schoolchildren on the conservation of our national heritage. I do not suggest that we could enlist Harry Butler in any squad of school lecturers, but we should look for someone of that type who could travel to our primary schools, particularly those in the inner city and the more densely populated residential areas and the disadvantaged schools, to lecture children on matters pertaining to national parks, flora and fauna. These officers could be suitably dressed in uniforms, identifying themselves as wildlife rangers associated with the department. They would instil in our young children a sense of pride in our national parks.

Many young people are disadvantaged—the children of lone parents and those disadvantaged economically. They do not have the opportunity of going out in the country or going away camping in the bush, as the more affluent families do. A talk by a wildlife ranger would be a real lift to them and instil the sense of pride that I have spoken about. There are also those children who perhaps are neglected because their families, although able to do it financially, do not take their children out into our national parks. We should be trying to help those children, too.

The rangers could lecture children in schools for the handicapped throughout Queensland. I have in mind the pre-school and the primary school at the Spastic Centre at New Farm, where the children are too badly handicapped to be taken out into a rugged environment. If national parks rangers visited schools such as those, they could take some specimens of flora and perhaps small animals and reptiles to show the children in the class-room. That would create a lot of interest for those children. The ranger's visit could include a lecture on conservation, as well as an explanation of the laws contained in the National Parks and Wildlife Act, the Fauna Conservation Act and all the by-laws and regulations the purpose of which is to protect our parks.

The rangers who made up the elite lecturing squad could be given popular names so that they would become well-known personalities—not Smokey the Bear; perhaps Ranger Bob, or something like that. A Ranger Bob or a Ranger Tom could appear in advertising on television or in television interviews, or even in a segment at a popular viewing time for children, identifying the work of the service and interesting the children in that subject.

I would hope that such an officer would extend the information that he gave beyond the laws and responsibilities directly within the Minister's portfolio and deal with other matters relevant to the task being performed. I have in mind the Animals Protection Act. He could lecture children on their responsibility to animals. As a life member of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty, I have for many years been interested in raising children to respect animals and not be cruel to them. If one can instil a love of animals in young children, it has a direct relationship with the way in which they treat their fellow man, or perhaps even their own children, in later life. Usually people who are cruel to animals are also cruel to human beings. A responsible Government must do all it can to encourage children—in fact, all citizens—to put aside cruelty to animals, and this would be one step along that road. The Minister might take up that suggestion for what it is worth. I think that what I have suggested would be beneficial to the community and would assist in preserving our heritage for the future.

The second suggestion that I put forward for the Minister's consideration is that he offer the services of the two officers of the Fauna Squad who are seconded to his department to act as liaison officers between the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty and the Police Department in relation to the enforcement of the Animals Protection Act. Several years ago, Sir William Knox, when he was Deputy Premier, gave a very firm and clear undertaking that the Government would appoint a squad of police, or assign a group of police officers, to liaise with the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty so that there would be a reference point to which the society, which carries out most of the enforcement under the Act, could go to obtain the assistance of experienced policemen when it had the job of carrying out investigations under difficult or threatening circumstances—for example, where people were using live bait for greyhounds. A police officer, someone who had the power and authority of the law to make arrests if necessary, could then go with the staff of the society and protect them against direct physical harassment.

Mrs. Kyburz: Why can't an ordinary policeman do that?

Mr. LANE: I thank the honourable member for her question. Perhaps I did not make the position clear. The honourable member for Salisbury is also a life member of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty. I know her interest in stamping out cruelty to animals and I am very happy to acknowledge it in this debate.

In police forces, what is everybody's business is no-one's business. If a particular officer or group of officers is not assigned a specific responsibility, the job is done by no-one. All police officers have a responsibility under the Animals Protection Act,

but they all tend to be busy doing something else that is more important. It is impossible to get an officer to drop an investigation that he thinks is important in order to help enforce the Animals Protection Act, which he believes is a task for volunteers or the small staff of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty. The society can never get the right man at the right time to help it. At the same time, no centre of expertise on the legislation exists within the Police Force because it has never been anyone's specific task. It has been everyone's business, therefore no-one's business.

Members of the Stock Squad have become specialists in enforcing provisions of the Criminal Code relative to the stealing or unlawful killing of stock. They are also very familiar with the provisions of the Brand Act, the Stock Act and the Slaughtering Act and regulations. Those matters come within their general area of responsibility. However, no-one has specialised in the Animals Protection Act.

I suggest that the Government give the responsibility to the Police Fauna Squad officers seconded to the department so that they may act as direct liaison officers with the R.Q.S.P.C. In doing so, the Government will only be fulfilling a promise made by Sir William Knox several years ago.

I put forward those two positive suggestions in the hope that the Minister will implement them. He can do so at very little expense, but with great public benefit. I ask him to take the suggestions aboard in the spirit in which they are made.

Mr. FRAWLEY (Caboolture) (7.37 p.m.): It gives me great pleasure to congratulate the Minister on the fine job he has done since assuming his portfolio. I thank Mr. Ron Leahy, the Director of Sport, for the assistance he has given to me whenever I have spoken to him. He, with other members of the Minister's staff, has been very helpful. I thank Mr. Maher and other members of the department, all of whom have been very helpful when I have been in touch with the department to get some information.

Mr. Mackenroth: Are you the gentleman who said that members of Parliament would have to brush up on their speeches when they were on T.V.?

Mr. FRAWLEY: The honourable member should not have said that.

I have heard many Opposition members criticise the Minister's administration, particularly as it relates to sport. When the A.L.P. was in Government, it did nothing for sport other than to encourage two-up and s.p. betting, because it got a kick-back from both.

When I was maintenance electrician in Parliament House in 1951, I was picked to represent Queensland in the javelin throw and the long jump. That is more than any

A.L.P. member has been asked to do; most of them could not even run across the road. When I was 26 years of age, and married with three children, I had to pay my own way to Tasmania. Although I was working at Parliament House, not one Labor member kicked in towards my trip to Tasmania. Labor gave no encouragement at all to sport.

In 1953, when I was picked to go to Perth, I could not afford to do so. In 1954, when I was picked to go to Sydney, I could not pay the fare. If I remember correctly, the economy air fare was £18. A mate of mine said, "I have two good horses." As a rule, I do not bet on horses, but I put £1 on a horse called Birdwood, all up Fort William, and won £41. I used the money to pay my way to Sydney. In Labor's day, an amateur sportsman had to put a quid on a couple of horses to pay for a trip to Sydney. That was typical of the encouragement A.L.P. gave to sport. As I said, it encouraged only s.p. betting and two-up.

Mr. Prest: You are talking about the Dark Ages.

Mr. FRAWLEY: The A.L.P. was in government in this State in 1957 and it did nothing. This Government encourages sport. It subsidises athletics, hockey and every other sport. At one time I could not send one of my sons to Adelaide to take part in the Australian javelin championships, which he could have won because the people he had beaten in Queensland went down and won. I did not have the money to send him because of the lousy, rotten Government in those days. And Opposition members have the temerity to criticise the assistance that this Government gives to sport! I know what I am talking about.

Mr. Kruger: You ought to be polite and try to get a Tartan track up there.

Mr. FRAWLEY: The honourable member had nothing to do with the Tartan track.

Mr. Kruger: I did not say I did.

Mr. FRAWLEY: It was the best thing Clem Jones did. The second best thing he did was resign.

Look at the encouragement that has been given to sport in Caboolture. The Caboolture Sports Centre has built eight tennis courts, a cycling velodrome, a rugby league field, a soccer field, an athletics track, a hall where sports are played and a bowling club. All of that has been helped by this Government. The Deception Bay Centre built a big sports ground and it was assisted by this Government.

Mr. Mackenroth: You have given encouragement to sport in your electorate, haven't you?

Mr. FRAWLEY: That is right. I still compete in sport. Not many people my age can still hold their own in a Queensland javelin-throwing championship. I can make the final eight every year, which is more than Opposition members can do. I know more about sport than all of them put together. Caboolture has one of the finest Rugby League teams on the Sunshine Coast. It made the grand final and was defeated by another team in my electorate, Stanley Rivers, which is based at Woodford.

Mr. Milliner: Whom did you barrack for?

Mr. FRAWLEY: I barracked for the three teams. I barracked for Caloundra, in my electorate; Caboolture, of which I am patron; and Stanley Rivers. I barracked for Redcliffe in the Brisbane Rugby League competition, Fire Brigade in the Public Service competition because my son plays five-eighth, and Ambassador Hotel in Warehouse league, or whatever it is, because my nephew plays for it. I take an interest in all sports.

Mr. R. J. Gibbs: And the mid-West in the Foley Shield competition.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I do not give two hoots about the Foley Shield. That is a North Queensland competition. I look after what goes on in my electorate. I am not going to be diverted. I am going to tell the Committee about some of the fine things that go on in my electorate and the encouragement that is given to sport there, mostly through this Government.

Mr. R. J. Gibbs: Why is it that it all happens in your electorate?

Mr. FRAWLEY: Because I am a good representative.

Mr. R. J. Gibbs: Why not in my electorate? I ask the Government for things in my electorate but it won't give them to me.

Mr. FRAWLEY: Because of the honourable member's weak representation.

The Caloundra Rugby League Club at Golden Beach caters for young people and seniors. At the present time, it is having great difficulty in getting a lease of land. I have been in touch with the Minister for Lands, Forestry and Water Resources to try to get something done for it. Soccer is another big sport in my electorate. St. Michael's Soccer Club in Caboolture caters for many young people and seniors. The Glasshouse Mountains Sports Club caters for young people, mostly in soccer, and again it has been subsidised by this Government. Sport has been encouraged. Woodford, Caboolture and Beerwah have golf clubs. Bribe Island has two, and each has had subsidy from this Government.

Mr. Katter: Is the honourable member for Murrumba playing sport up your way?

Mr. FRAWLEY: He could not beat time with a drumstick.

The honourable member for Brisbane Central has never seen a pony club. Caboolture has a fine pony club, of which I am patron. I go to the pony club; I am not a paper patron. I go there and ride a horse. Woodford has a pony club.

Mr. R. J. Gibbs: Did you point at me when you said you could ride a horse?

Mr. FRAWLEY: No. I pointed at the clown in front of the honourable member.

My electorate has many pony clubs which have been helped by this Government. They are doing a great job in helping young people. Many people say that there is nothing for young people to do. That is a lot of rot. Young people have stacks of things to do if they are prepared to play sport.

Mr. Mackenroth: You would look silly on a Shetland pony.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I probably would. The honourable member would look stupid on anything, even a rocking-horse.

I am sorry for all the tomtits on the Opposition side. As far as I am concerned, there is plenty of sport available for young people if they are prepared to get out and play it. Because it is too hard to train, a lot of young people do not want to play any sport. There are sporting fields in every area. Take Redcliffe as an example. I know that the honourable member for Redcliffe will not mind my mentioning it, although I do not believe in encroaching on the territory of another member. But I lived in Redcliffe for 21 years. It was part of my electorate when I represented the seat of Murrumba, before it was split in two. I have been patron of the Redcliffe Hockey Club. In fact, I still play on the wing for the old boys' club.

Mr. Kruger: You wouldn't be able to play on the young team.

Mr. FRAWLEY: That is right. I am not stupid enough to try to play with them. But I am 55 years of age and I still play for the over-30 team. That is a damned sight more than the honourable member could do; he could not even be the ball-boy.

I now want to deal with the Films Board of Review. I entered this debate only to refute the criticism made of the board by the honourable member for Brisbane Central. He said a lot of stupid things about the board.

Mr. Mackenroth: Tell us about the night you went and had a look at that movie you had arranged with the Films Board of Review.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I will tell the honourable member in a second. He should stop panting. As honourable members know, I am a member of the Minister's committee.

When the Honourable Thomas Newbery was the Minister for Culture, National Parks and Wildlife Service, we heard a lot of criticism about the Films Board of Review. A lot of it came from the honourable member for Sandgate. He criticised Mr. Draydon and the board. But I say that every member of that board deserves the O.B.E. after sitting and watching those rotten pictures. I do not go to blue movies. Years ago when I took my children to the movies, I went to the Tivoli Roofgarden. A lot of members might remember that. One could take one's children there every Saturday afternoon without having previously known what was on the programme. One knew that there would be two decent pictures on. There would be a cowboy film and something else for young people.

Mr. Katter: John Wayne.

Mr. FRAWLEY: That's right, John Wayne, Tom Mix or Buck Jones. All of those pictures where the goodies rode white horses and wore white hats and the baddies rode black horses and wore black hats. Things were simple in those days.

Mr. Gunn: Tonto.

Mr. FRAWLEY: Yes, Tonto and the Lone Ranger. I am not ashamed to say that I was a fan of the Lone Ranger. What is wrong with that? It is better than going to some of the sex films that Opposition members want to go and see. I felt it was my duty as a member to go and see—

Mr. Milliner: You're a dirty old man!

Mr. FRAWLEY: Hang on. I might be old, but I'm not dirty and I am not broken down either. As a member of the Minister's committee, I felt it was my duty to go and see if the Films Board of Review was carrying out its duties correctly. I have nothing but praise for every member of that board, Miss Patience Thoms, Des Draydon and everybody else. They deserve commendation for having watched some of these rotten, smutty films. Some of the film exhibitors in Brisbane would sell their own daughters into white slavery. All they want to do is exhibit these smutty films, and we have to have that board to stop them. I know that the honourable member for Brisbane Central is cranky because he did not get an invitation. He saw that "Last Tango" film three times. I once went to see a picture called "Midnight Cowboy". I thought it was a western and it turned out to be a picture about some bloke who came in from the West and hired himself out as a super-stud.

Mrs. Kyburz: Don't tell us the gory details.

Mr. FRAWLEY: If the honourable member does not want to hear these things, she should not be a member of Parliament. She has taken her place here as a member, and if it embarrasses her, that is her tough luck. In fact, she would not even go to that film night.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN (Mr. Kaus): Order! The honourable member will address the Chair.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I am sorry, Mr. Kaus, but Opposition members try to put me off every time I make a speech.

As I was saying, I went to see these films as a member of the Minister's committee. I cannot give members the names, but I will give them a description if they really want one. But getting back to this film "Midnight Cowboy", it just shows how one can be misled by a title. I make no secret of it, I like to see western pictures. I am a western fan, but I saw this picture—

Mr. Davis: Why did you sit through it twice?

Mr. FRAWLEY: I will not even answer that interjection. As I said, this picture was about a bloke who hired himself out as a super-stud and got mixed up with a group of homosexuals. It is shocking that such a picture could have that title. Here was I, an innocent person who went to see that film thinking that it was a western. That shows how one can fall in. I could have taken my children to see that. Opposition members criticise me for going to these films, but they will not let me tell them about the films.

Mr. R. J. Gibbs: What did you really think "Midnight Cowboy" was?

Mr. FRAWLEY: I thought he was a cowboy who rode night herds.

Mrs. Kyburz: What?

Mr. FRAWLEY: The member for Salisbury knows nothing about the West. If some of the members from Brisbane electorates go into the country areas, they get lost. For about the sixth time, I will try to tell honourable members about this film night that I attended.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: Yes, please return to the subject.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I felt it was right that the members of the administrative committee should go and see the film.

Mr. Davis: Who were they?

Mr. FRAWLEY: I am not going to tell the honourable member. I admit I was there. Does the honourable member think I am a dobber? I am not going to put anybody else in. The honourable member only wants to criticise them. I went to see these films. I sat there with members of the Films Board of Review. I was absolutely disgusted at some of the films that reputable people were trying to show. One picture was taken off at a theatre at South Brisbane. I will not mention its name because, if I do, all the members of the Opposition will be queuing up at that theatre. This particular bloke often sneaks in these films and shows them. We saw a few films. One had been

confiscated by the C.I.B. It was made in a back room somewhere in Brisbane. There was a pair of lesbians cavorting around on a camp stretcher.

Mr. Gunn: It was made at Trades Hall.

Mr. FRAWLEY: It could have been made at Trades Hall. The surroundings did look familiar.

Mr. Warburton: Do you think these films you are talking about should be banned before they are distributed in Queensland?

Mr. FRAWLEY: I do not think that these films should be allowed into Australia.

Mr. Warburton: Why is it that some of the films that are being banned have been shown around Queensland for three years? Answer that.

Mr. FRAWLEY: Yes, I will answer that. As I have said before, some of these exhibitors will do anything to make a dollar. They don't care what they do. They sneak them in under the nose of the Films Board of Review. The board cannot see every film.

Mrs. Kyburz: What about films that football clubs show? They are just as bad.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I have never been to one, so I would not know. The Caboolture Football Club, of which I am the patron, has never shown a blue movie in the 28 years that I have represented that area.

Mr. Davis: How do you find those video cassettes you have?

Mr. FRAWLEY: I have not got one video cassette. I am not going to be distracted any more. I am extolling the virtues of the Films Board of Review. I know that the A.L.P. would like to see that board vanish.

Mr. Davis: Of course we would.

Mr. FRAWLEY: Of course they would. The Opposition says that it believes in freedom of choice. It is a known thing that in their policy, Opposition members advocate the decriminalisation of marijuana.

Mr. R. J. GIBBS: I rise to a point of order. It is completely untrue to say that the A.L.P. has within its policy anything that refers to the decriminalisation of marijuana. I find that remark extremely offensive, as I found it offensive this morning when I took the same point of order and the Premier was asked to withdraw the remark. I find the honourable member's remark offensive, and I ask that it be withdrawn.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member cannot take a point of order on behalf of a party. It has to be taken on behalf of himself.

Mr. R. J. GIBBS: Well, he has made a reflection. He has made the false claim that it is in our party policy.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: Order! There is no point of order.

Mr. DAVIS: I rise to a point of order. This morning, Mr. Speaker ruled in favour of the point of order taken on behalf of a party.

Mr. I. J. Gibbs: No, he didn't.

Mr. DAVIS: He did. What would the Minister know?

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: Order! I am not concerned about what ruling was made this morning. I was not present in the Chamber then. There is no point of order now.

Mr. Mackenroth: Come on, withdraw it.

Mr. FRAWLEY: It is a shocking thing to have to withdraw the truth, but I shall do so in order that I can continue with my speech.

The A.L.P. does not want the Films Board of Review, because it wants an open go. It is a well-known fact that the way to destroy a country is to attack its morals. The A.L.P. wants a free go. That goes back to the days of Gough Whitlam. He wanted an open go with everything. The A.L.P. panders to all the way-out groups. The only cultural groups it panders to are those crowds who camp at the universities—the homosexuals and the lesbians.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN (Mr. Kaus): Order! Would the member for Caboolture get back to the Estimates?

Mrs. Kyburz: What is Mr. Draydon's expertise?

Mr. FRAWLEY: His expertise is that he is a man with common sense. The board of review should be composed of people who are not academics and eggheads. We do not want on that board people who can put a whole string of degrees after their names.

Mr. Bishop: How did Draydon get on there?

Mr. FRAWLEY: Mr. Draydon is a man with a lot of common sense, just as the other members of the board have a lot of common sense. Mr. Draydon is doing a fine job on the Films Board of Review. In fact, all the members of that board do a fine job. They should all be given a medal for the work they have done.

So many attempts are made to show pornographic films in New South Wales that that State needs five of these boards and they are constantly reviewing films of this type. The Queensland board is overworked. Its members should be rotated and given a bit of freedom. They spend day after day and night after night working in what should be their free time. Honourable members should not forget that Mr. Draydon is a barrister and he has to spend a lot of

his free time watching these pornographic films. He deserves \$10,000 a year to watch those pornographic films. I would not do it for all the money in the world.

An Opposition Member: You went down there once.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I went on only one night to see how bad the films were. I am pleased I did.

Mr. Milliner: You have been begging to go back.

Mr. FRAWLEY: No, I have not. I could have been back many times but I went on only one occasion to see what they were like. That one occasion convinced me that Queensland definitely needs the Films Board of Review, just as the State needs the Literature Board of Review. I go so far as to say to the Minister that Mrs. Rona Joyner should be on the Films Board of Review.

Mr. Davis: What about the points system I explained today?

Mr. FRAWLEY: It is absolutely ridiculous. The speech of the member for Brisbane Central was so ridiculous that it compelled me to stand here and answer the criticisms he made of the Films Board of Review. I am pleased I did.

Mr. Kruger: You have made a stupid contribution as well.

Mr. FRAWLEY: The member for Murrumbidgee would not be able to judge that.

Opposition speakers said many ridiculous things when they denigrated the Department of Sport, which is under the control of the Minister. In conclusion, I say that when the A.L.P. was in Government it did nothing for sport.

(Time expired.)

Mr. SHAW (Wynnum) (7.57 p.m.): It seems that a great deal of the debate has revolved around the Films Board of Review. It is fitting that it has, because that board is one of the most embarrassing things that the Queensland Government ever brought into existence. It makes a joke of Queenslanders in the eyes of the nation.

I am particularly concerned about comments that have been made about the members of the National Party who went to view the work of Mr. Draydon and his colleagues. The previous speaker said that he was very proud to be a member of the committee, or whatever it was, that went to view those films.

The Films Board of Review is a form of censorship, and I believe that members of this Chamber and the general public must be able to ascertain what is being censored and the reason for that. I was interested to hear the comment that Mr. Draydon made about the members of this Chamber who went to see some films that he was

reviewing. He implied that the members who went there were a group of dirty old men who wanted a good night out.

A lot of comments have been made to the effect that that is the very reason that Mr. Draydon enjoys his work so much. His comments were certainly designed to discourage anybody from going along to see just what was being banned or passed by that board. Far from that, I think that anyone who was invited and did not go should be criticised for not supervising what is going on in the Films Board of Review. It would appear from the statements of the chairman that he is highly desirous that his work be kept secret, and that Queenslanders go along happy in the knowledge that whatever is being banned is of detriment to them. The reverse must also apply: those films not being banned are in fact good and wholesome.

I would invite honourable members and the general public to keep that in mind and to view some of the films being shown in Queensland that have been accepted by the Films Board of Review. I have not had the opportunity of seeing many of them, I must admit, but I have seen one or two. Let me say right here and now that I am not in favour of censorship, but had I been a censor I would have banned one of these films that I saw because I found it to be offensive. Quite obviously, Mr. Draydon and his colleagues found that it was all right. The obvious lesson to be learnt from all this is that censors do not sit in judgment and make their judgment in terms of what is good or what is bad. They make it in accordance with their own reactions. If they find it offensive personally, then they are inclined to believe that it is as offensive to everybody else. That argument is not necessarily true.

Mr. Davis: They use the points system.

Mr. SHAW: As the member for Brisbane Central says, they use the points system to decide what should or should not be rejected. I have been informed by one of the people who show films for Mr. Draydon that he can tell by watching him what will happen. If he rolls around the aisles laughing and chortling the film will be banned.

Mr. Davis: That is 35 points.

Mr. SHAW: Yes, 35 points if he gets excited.

Seriously, the personal reaction of the person viewing a film on behalf of all Queenslanders is what dictates the future of the film. This is one of the major arguments I have against censorship. No hard and fast rule can be applied to say what is offensive or what is dangerous. There is a lot to be learnt by the policies adopted in other respects. The way to approach it is to make sure that nobody has the experience of the member for Caboolture of going to a film and being shocked by what he sees. We must

make certain that nobody can be under any illusion about what it is he is about to see when he enters the theatre.

Mr. Davis: Of all the members who went to that showing, Mr. Frawley is the only one game enough to tell us who went.

Mr. SHAW: As I have previously said, I do not think there should be any criticism of the members who did go. I believe it is the only protection people have. It was the member for Brisbane Central who said that one of the first things the Hitler regime did was to introduce censorship in the name of protecting people from pornography. What was really happening was that those films thought to be detrimental to the Nazi's political aspirations were banned. If the public can see what is going on, there is no danger of that sort of thing happening.

Earlier, by interjection, the honourable member for Sandgate raised what has been a very valid complaint about the operations of the Films Board of Review. The statement was made by a previous speaker that some distributors are smuggling films into the State and getting away with showing them for a short time before they are banned. Under the weird set-up we have, the Films Board of Review acts on objections. When somebody lodges a complaint with the board, it almost certainly follows that by a round of phone calls, or whatever funny process is adopted, the film is subsequently banned. Those distributors who want to avoid the process show their films in country areas first.

Mr. Warburton: Some films are legally shown in Brisbane.

Mr. SHAW: I think one was shown for three years before it was finally banned.

The procedure has been quite well established. Some films are shown right round Queensland and probably seen by thousands of Queenslanders, and then because they are eventually shown in the home of the Films Board of Review in Brisbane they are banned. Obviously there is no great outbreak of depravity in the areas in which they are shown, so one could question whether they really have any adverse effect.

Mr. Davis: The Joh Show could be a horror show.

Mr. SHAW: As I said earlier, I suppose it is all in the eye of the beholder. The important point is that no-one is forced to go along, pay his money and look at some of the rubbish that is shown in films. That sort of thing finds its own level, and I think that the dangers of censorship of films far outweigh the very small benefits that accrue.

When one sees some of the violence that is permitted to be shown, one could very well question whether the Films Board of Review has some sort of obsession with

sex. It has been well reported that that is the main interest of the board, and certainly it seems to allow through without question a great deal of blood and thunder. Blueprints for robbing banks are subsequently followed by some people—that is well known—and the exploits of a fellow in an aeroplane at the Brisbane airport followed within a week or so of a similar incident being shown on television. There is no doubt that such incidents have an effect on some people. In spite of that, there seems to be virtually no concern about violence but a great deal of concern about what affects the censor. Censorship is always with us in some form or other, and it is important that, when it operates, we should know how and why it is operating.

The same argument can be applied to the Literature Board of Review. I cannot see any reason why any book should be banned in this State—any book at all—but I believe that a very good case can be made out for restricting the distribution of books. The policy adopted by the Brisbane City Council in its libraries is a very praiseworthy way of approaching the problem.

Mr. Davis: Under good chairmanship, too.

Mr. SHAW: It was introduced during the time that I was in the chair. That is probably why it is so good.

Mr. Davis: That is why I threw that in.

Mr. SHAW: In one instance, a lady came along and complained to the City Librarian about particular passages in a book that she had obtained from the library. The interview was very interesting. The librarian asked the lady which particular pages she objected to. She nominated page 6, page 12, page 40, and eventually got up to page 130, I think. Of course, the librarian asked the obvious question: "By the time you got to page 50, you must have realised what sort of book it was. Why did you continue reading it?"

Mr. Kruger: Maybe she wanted to know what was in it.

Mr. SHAW: Maybe she wanted to know whether it got better as it went on. Again, the point is that one does not have to read that type of thing if one does not want to.

The policy that has been adopted by the Brisbane City Council is that when anybody objects to a particular book, the librarians look at it and if there is something in it that some person could find offensive in some way, it is taken off the shelves so that a schoolchild or someone with tender sensitivities cannot pick it up by accident. But if a person goes to the librarian and says, "I want to read book No. so-an-so", he can get it and make his own judgment about whether or not it is offensive. If

the person who asks for a book is very young, he cannot get it without the permission of his parents.

Mr. Warner: How would you approach films on television?

Mr. SHAW: Films on television are in a completely different category. There are controls over what is shown on television. Although we sometimes question the judgment of the people concerned because of what they allow through, an effort is made. The difference is that a child can turn on a television set and be watching something offensive without his parents knowing anything about it. However, that is not the case with films; it is not the case with books.

Mr. Warner: I would have thought that it would be the same with films and books.

Mr. SHAW: No, it is not. If a restricted film is being shown at a theatre, the whole programme must be restricted. It would be ridiculous to have "Snow White" as the first feature on the programme and "Last Tango in Paris" as the second feature. Provided criteria are adopted so that everybody knows what sort of show to expect I see no reason why people should not be allowed to see any show they want to. I would make one small proviso, namely, that if something was inflammatory—

Mr. Davis: It could have a different rating, couldn't it?

Mr. SHAW: It could.

If everybody knows what he will be seeing he can make his own judgment. It has been shown in other places that a lot of the rubbish disappears rapidly from the market when it is not restricted. Half the attraction is that it is not readily available. The same remark applies to films shown in the football clubs. If people want to attend private showings or buy taped films for viewing in their own homes, that is their business.

Mr. Davis: Would not a good example be the number of picture theatres that have closed down after showing R-rated films?

Mr. SHAW: That is so. The initial attraction fades very quickly when the novelty wears off.

While some of my colleagues may criticise those who went to see the activities of the Films Review Board, I do not do that. I congratulate them on doing so. I would like to hear a lot more public comment not only about what has been banned but also about what has not been banned. Many things are getting on to the market—

Mr. Frawley: You must have a thing about the Films Board of Review; you have spent 14 minutes on it.

Mr. SHAW: It is a very important part of the Minister's portfolio and it is costing the taxpayers a lot of money to maintain it, with its very doubtful benefit. At the same time it is jeopardising the viability of much of the entertainment industry. It is wasting a lot of money.

Mr. Warburton: The payment of \$10,000 a year to the chairman is not bad, either.

Mr. SHAW: As I said, it is costing the taxpayers and the industry a lot of money. I emphasise that the industry has no guidelines to follow on what is objectionable and what is not.

I congratulate the people who work so hard to preserve places like Newstead House. They are doing a wonderful job. One note of concern that the Minister may care to investigate is linked with Newstead House. Recently many weddings have been performed in what might be termed historic homes. I will not say whether that is good or bad, but many people want to be married in such an environment. Recently, I was informed that a restriction is imposed on the people who can perform weddings, or those who can have any part of their wedding festivities in Newstead Park or its environs. If that is so, it is a retrograde step.

Mr. Davis: Does that relate to marriage celebrants?

Mr. SHAW: If people want to be married there they can have only one celebrant. That certainly should not be so. The whole idea of marriage celebrants was to allow people to get married in the way that they wanted to.

The honourable member for Sherwood said that national parks are of great value and that they could be a big source of revenue. That is true. He spoke of positive ways to bring that about. I agree with him that it can be done by encouraging tourists and employing local people in industries related to the tourist industry. That is very good, and it is something that we should be encouraging. It is difficult to understand the attitude of some Government members who voted to allow overseas people, such as Mr. Iwasaki, to control our tourist industry but, nevertheless, it is good to encourage the employment of people in that field.

It is also difficult to understand the Government's approach to the declaration of St. Helena Island as a national park. I did ask the Minister some questions about St. Helena, which he has not been able to answer so far. Very briefly, what I would like to know is what is different about it. St. Helena has been declared a national park, but grazing and commercial rights continue, so I wonder just what is a national park. If a person can mine on it, erect shops and hotels on it, and graze cattle on it, how is it different from any other area? There needs to be some control, and I hope that it will come about. I welcome the

involvement of the department in St. Helena Island, but I have a great deal of concern about the way in which it will take place.

Mr. Charles Carroll, the lessee of the island, recently said that his only interest in going to the island was to run cattle on it. He told me that he had plans for a marina and a motel, which would be a liquor outlet on the island. He has also come out strongly and said that there should be limited public access to the island. I hope that he means the same sort of limited public access that I would like to see, which is a limit not on the number of people who can go there but on vandals so that they cannot destroy it. I would not like to see landing fees and charges imposed on access to that island, because that would restrict people from visiting what is one of the few remaining historical places close to Brisbane.

Included in the control of that island should be some local representation. Members of the local Rotary Club did a great deal in the preservation of that island in the early years.

(Time expired.)

Mr. KATTER (Flinders) (8.18 p.m.): I should like to make some brief observations, rather scatter-shot, about the Estimates for this portfolio. My first comments relate to the Queensland Film Corporation. I wish to pass a few remarks about this issue because of my extreme disappointment not only in the performance of the corporation but also in the selection of its personnel. I was bitterly disappointed at the passing over of my colleague from Toowoomba South, Mr. Warner. He is in the Chamber, so I hope that I am not embarrassing him. Both he and Michael Evans, the Executive Director of the National Party, worked extremely hard to make the Film Corporation a reality. They were totally responsible for its formation. I do not wish to bore the Committee with the details of the way in which it came into existence, but we can very definitely lay the thanks for it at the feet of these two men.

In both the original appointments and the filling of the recent vacancy, both of them were passed over. I do not wish to be taken as criticising the people who have been appointed, but I am bitterly disappointed that these two men with tremendous experience were passed over.

The son of the honourable member for Toowoomba South is a film maker in a small way and has had extensive experience in the industry. The honourable member himself is a film-goer, and it is extremely important that a person on the corporation should like the medium. Similarly, Mr. Evans has been involved in art and culture in this State for almost his entire adult life in Brisbane.

I am greatly dissatisfied with the selection of these boards. Whoever makes these decisions seems to be doing so through favouritism and making decisions which the rest of us find quite extraordinary. When there are

problems in leadership, they stem from the fact that the selected is made on the wrong basis. As Reismann put it in his book, "The Lonely Crowd", the person who becomes the leader is the person who best represents the aspirations of the vast bulk of the people in that area.

As I say, there is a dissatisfaction with the formation of the corporation and the selection of its personnel. I hope that in the future the Minister will involve himself personally in this process. I will be bitterly disappointed and most distraught if the next time there is a vacancy on the board one of the people I have mentioned as being responsible for the formation of the corporation does not figure in the appointment. I should add to those names the name of the person who is the chairman of the board, Mr. Alan Callaghan. I could be wrong on that point, but he was also involved, and it would be remiss of me not to mention his name as well. There is no-one else I could name without going into the intimate details of the formation of the corporation. These men have had most extensive discussions at which I was fortunate enough to be present. Also present at those discussions were Terry Jackman, who is now head of Hoyts in Australia, Tony Buckley, the most prolific and successful of our Australian film makers and Donald Crombie, the director of "Caddie", in the long run probably the most successful film that Australia has ever produced.

I ask the Minister to involve himself personally, because I will turn extremely nasty over this issue if the corporation continues to be run along these lines. I regret to say that at this stage it has not achieved a great deal. I do not wish to criticise the corporation. I do not know the reasons why nothing has been achieved. It has been in existence for a considerable period now, and yet we have not had a film made in Queensland in that period. I thought that was the essence of the existence of the corporation.

My reason for being so enthusiastic about the establishment of the corporation and for thinking it was something important in which to become involved was that when I came down to the city I was saddened to hear everyone referring to cowboys. That is an American expression and refers to people who work with stock in the United States. It has absolutely nothing to do with Australia. In Australia a cowboy is a person who milks the cows. He is normally a retired stockman. Yet if the vast bulk of the Australian population saw a person in a ringer's hat wearing elastic-sided boots they would automatically call him a cowboy. This is how a culture begins to disappear. There is no national identity.

There is nothing in this country of which people can be particularly proud, particularly our youth. We need to give the youth of this nation an image of which they can

be proud, and we can only achieve this through our cultural media. It is very difficult for us to compete in the television arena because we face competition from the United States studios, whose work is prolific and excellent. Because of the nature of the industry, it is extremely difficult for us to break into it, so we must turn our attention to the film industry which, after all, is the mother or father—however one likes to express it—of the television media. What we produce for the cinema will eventually end up on our television screens. This is where the problem of creating a national identity and a national pride comes from. It is “in” culture, and at present if we have to pay out of the public purse to produce that sort of culture then that is what we will have to do.

That brings me to my second point, those things which should not be paid for out of the public purse. I am talking about the elitist form of culture; such things as opera, theatre and ballet and the arty sorts of things such as were sponsored by the Whitlam Government. I instance “Blue Poles”.

Mr. Davis: Why? What is wrong with that?

Mr. KATTER: If the honourable member seriously asks me the question, “What is wrong with the purchase of Blue Poles?”, then there is really little need for me to answer it, because the asking of the question is an indictment of the member who asked it.

Mr. R. J. Gibbs: You mentioned the ballet and the opera. What is wrong with them?

Mr. KATTER: I will tell the honourable member what is wrong with them. They are attended by a very small section of the Australian community—so small a section that they cannot carry themselves commercially. In the case of films, I can see the necessity for creating an Australian image or an Australian identity. That is not reflected in opera, theatre, ballet or the arts. I see the member for Lytton applauding me over there. I appreciated the remarks that he made earlier in the day about elitist cultures. He asked why we should have to prop them up. After all, the only people who go to these sorts of things are the extremely well-educated or the extremely wealthy ones. Surely they can afford to look after these things themselves. They do not need the taxes of the average hard-working Australian to look after their particular elitist form of culture.

Mr. Burns: Ego-trippers.

Mr. KATTER: Yes, they are. That is the sort of thing that should not be sponsored.

In this particular State, the best-selling record of all time, the second best-selling record of all time, and the fourth or fifth best-selling record of all time, were all Australian country and western songs. Can any honourable member tell me of any Government in Queensland that has put in one cent to back something that does develop a

national identity? When I said this in the Chamber three years ago, scorn was cast at me, and it is being cast at me again tonight for having the temerity to stand up here and say that something that is popular, that is liked by the people and that does reflect our national identity should be helped, and that something that is imported from Europe should not be helped. So I make no apologies for asking for money to sponsor that particular type of music, not the elitist forms of art.

Mr. R. J. Gibbs: One of the biggest selling records was “Redback on the Toilet Seat”. Would you classify that as culture?

Mr. KATTER: No, that was not a very big-selling record. It sold many records. It is irrelevant when one considers the magnitude of the sales of records about which I am talking.

I shall move on to the field of sport. It never ceases to astound me that the extremely minuscule sports that hardly have any following or do not contribute anything to physical attributes or exercises seem to receive enormous sums of money, and that the extremely popular sports, in which large numbers of people participate, receive very little. I shall refer to two top sports in North Queensland. One of those sports is Rugby League. I will not mention the other sport. I remember on one occasion the president of the junior side of this other sport said to me, “Do you know that in North Queensland this week-end there will be 1,000 young children playing this particular sport?” I said, “That is very interesting, because there will be 1,000 young people playing this popular sport in Charters Towers alone this week-end.” Of course, the popular sport was Rugby League. When I look at the sums of money that are handed out, I see that this little irrelevant sport is receiving as much money, and in most cases more money, than the sport of Rugby League.

Almost half of the population in the electorate of Flinders turn out for their weekly Rugby League match. In at least one of the towns in the area, 10 per cent of the population participate in the sport every week-end. So what I am saying is that the sport that people love, attend and participate in is receiving only as much help and sponsorship as the other sport that is participated in by virtually nobody, is not attended by anybody and is of no great value in an exercise or recreational sense.

I add a minor point. It is not a very edifying experience to watch Queensland's performance in the interstate Rugby League matches each year. The Government could do a lot to help in that area.

I leave that issue and move to the issue of censorship. Many members tonight have expressed opinions on censorship but no-one has made reference at any stage to the deepest and most searching report on censorship ever made. That was Lord Longford's report

released in England. If one reads that report one sees a lot of evidence and good, strong and valid arguments on one side of the fence, and also an awful lot of strong arguments and evidence on the other side of the fence.

The question of whether there should or should not be censorship is not answered by the Longford Report. It does not help very much in that regard. However, I think most honourable members have said that there should be some sort of diversified censorship such as the R ratings for films. I think that system should be introduced into the worlds of literature and television. Although the Queensland Government does not control television, it behoves the Government to express strong opinions about it to the Federal Government.

The Estimates we are discussing this evening are for Culture, National Parks and Recreation. I now wish to speak about national parks. A lot of members have said this evening that they want more and bigger national parks. However, I do not think many honourable members quite realise what a national park is. One cannot light a fire in a national park. Members have spoken about going bush to boil a billy, but fires cannot be lit in a national park. Branches cannot be broken off trees in a national park; one cannot go fishing in a national park; no shooting is allowed in a national park—in fact, virtually any of the things that one goes into the bush to do cannot be done in a national park.

Mr. R. J. Gibbs: Don't you believe it.

Mr. KATTER: The honourable member for Wolston goes in for a different sport, and that can be undertaken quite successfully anywhere.

So what can be done for Australians, particularly Queenslanders, to provide them with that type of country recreation? Obviously national parks are far from the answer. They are untouchable wilderness areas, and that is not what is wanted. In Charters Towers recently I received numerous delegations wanting a national park created in that area. One of the delegations was from the local gun club; another was a delegation of fishermen. People are under a grave misapprehension of what national parks are. What is needed is some sort of area in which Queenslanders can do what Queenslanders would like to do in these wilderness areas. Apart from the sort of sport advocated by the member for Wolston, Queenslanders enjoy other things such as fishing, shooting, camping and various outdoor activities of that nature.

Some consideration should be given to the use of stock reserves, water reserves, stock routes and river-beds. Adjacent to Charters Towers is the very large river-bed of the Burdekin, which is an excellent recreation area. It is a great regret to me that there are no gazetted roads adjacent to the

Burdekin River. If such roads were constructed, people could utilise that magnificent recreation area.

I state very firmly to the Minister that national parks are not the answer. Queenslanders want the use of large areas of land as a type of free wilderness area, if I can use that expression. A basis upon which we could build are the stock routes, the stock reserves, the river-beds.

One of the biggest industries in my electorate is kangaroo harvesting, which employs some 50 to 60 people. I use the term "harvesting" as opposed to "shooting" because the latter term seems to connote some sort of destruction of wildlife. A professional kangaroo shooter will reduce kangaroo numbers to a certain level. When his shooting ceases to be economic, he moves to another area. Economically speaking, a kangaroo shooter cannot shoot out an area. That method of harvesting is a very sensible approach to the kangaroo problem. It is a magnificent industry, employing 50 to 60 people in my electorate.

I wish to bring home to the Minister the fact that we are now waiting for periods of up to two months for kangaroo tags. During that time the people are simply not earning money. It is an industry that brings in nearly \$1,000 per person per week. When a shooter is not able to obtain tags, there is lost production and a loss of money coming into the town. Therefore, I ask the Minister to do what he can to improve the efficiency of the kangaroo tag system.

Surely a better system than mailing the tags would be to allocate the number of kangaroos that a shooter can take and have a local person, such as an official of the Department of Primary Industries or the court-house, count the number of kangaroos. When a shooter has reached his allotted number of skins, he should then be able to apply for more. The physical task of attaching a tag is very tedious. It is wasteful and inefficient. It is a typical Public Service, bureaucratic system that simply does not work on the ground, in the vast outback areas of Queensland, where this industry—and it is with great emphasis that I use the word "industry"—is working very successfully and bringing in many millions of dollars for Queensland.

Mr. BISHOP (Surfers Paradise) (8.37 p.m.): I am very thankful to have the opportunity to speak for one or two minutes in this debate.

Mr. D'Arcy: Where did you come from, Bruce?

Mr. BISHOP: D'Arcy is back in the Chamber. He must have got out of hospital.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gunn): Order!

Mr. BISHOP: At the outset, I congratulate the Minister on his elevation and on the opportunity to present his first Estimates to this Parliament.

There are one or two matters that I wish to mention briefly. One that I have had a close interest in—and I know that the Minister has, too—is the construction of a cultural centre on the Gold Coast in my electorate at the council's administrative centre at Evandale. I am sure many honourable members would be aware that on that 56 acres a sufficient area has been set aside for the construction of a cultural centre. At one stage I spent 12 or 15 months as chairman of the cultural centre steering committee of the Gold Coast City Council that endeavoured to find a way through the financial morass that sometimes exists so that that project could proceed.

I am very pleased that the Minister is taking an extremely keen interest in the decisions that will ultimately be made so that its building will go ahead. I hope that it is finished in time for the 1982 Commonwealth Games. Its completion will result in a magnificent block of buildings representing the whole of the Gold Coast at Evandale. I believe that the cost involved will be a small price to pay for what is an essential requirement in any community.

It is often said that man cannot live by bread alone. Unfortunately in the past there have probably been too many people on the Gold Coast who have not had the imagination or the courage to make the decisions that are required for this type of development. It may be that now, with the co-operation and imagination of the Albert Shire, this community project will go ahead. It really is a regional project, something that will benefit the Gold Coast, the Albert Shire and its hinterland, and perhaps even Brisbane. The Gold Coast certainly has the potential to become the cultural centre as well as the tourist centre of Australia.

Mr. Davis: How many will the auditorium seat?

Mr. BISHOP: It will seat about 1,000 people.

Mr. Davis: Is that all? It will not pay. I recommend somewhere about 2,500.

Mr. BISHOP: I will make a note of the honourable member's expert comments and pass them on to the Mayor of the Gold Coast City Council. I know that he will be impressed. Keith Hunt knows the honourable member very well; he has often spoken of him. I will not take up the time of the Committee to explain what he said.

The honourable member for Brisbane Central will find that the research that has been carried out and the surveys and investigations that have been undertaken by the council show that a 1,000-seat theatre—certainly no less than that—will be satisfactory.

I hope that in the next week or two some very firm decisions will be made to go ahead with the building, because a number of men on the Gold Coast have taken a very long and strong interest in its development. Men such as Max Boyd and Joe Pinter have worked on committees for years in an endeavour to bring the project to fruition.

Mr. Davis interjected.

Mr. BISHOP: I have noticed the honourable member's keen interest in culture; in fact, it is one thing about the honourable member that has impressed me since I have been a member of this Assembly. I am sure that in his speech in this debate, which I was fortunate enough not to hear, he did congratulate the Government on what it is doing in relation to the cultural centre in Brisbane. I am sure that he has taken a good deal of trouble to study the annual report of the trustees of the Queensland Art Gallery.

Mr. Davis: I don't want to pull seniority, but it was through my efforts that the cultural centre was built in my former electorate at South Brisbane.

Mr. BISHOP: Well, the honourable member—

Mr. Bourke: Would you describe Mr. Davis's speech as a version of "Dad and Dave go to the Cultural Centre"?

Mr. BISHOP: I am sure that would be the way in which the honourable member, coming from Toowoomba, would describe it. Although I did not hear the contribution of the honourable member for Brisbane Central, I have heard since that it was exceptional.

I draw the attention of honourable members opposite to the work that the Government is doing throughout the State in the cultural field. One can go from one end of Queensland to the other and see what is happening in every local authority area of the State in the construction of buildings that will assist in broadening the minds of people in the cultural field.

Mr. Warburton interjected.

Mr. BISHOP: I suggest that the honourable member take a train trip through Queensland and visit some of these places.

Mr. Yewdale: Would you care to express your views on how the local authorities are going in the field of rezoning in Queensland?

Mr. BISHOP: The honourable member knows very well that I will be only too happy to do so at the appropriate time. If he wishes to go back over some of my past speeches and do a refresher course, that is all right with me. Unlike some members of the Opposition, the people of Queensland generally are taking a growing interest in preservation and conservation, in the arts and in

culture in this State. Who can deny that that is not caused in a very large measure by the subsidies the Government has offered to local authorities and other groups?

Mr. Prest: It is your Government's policy to look after the old things. You have only to look at Cabinet and the old stagers there. They are relics.

Mr. BISHOP: It is very easy for the honourable member to sneer, but he cannot deny the Government's performance in assisting cultural activities in Queensland.

Mr. Warburton: Why is the Government closing the Theatre in Education programme, which gives children a chance to participate free of charge in a cultural activity?

Mr. BISHOP: If the honourable member has not already done so, he will be able to make his contribution at the appropriate time; but he cannot deny that cultural activities are expanding rapidly throughout the State.

Member after member has spoken of developments in the sporting sphere. In my electorate, thanks to the Government's support, sporting activities have developed astonishingly. That was not so a few years ago. Only recently, Pizzey Park was granted a subsidy of \$140,000 for the development of sporting facilities. The Italo-Australian Club development is progressing rapidly in the Merrimac section of my electorate. Recently it was granted a subsidy of \$50,000 or \$60,000 to assist its sporting development.

Mr. Davis: Why don't you get off the parish pump and get around Queensland a bit?

Mr. BISHOP: The honourable member should be aware that I represent the fastest-growing area in Queensland. It is part of a city that is the second-largest in Queensland. Two national parks were gazetted in the region this year. The honourable member cannot tell me that the Government is not performing well in this area.

I come now to the Barrier Reef—

Mr. Prest interjected.

Mr. BISHOP: I strongly believe—I do not think the honourable member is of the same mind—that if all of Queensland is strong each section of Queensland is helped. If the honourable member wants to be parochial and stick-in-the-mud, if he does not want to move outside his electorate, that is a problem for his electors, who, no doubt, will get rid of him at the next election.

When leases are granted over areas in the Great Barrier Reef region to island developers, I would like the Government to insist strongly on their developing environmental parks. Island operators should be strongly encouraged by the Government to take a bigger interest in developing their islands in a proper environmental way. This is

essential. Some people claim that tourists tend to destroy some aspects of island development. An example is Green Island, and a hard look needs to be taken at it. I wonder whether the leasing conditions are adequate. The cleanliness of the island leaves much to be desired.

The Minister would no doubt agree with me that the Queensland public would not tolerate the possible destruction of the Great Barrier Reef by mining. Many arguments on safety factors can be put forward, but every time they are put forward, a crisis occurs somewhere in the world and destroys a massive number of creatures that live in the sea, off the sea or by the sea.

Mr. Bourke: Are you talking about oil-drilling now?

Mr. BISHOP: Yes.

I do not detect, too often, an indication by this Government that it will allow drilling, but I become concerned when occasionally I see what appears to be an idea floated in the media that something might be done in this regard in order to test public opinion.

I congratulate the Minister and the staff in the various departments under his control. Most of all, I congratulate the Government on what appears to me to be progressive policies on the matters controlled by the Minister.

Mr. D'ARCY (Woodridge) (8.53 p.m.): I wish to make a brief contribution to the debate on these Estimates. I, too, congratulate the Minister on presentation of his first Estimates. I was surprised to hear the honourable member for Surfers Paradise congratulate the Minister after all that he has said about him behind his back in the past couple of years.

Mr. BISHOP: I rise to a point of order. I find that remark excessively offensive and I should like it withdrawn. It is not true. The Minister knows that it is not true. If I have anything to say about anybody, including the honourable member for Woodridge, I will say it to his face.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gunn): Order! I ask the honourable member to withdraw the remark.

Mr. D'ARCY: I withdraw it. I hope that means that the Liberals will not run a candidate in Albert and will give us a chance of winning it.

Mr. Bishop: Wait till you see our candidate in Woodridge.

Mr. D'ARCY: I have seen him—the "Bearded wonder".

The subject on which I want to speak is the Sport Estimates. Most honourable members who looked at the way the Department of Sport has been run and the way sports grants have been made must be terribly disappointed. I realise that the Minister

is new in his portfolio, but I hope that he takes cognisance of what has been said in this Parliament by members of the Opposition in relation to sport.

Obviously, sport has changed dramatically in our society over the past decade, particularly following the advent of television and because of the need for the public to participate in sport so as to enjoy a longer, better and healthier life. It has also produced a different type of sportsman and sportswoman in our society, one who participates for most of his or her active life.

One must be concerned at this Government's meagre contribution to sport. I represent a densely populated urban area with a very young population. Statistics show that the area has a very large population under the age of 18 years, and that almost 50 per cent of the population is under the age of 25 years. This Government is not catering for these young people in the area of sport. It is the same old situation, with the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer. Looking at the Estimates, one finds that the sport which receives the greatest number of individual subsidies is golf. I do not have a golf club in my electorate. A total of 71 golf clubs received a subsidy from the Sports and Youth Fund. As I said, we do not have a golf club and are not likely to have one in the foreseeable future, even though Woodridge has one of the largest electoral populations in this State. Yet established clubs in established areas receive subsidies. For instance, the Indooroopilly Golf Club received a subsidy of \$50,000. That is a frightful amount! Yet there was virtually nothing spent in the Woodridge electorate. The McLeod Country Golf Club received a subsidy of \$16,000. The Surfers Paradise Golf Club received \$21,800. I see that the honourable member for Surfers Paradise is just leaving the Chamber. He is never here. We do not have a golf club in the Woodridge electorate, but if that sort of money was spent—

Mr. Shaw interjected.

Mr. D'ARCY: I do not think they would be short of money in Surfers Paradise. The honourable member is certainly not short; he throws it around the bar.

Mr. Bourke: Why spend it there if there is no golf club?

Mr. D'ARCY: A total of 71 golf clubs received subsidies, a higher number than for any other sport. The next greatest number to receive a subsidy were pony clubs, and there were 59 of them.

Mr. Bishop: Stop whingeing!

Mr. D'ARCY: Stop whingeing! I am pointing out that this Government ignores the working class who live in densely populated urban areas. It also ignores the young people of this State, the people who need sporting facilities.

Mr. Frawley: Haven't you got a pony club in your electorate?

The **TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN** (Mr. Gunn): Order! The honourable member is not in his usual seat. He knows that he should not interject from other than his usual seat.

Mr. D'ARCY: This is a frightful situation—

Mr. Bourke: Is it true that you are a sport of some fame yourself?

Mr. D'ARCY: Of course. I played a lot of sport and represented the State, as the honourable member would be well aware.

The children of this State are missing out on sporting facilities. As the honourable member for Lytton said, the women in this State are also missing out.

Mr. Frawley: They are, too!

Mr. D'ARCY: As far as sport is concerned. One of the largest women's sporting groups in Queensland is the North Albert Netball Association. That association did not receive even a cent by way of subsidy. In fact, only 13 netball associations received subsidies. Over 1,000 young women in the Woodridge area are members of the netball association in the North Albert area. The Minister would be aware of that fact because, before the redistribution, he would have represented some of that area.

Mr. Frawley: Did they apply for a subsidy?

Mr. D'ARCY: Yes, they did. They received an area of land from the council, but it is desperately in need of further upgrading. As I say, they have not received a subsidy.

Overall, the Government is ignoring the real needs of sporting communities in Queensland. Sporting subsidies were received by 29 yachting clubs, 59 pony clubs and 71 golf clubs, yet only 13 netball associations received subsidies. When one considers those figures, one realises that the Government is not fair dinkum.

Mr. Warburton: Many of them are licensed.

Mr. D'ARCY: That is the interesting point. Many of those clubs are licensed. The clubs that received the largest grants are in what we would call conservative areas. Last year, the Gold Coast received a subsidy of \$108,000 for the construction of an Olympic pool at Palm Beach. When one looks at those figures, one realises that the Government is neglecting the real needs of the young people and of the women of this State.

I wish to mention two other subjects in these Estimates. One is sports medicine. Unfortunately, sports medicine is not being considered in Australia as it should be. It is not being developed as it should be. In the past few years, only the Governments in New South Wales, South Australia and

Tasmania have looked seriously at sports medicine. The Government in Queensland has not done so.

Recent reports have stated that there has been little systematic research carried out in Australia in the area of sports medicine, and it is sorely needed. The medical aspect of sport is becoming increasingly important as society becomes more sedentary and for this reason sports medicine must cater not only for the superior athlete but also for the individual who takes his place in sport at all levels of competition. The majority of sports medicine research should also be carried out at a national institute of sport and recreation when it is developed. I am calling for the establishment of a sports medicine centre.

I have visited most of the hospitals in Queensland. There is nothing worse than visiting a hospital in a country town, such as Blackall or Barcaldine, on a week-end when a football match is being played there. Doctors have to be rostered for the week-end to treat the injuries that occur. It is shocking to see the position in the major hospitals in Brisbane—the Royal Brisbane Hospital and the Princess Alexandra Hospital—on a Saturday afternoon. We are not looking at sports medicine in the long term. I believe that it is necessary for us in Queensland to take sports medicine seriously. We certainly have not done so to date.

A few notable doctors have spoken out seriously on this subject, and I believe that they should be supported by this Government so that they can continue their work and eliminate some of the major injuries that occur in contact sports in Queensland. We are well aware that, generally, the lower socio-economic groups in the community engage in contact sports. So, in order to protect our society, I believe we should be looking more seriously at sports medicine in Queensland.

The last subject I want to touch on is that of the Commonwealth Games. It is with a great deal of sadness that I say tonight that the organiser of the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games, a former Victorian member of Parliament, Sir Edgar Tanner, died in Melbourne yesterday at the age of 65. It was Sir Edgar Tanner who originally was to make the submission at Montreal on behalf of Brisbane's bid to host the Commonwealth Games. However, as things happened it was a member of the Queensland Parliament who made that submission. I refer to the honourable member for Wynnum. The excellent submission made on behalf of Brisbane by the member for Wynnum at Montreal succeeded in having the Commonwealth Games allotted to Brisbane. I congratulate him on the submission he made at Montreal.

To a certain extent the money provided for the 1982 Commonwealth Games by the State and Federal Governments and the Brisbane City Council is being wasted. Once

the \$30,000,000 provided by those bodies has been spent, they will virtually wipe their hands of the whole project. That is a very, very poor show. Although Governments often denigrate themselves and are denigrated by members of the public, it is Governments that are responsible for spending public moneys. We are responsible for raising funds, so surely we should have more say in their expenditure. However, at the present time the Government intends to pass responsibility for the expenditure of taxpayers' money to sporting organisations. The Brisbane City Council is spending a lot of the money but the Commonwealth and State Governments have virtually wiped their hands of their commitment to the Commonwealth Games.

Some sporting bodies that are involved have very narrow and vested interests in the way that they will spend the money. To some extent their submissions for what they want for their sport have gone mad. The Government should be monitoring this expenditure because it has a direct link with the public and a direct responsibility to the public on how public moneys are spent. Montreal proved to be a prime example of how sporting expenditure can go berserk. The Government has to look at the way this money is spent. It should be the Government that is spending the money. The Government should control the expenditure and not allow it to be in the hands of sporting clubs and sporting organisers who may take over total control.

An example of that happening was put forward by the member for Mansfield when he stated that there had been no promise of a heavy bore range or a continuation of that range for years to come. The department made a faux pas. The Government is not looking at the total problem. The Government should ensure that a lot of the money being put into the Commonwealth Games is also of long-term benefit to sporting organisations. That is not being done.

I now wish to speak about the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Although the Government has established national parks and wildlife sanctuaries in Queensland, many of them do not fully protect the natural environment, which is what Queenslanders expect. It is not being fully protected. The prospect of the long-term problems being created by oil-drilling on the Great Barrier Reef frightens most Queenslanders.

Let me remind the Committee about what is happening in South-east Queensland. For years I have raised the matter of development from the Broadwater north into Moreton Bay. As highlighted by the Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia, wildlife in the true sense is being destroyed in that area at a rapid rate. The mangroves are being destroyed. Development is destroying crab and fish life, which should be protected by this Government to a much greater extent.

The Government ought to review leases that have been granted in that area. It needs to review the areas under the control of the National Parks and Wildlife Service. If the Minister took his portfolio seriously, he would look at all the leases granted in the last 30 or 40 years by Governments of all political persuasion. They urgently need revision by the Queensland Government to protect our heritage.

Hon. I. J. GIBBS (Albert—Minister for Culture, National Parks and Recreation (9.12 p.m.): I thank honourable members for their contributions to this debate. This is the first time the Estimates of this department have been before this Assembly and it was most gratifying for me as the responsible Minister to see the depth of interest and understanding displayed by many members.

Having said that, I must record my disappointment at the contribution by the honourable member for Sandgate, who shadows my portfolio. He provided the Assembly with little more than a shallow mixture of half-fact and political propaganda. I would have expected something more constructive and more carefully researched from the honourable member, especially as he has had the opportunity to examine the functions of my department in some detail—even to the point of inspecting the department's office facilities and talking to members of the staff while the previous Minister was absent overseas.

In his opening remarks, the honourable member was critical of the tabling today of the annual reports of the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Queensland Art Gallery. I can assure him that these reports were tabled as soon as they were received from the Printer and as soon as I had had the opportunity to peruse them in their final form. The honourable member should appreciate the magnitude of the task facing the Government Printer, who has the responsibility of preparing proofs and final prints of all departmental reports before the Estimates of those departments are discussed in this Chamber.

The honourable member obviously could not have listened to my explanatory remarks in this debate before he criticised the allocation from Soccer Pools to assist sporting projects. If I heard him correctly, he claimed that only about \$213,000 was going to help sport from the proceeds of Soccer Pools. In fact, as I outlined in my speech, an amount of \$930,290 from Soccer Pools is included in this year's revenue funds and a further amount of \$270,000, also from Soccer Pools, will be distributed by my department in assistance to State sporting associations to help pay the salaries of State directors of coaching and administration staff and to finance seminars for coaches and sporting administrators. This makes a total of more than \$1,200,000 from this source.

The examples quoted by the honourable member for Sandgate in relation to the Sports and Youth Fund bear little relation to

my department. I point out to the honourable member that the title is the Sports and Youth Fund, and youth organisations are as entitled to their subsidies as sports organisations. The principle established when the sporting assistance scheme was instituted was one of self-help, and this has been carried through to the present day.

The honourable member was quite wrong when he talked about junior sport, because our priority has always been for juniors and no application submitted in the seven years since the scheme commenced for assistance for junior sport has ever been refused. In the current financial year an additional \$624,634 will be made available for assistance and encouragement to sport above the level of the previous year. All of these funds will be channelled into junior sport through approved junior coaching subsidies.

Contrary to suggestions by the honourable member, all State associations and all members of those sporting bodies are well aware of the guide-lines for assistance to sport and the range of subsidies available. I would remind him that each year every honourable member is provided with a copy of a letter sent to the State associations and to multi-purpose sporting clubs inviting applications for assistance. The letter sets out in detail the guide-lines, the subsidies available and the procedure to be followed in applying for assistance. If the honourable member was genuinely interested in the welfare of sporting clubs within his electorate, he would take the trouble to ensure they were fully informed on these matters.

As to the honourable member's reference to golf and bowls clubs—I must admit that my predecessor did consider it was necessary to review the assistance available to these clubs and to certain football clubs where liquor was being sold. As a result, the guide-lines for assistance were amended in January last year and now expressly exclude provision of subsidy on toilets, showers or dressing-rooms erected as part of a licensed clubhouse.

The department now subsidises only facilities for the actual playing of the sport. Surely we should not deny a new bowls club or a new golf club subsidy towards constructing new facilities that would provide a sporting outlet for many people.

I would also point out to the honourable member that there is no hand-out syndrome in the sporting assistance scheme. To qualify for subsidy, a club must first spend money and send in evidence of expenditure before any payment can be received. This is the principle of self-help at work, where the sporting body must first raise an amount of money and show an ability to manage and support itself before the Government will assist.

My department would not presume to tell State associations or any sporting body how to run their business. I believe that the administrators of a particular sport know

best what they want and how to achieve their aims. To have an army of inspectors, a great bureaucracy of sports advisers, running around Queensland would be self-defeating. The money would be far more productively used building new sporting facilities and helping the young people of this State learn and participate in the sport of their choice.

The comments by the honourable member in relation to my Government's funding for sport have a rather hollow sound when measured against the performance of the A.L.P. when it occupied the Government benches here. The A.L.P. gave nothing at all to develop and encourage Queensland sport. In contrast, my Government was the first in Australia to establish a separate Department of Sport, and the assistance provided through this section of my portfolio is making a sound contribution to the development of sporting and community life in all areas of this vast State.

The honourable member for Sandgate also used the debate to criticise the role of the Queensland Films Board of Review. The board performs its duties in accordance with the responsibilities laid upon it by legislation.

The decision to establish the board was a matter of Government policy. I am quite confident that the Board, in carrying out its duties, gives due regard to the convenience of motion picture exhibitors. If an exhibitor elects to screen a movie, knowing that it is of the type subject to board scrutiny, that is his decision, and he must accept the implications of that decision.

So far as the remuneration of board members is concerned—and this point was made by a number of other speakers—it has already been indicated publicly that a review carried out by the Public Service Board earlier this year confirmed that an increase in such remuneration was justified and valid.

I welcome the contribution to this debate by the honourable member for Cooroora, who is a member of my parliamentary committee and displays an avid interest in the operations of this portfolio, especially the activities of the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

His interest in the future management of the Cooloola National Park is well known, and I am sure that he and a number of other groups and individuals in his electorate will provide substantial input before submissions on the proposed management plan close at the end of January next year.

I appreciate his comments on problems associated with access to the Freshwater area within the park and can inform the honourable member that I will be making a personal inspection of the road in question early next month. I am confident that the final form of the Cooloola management plan will provide a solution to this problem that will be acceptable to all parties who have shown concern.

On the question of the use of horses in national parks, I believe this would be unacceptable to the majority of users in those parks which receive heavy visitation because of the competition which would occur for available tracks. However, there are many western and Peninsula parks where stock-work with horses has been a long-standing tradition of the land and, in many cases, this has been allowed to continue.

With regard to his comments on sport, I can inform the honourable member that the allocation in the current financial year includes substantial funds for the building of new sporting facilities. More than \$1,000,000 will be channelled in this direction.

Approvals for capital works this year include all building facilities applied for, which are used solely for junior sport or women's sport. Regarding his plea for the badminton hall at Cooroy, the State association some two years ago recommended a large subsidy for a badminton hall at Nambour to serve the Sunshine Coast. This was approved, and a first-class hall now exists at Nambour run by the Sunshine Coast association—not far from Cooroy.

In his remarks the honourable member for Southport pointed to the need for a cultural centre to serve the people of the Gold Coast region. I welcome his support for this project, for it is one very close to my heart and one I am determined to pursue until it becomes a reality.

A few weeks ago I convened a meeting of representatives of the Gold Coast City Council and the Albert Shire Council to discuss the feasibility of the project. At the meeting I put forward the view that such a project, if attempted, should involve the support and co-operation of both councils because such a facility would serve people living in both local authority areas.

It was most pleasing to see today's announcement by the Gold Coast mayor, Alderman Keith Hunt, indicating the high priority his council has placed on the project. I express the hope that a similar attitude will be forthcoming from the Albert Shire.

I can assure the honourable member and the people of the Gold Coast that the proposed cultural centre has my full backing, both as Minister and as a member for a large portion of the area that will be served.

I turn now to the honourable member's comments on the need for different management strategies to be adopted in the new large nature reserves, such as Lakefield, recently acquired by my National Parks and Wildlife Service. The service is very ready to be innovative and open-minded in the formulation of such strategies. A totally new approach is needed to manage these huge areas without compromising the sacred responsibility the service has to ensure their preservation and their use by the public.

I should mention here that senior officers of Queensland's National Parks and Wildlife Service will be meeting at a special seminar next week to discuss this subject and to formulate the basis of management proposals for the conservation of these areas in the future.

The honourable the Leader of the Opposition, as is his habit, did not bother to check his facts before attempting to criticise this Government's attitude toward junior sport. Junior sport has been the Government's top priority ever since the scheme for assistance and encouragement to sport was introduced. This financial year all facilities applied for by junior sports clubs, as well as all the applications for coaching of juniors, were approved. Not one application from a junior club for facilities or coaching was rejected.

I agree with the honourable member's comments regarding the number of dedicated people who work long and hard for the sport of their choice and can assure him the great majority of these are more than pleased with the Government's assistance they receive.

I turn now to the honourable member's remarks regarding subsidies for roller skating and his particular reference to the Canelands roller skating club. The application from this club was received through the State association for the sport well before the closing date in conjunction with a number of other applications.

This State association is a very virile association and it pays particular attention to applications received from its various affiliated clubs. The association examines the applications and, in a number of instances, has recommended lower subsidies than those applied for. The subsidies for junior coaching which were approved for the Canelands complex and the other roller skating complexes mentioned were paid to clubs which utilised these complexes, not to the proprietors of the facilities.

The clubs must submit evidence of expenditure by way of original invoices and receipts and also certify that the money has been raised by their own efforts and that the money has been spent for the actual purpose of junior coaching.

The honourable member is apparently unaware that there are three disciplines in roller skating—artistic, speed and hockey. Each of these requires a specialist coach.

I emphasise that subsidies do not go to a commercial organisation but to a properly constituted club with its own constitution and rules, and these clubs are all voluntary organisations.

There is a parallel with the sport of squash in the granting of these subsidies. Squash also uses commercial buildings, but the squash club is a voluntary body which arranges the coaching, raises the money, and receives the subsidy.

The honourable member spoke of a Mr. Con Galtos, whom I know only as the President of the Australian Roller Skating

Federation, and one who has been active in the Queensland chapter. While he is a roller-skating rink operator, he is also one of those voluntary dedicated sporting administrators of whom the honourable member speaks.

He has managed Australian roller-skating teams overseas, in some cases at his own expense, and is a member representing Australia on the world body, the first Australian to be so appointed. The honourable member did himself little credit by using the privilege of this Parliament to besmirch the reputation of a person who is obviously so highly regarded in Queensland, Australian and international sporting circles.

The honourable member's call for the establishment of a Sporting Hall of Fame in the new Queensland Cultural Centre does not have the support of the Australian Confederation of Sport. This organisation, which represents the opinion of a wide body of sporting administrators feels, as I do, that any such Hall of Fame should be established as a national one displaying the records of those who have won sporting fame as Australians.

In his remarks, the member for Pine Rivers mentioned the difficulty in locating some information as it is contained in the present format of the Estimates. The department's Estimates are presented in the customary Treasury format. So far as the Library of Queensland Fund in the "Special Allocations" Vote is concerned, the amount credited to the fund should be followed through page 102 of the Estimates where the customary break-up is given in the Trust and Special Funds section.

I thank the honourable member for his interest in the Queensland Cultural Centre, which will see its first cultural institution—the Art Gallery—open to the public in early 1982. That will be a great day, not just for Brisbane but for Queensland and Australia.

The honourable member was quite correct in his comments on the Government's sporting assistance scheme, which is the envy of sporting bodies in the other States. On many occasions, national and other sporting associations from interstate have expressed the opinion that the Queensland scheme is the best in Australia.

It was also pleasing to hear a member from the opposite side of the Chamber supporting the Government's priority for the coaching of juniors. The State and national representatives of whom the honourable member for Port Curtis spoke undoubtedly were assisted in their achievements by State Government-funded coaching programmes. The major project of which he spoke is one of the best in Queensland and warranted the support given to it by my department.

In reply to his other remarks, I inform the honourable member that the administration of the Cultural Centre will be the responsibility of the Queensland Cultural

Centre Trust, under the Treasury portfolio. Four of the component institutions—Art Gallery, Library, Museum and Performing Arts—will operate under their respective boards or trusts, which come within my portfolio. I think the distinction should be made.

It was pleasing to hear that the Government's sporting subsidies are appreciated by sporting administrators in the electorate of Balonne and their representative in this House.

That honourable member also raised the interesting question of whether a charge should be levied for visiting the State's national parks. Let me say that there is a wide divergence of opinion on this matter. Investigations have found that even in the most heavily used parks it would scarcely be a profitable exercise to set up the bureaucratic machinery necessary to collect, bank and process these charges.

On the question of kangaroo tags, I can inform the honourable member that the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service is prepared to issue up to 1,500,000 tags again in 1980, based on kangaroo populations being able to sustain that harvest level. However, I feel we must all accept that the time may well come when, because of a series of bad seasons coupled with the continuous harvesting of high numbers of kangaroos, action may have to be taken to reduce the harvest level to ensure the species is not endangered by over-exploitation.

The concern of the honourable member for Isis over the future of Fraser Island is well known to this Assembly and to the people of his electorate. Queensland's National Parks and Wildlife Service will prepare a management plan for the national park on the island and call for public submissions on the plan. This will enable the Government to take into consideration the views of all park users, local authorities, conservation groups and interested individuals. I am confident this action will enable sound resolution of the matters raised by the honourable member, including vehicular access and the use of four-wheel-drive vehicles on certain parts of the island.

The honourable member for Lytton was critical of my Government's attitude towards women's sport and the facilities that are available for women's sport in various areas of the State. In reply, I would point out that the matter of facilities for women's sport was discussed by Cabinet recently and a decision made to give applications for assistance a high priority. As a result, all applications for assistance from women's associations which met the guide-lines this financial year have been approved.

I would also mention that our women's sporting complex at Downey Park is recognised as one of the best in Australia and our Queensland facilities in netball are outstanding. As regards the subsidies for administration costs, all women's associations who

have applied for assistance this financial year have received it at the rate of 50 per cent of the costs.

I take aboard the honourable member's points on the jubilee year of the Marching Girls Association. I will certainly have this matter re-examined.

Our Olympic and Commonwealth Games athletes will not have any real problems as regards finance or training facilities. The facilities being provided here in Brisbane for the Commonwealth Games will be the best ever and well in advance of those provided at previous games. The athletes village at Griffith University will be quite outstanding. I am sure that any financial worries which the organisers may now have will be overcome long before the Games commence. The Director of Sport, who attended the Commonwealth Games at Christchurch in 1974, the Olympic Games at Montreal in 1976, and the Commonwealth Games in Edmonton in 1978, submitted reports to Cabinet on his return from each visit. The requisite action was taken and certain recommendations were implemented which have proved of benefit to the various sporting associations.

I thank the honourable member for Gympie for his comments on historical place names. His comments on the Government's policy on sport are also appreciated and are in accordance with the philosophy of self-help and support and encouragement for those hard-working volunteers in so many sporting bodies. I have mentioned earlier that I will soon be making a personal inspection of the Freshwater Road and would welcome the company of the honourable member on that inspection. The honourable member also made a plea for continued support by my department for youth orchestras in this State and I can assure him that support is provided as a matter of policy.

I thank the honourable member for Brisbane Central for his complimentary remarks on the staff of the Queensland Museum. The honourable member may rest assured that the Museum's new location in the Cultural Centre will result in its being able to properly present itself as a fine, modern museum in a magnificent environment. The future of the present museum building will be properly considered at the appropriate time and his views will be borne in mind.

For the benefit of the honourable member, I reiterate that the Queensland Films Board of Review has a statutory obligation to prohibit the distribution of films which come within the statutory definition of "objectionable". The board performs its duties ably and well and entirely within the requirements of its legal charter.

Mr. Davis: Do they have a points system?

Mr. I. J. GIBBS: I would not like to take the honourable member down there; he would breathe very heavily.

I listened with interest to the remarks of the honourable member for Toowoomba South on the Queensland Film Corporation.

The corporation came under my portfolio on 1 July and a new chairman was appointed on that day. I cannot speak for the corporation's procedures before 1 July, but I do know that its administration and operations have been extensively revised under the new chairman.

The corporation's charter, as I outlined in my introductory speech, is to foster a Queensland film industry and to promote Queensland as a film location. The fact that two feature films are now under way and negotiations are proceeding for other productions speaks for itself.

The corporation does not subsidise films; nor does it make grants. It invests in films to obtain a share of profits that can be ploughed back into further productions. I might point out in passing, even though the production concerned was before my time, that "The Irishman", although acknowledged a good film, has not yet made any money for its backers.

The corporation's aim is to have the maximum number of Queensland film personnel employed on productions it finances. To this end, the corporation placed advertisements in September for experienced Queensland film personnel to notify their names and addresses to it for inclusion in a directory of film personnel, which is made available to film companies and producers. More than 70 people resident in Queensland have replied so far.

The honourable member commented that the company making "Final Cut" on the Gold Coast was trying to do its best within the budget it received. The corporation does not allot budgets. These are compiled by the company concerned made up of its own investment, private investment and the corporation's investment. The company making "Final Cut" applied for a Q.F.C. investment of \$86,000 and in fact the corporation increased its investment to \$192,000—hardly a miserly attitude.

The honourable member also commented that film crews working on "Final Cut" were upset that crew for "Friday the 13th"—now renamed "Touch And Go"—were coming from Sydney. The fact is that both productions are under way simultaneously, and all available Queensland personnel were already engaged for "Final Cut".

I know that the chairman outlined this fact to the crew through the producer, Mr. Mike Williams, who is also a Q.F.C. member, and that the crew expressed their satisfaction. The majority of "Touch And Go" is being shot on the Sunshine Coast, in line with Q.F.C. policy.

The Q.F.C. is charged with making sound investments to get a return on what, after all, is taxpayers' money. Unlike the Australian Film Commission and some other State corporations, it is not empowered to make grants for amateur film makers. Such productions are better channelled through

the Australian Film Commission, Film Australia or the Australian Film and Television School, which were set up specifically for this purpose.

There has been some talk about the proposed Nerang film studio. The company concerned is not seeking a subsidy. It has applied, quite correctly, for assistance through the pioneer industry incentive scheme that has been widely advertised interstate by the Queensland Government through the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development.

The company is prepared to put in some \$3,000,000 of its own money. The project is being considered in the normal way by the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development and the State Government. The Queensland Film Corporation is not involved in any investment in this proposed project. Such a studio would give the Queensland industry a major boost by making production and post-production facilities available.

Films are shot on location, but they have to be edited and interior scenes done in a studio. Studios are particularly needed for television series production. Some nine feature films have been made in Queensland—and all were edited in Sydney or Melbourne. The Queensland Film Corporation, I believe, is doing an excellent job, and is well regarded in the industry.

The honourable member for Toowoomba South also raised the question of the availability of national parks in the Toowoomba region. Suitable areas which may be reserved as national park in that region are currently under investigation by my department. However, a very interesting national park is available within 40 km of Toowoomba. It is called Crows Nest Falls National Park and has a beautiful natural swimming-hole and spectacular views over Perserverance Creek and Crows Nest Creek. It has good picnic facilities which are proving very popular with residents and visitors to the area. The Ravensbourne National Park is also within one hour's drive of Toowoomba.

In answering the honourable member for Merthyr, I would like to thank him for his contribution and advise that our wildlife rangers do in fact, as part of their duties, lecture quite frequently at schools all over the State. Likewise, our national park rangers and interpretive officers provide school lectures all over the State, including disadvantaged schools and schools for handicapped children. The junior ranger programme is another area where nature conservation is brought to children.

The honourable member has mentioned catering for handicapped children. New buildings in all major parks have toilet facilities for disabled people.

Regarding the honourable member's suggestion that the police Fauna Squad liaise with the Police Department and the R.Q.S.P.C. to enforce the Animals Protection Act, I would advise that this liaison is already taking place.

I also thank the honourable member for Caboolture for his remarks, and particularly for drawing attention to the lack of support for sport given by Labor in all its long dreary years of office. I was also interested in his references to pony clubs in his electorate. This is a sport in which I am personally involved, and I look forward to its growth in the years ahead.

Again, his remarks in favour of the Films Board of Review were much appreciated, and I am sure will be extremely interesting to the members of that board.

The honourable member for Wynnum persisted with the Opposition's fanatical and illogical attacks on the operations of the Films Board of Review. The only further point I wish to make in this regard is that the board is unfortunately unable to keep a Statewide surveillance of what is being shown in every part of Queensland. The processes and procedures adopted by the board as part of its administrative process are those adjudged by the board to be the best it can devise in the present circumstances. I support the board in all its endeavours to carry out its charter.

I have, and the Government has, exactly the same view so far as the Literature Board of Review is concerned.

I can inform the honourable member that I have appointed a management committee to oversee the management of the national park on St. Helena Island. This committee will meet soon to resolve management problems on the island. The committee is headed by the Director of the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dr. Graham Saunders. It is also proposed to station a ranger on the island in the very near future. This will ensure the control of vandalism and that the valuable historic ruins are appreciated and protected.

The honourable member for Flinders made some interesting comments on grants to certain cultural activities. However, the Government recognises the position of the performing arts—opera, ballet, theatre, etc.—in the whole cultural spectrum, and must continue to provide assistance as and when it considers it necessary. The honourable member may rest assured that no particular activity is singled out for sympathetic consideration by virtue of its appeal to any particular section of the population.

I wish to inform the honourable member that fires can be lit in fireplaces provided on national parks. Fishing for personal use while on the park will be permitted in some of the more extensive parks in Cape York Peninsula and elsewhere. Fishing has been a traditional use of the area.

The kangaroo tagging system was imposed by the Commonwealth as the price for regaining export permits.

I thank the honourable member for Surfers Paradise for his comments on the proposed

cultural centre for the Gold Coast, and I look forward to his support and co-operation in my attempts, and those of the local councils involved, to bring the project to reality.

I also thank the honourable member for his complimentary remarks about the success of our cultural activities programme. As a result of our efforts in this field the quality of life in Queensland has improved.

The honourable member for Woodridge quoted the annual report of the department for the year ended June 1979 and not this year's Estimates. Subsidies quoted by the honourable member were payments made in the last financial year, and were principally for coaching juniors. I reiterate that no application for a subsidy to coach juniors has ever been refused. Junior sport is looked after very well.

I refute any suggestion that a netball association did not receive a subsidy as a result of an application submitted this year. The honourable member made an assertion that the electorates of Government members receive preferential treatment. I remind him that only a few weeks ago in the electorate of one of his colleagues I officially opened the largest single project subsidised by the Government. I refer to the ice-skating rink constructed at Acacia Ridge by the State association of that sport.

In closing this debate I recognise the contribution of those honourable members who have commented constructively on the diverse aspects of this portfolio. I take aboard the positive points that have been made during these discussions and undertake to investigate those suggestions which may assist my department in fulfilling its charter to the people of Queensland. I also record my thanks to my personal staff and departmental officers who have assisted me during the course of these proceedings.

At 9.45 p.m.,

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gunn): Order! By agreement, under the provisions of the Sessional Order agreed to by the House on 9 October, I shall now put the questions for the Vote under consideration and the balance remaining unvoted for Culture, National Parks and Recreation.

The questions for the following Votes were put, and agreed to—

Culture, National Parks and Recreation—
\$

Chief Office, Department
of Culture, National
Parks and Recreation 2,256,563

Balance of Vote, Con-
solidated Revenue,
Trust and Special Funds
and Loan Fund Account 26,024,438

Progress reported.

PORT OF BRISBANE AUTHORITY ACT
AMENDMENT BILL

SECOND READING

Hon. M. D. HOOPER (Townsville West—
Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism)
(9.46 p.m.): I move—

“That the Bill be now read a second time.”

In my introduction of the Bill, I fully detailed the measures contained in the Bill. I would reiterate that the principal provisions of the Bill relate to the appointment of members of the Port Authority and the power of the Minister to issue directions to the Port Authority on policy matters where such need might arise. As I stated yesterday evening, the present method of seeking out panels of names from various associations for the appointment of members, whilst useful when the authority was first constituted, is considered to be unnecessarily cumbersome for dealing with the triennial reappointment of the authority.

The honourable member for Cairns said in effect there should be no difficulties in obtaining panels of names from the various associations and organisations. This may be so with some of these bodies, but with others which represent a number of different entities or businesses it is not so straightforward. They have to sort out between these entities the names to be submitted, and it could thus become a contentious issue for these groups each time the authority is due for reconstitution.

There is no need for this formal canvassing arrangement for future appointments to the Port Authority, but as I have already stated the names recently submitted by the various associations will be taken into consideration when recommending members for appointment to the Port Authority under the new provisions contained in the Bill. Also, where a particular need arises, the Government will wish to consult interested groups on the selection of a member, and the Bill leaves it open to the Minister to arrange this consultation where he so wishes.

It will become apparent to those who have studied the Bill that the reappointment of Sir Charles Barton as a member of the Port Authority will not be permitted under the new legislation, because of the age limitation for members of 70 years. I would like to take this opportunity to pay a tribute to Sir Charles Barton for the manner in which he has carried out his duties as member and chairman of the authority since its inception in December 1976. I am sure that honourable members will appreciate that a lot of sheer hard work devolved upon Sir Charles as the first chairman of the authority in bringing the new port at Fisherman Islands into its present advanced stage of construction. I am aware of the long hours Sir Charles has put into this difficult task and the great interest he has taken in the

port since the inception of the Port Authority. Sir Charles can now with content look forward to the opening of the new port complex within a matter of a few months. On behalf of the Government, I would like to thank Sir Charles very sincerely for the role he has played in this major development.

There is nothing further I wish to say at this stage. Due to the timing of the introduction of the measure, debate at the introductory stage was rather restricted, and honourable members will no doubt wish to have more to say during the second-reading and Committee stages. I look forward to hearing their comments.

Mr. BURNS (Lytton) (9.49 p.m.): This Bill, I am sure, should be called the Brian Baillie Bill. It is obvious that it has been designed to allow him to create a monopoly not only in the port of Brisbane but finally in all the ports of this State. I claim that he has bought that monopoly. The \$250,000 that he gave to the Bjelke-Petersen Foundation has bought him a position from which he will be able to manipulate the membership of the board. He will do that through the Premier. He will tell the Premier what he wants, the Premier will tell the Minister and Cabinet, and they will do what they are told. Brian Baillie will not only be able to control the Port of Brisbane Authority; he will also be able to manipulate, to the detriment of the people, the prices and costs of goods coming in and out of the port.

One of the reasons why the Government is changing the Act is the rather dramatic resignation of Alderman Frank Sleeman, the Lord Mayor of Brisbane, from the authority in April this year because of the way in which the Government stood over the board and directed it to back down on the decisions it had made in relation to the container terminal. At that time, Mr. Sleeman said that the Government had threatened to sack the Port of Brisbane Authority because it refused to alter a decision on the lease of Fisherman Islands' wharf facilities. He said that the monopoly control under the terms proposed by B.W.W.D. and A.N.L.—that is, the Baillie consortium—would add \$2,000,000 a year to the cost of goods landed at the port. Alderman Sleeman said, “In the authority's guide-lines, we were asked to discourage monopoly control, and we did.”

Before checking through the history, I think we ought to look at some of the newspaper editorials in those days. The “Telegraph” said at that time—

“Strong suggestions have been made that Mr. Bjelke-Petersen personally insisted that Cabinet override the authority's recommendation.”

I should add that no-one denied such a story. No-one denies these days that the

Premier is a one-man band in this State and that there is a one-man control of Cabinet. The "Telegraph" editorial continued—

"If these suspicions are well-based, there are worrying similarities to the Tarong Power House decision last year when Cabinet, at the Premier's demand, over-ruled the recommendation from a Minister and an independent authority."

I should imagine that the Government will do something about that authority eventually. The editorial continued—

"Decisions like these are all the more disturbing in the context of the continuing claims that Queensland is virtually a one-party, even a one-man, State."

I remind the House of the one-man North Brisbane Hospitals Board, when the hospitals board elected to represent various sections of the community decided that it would stand on its own two feet. I also remind honourable members of the one-man administration of the Gold Coast, when the Gold Coast City Council did not toe the line, probably because it did not agree with some of the rezonings for people who were making donations to the various political parties that manipulate the Government. I suggest that if a number of other boards in the State do not toe the political line of those who have donated to the Bjelke-Petersen foundation, they, too, will be altered and the restrictions that are being placed on this board, and the changes that are being made in this instance, will become a regular feature of amending Bills.

Mr. Yewdale: It is quite apparent that the Liberals are toeing the line.

Mr. BURNS: Of course, the Liberals have always toed the line. From time to time, four or five of them might cross the floor of the House and beat their breasts and pretend that they are concerned about what Mr. Bjelke-Petersen does; but on every occasion, when it comes down to the nitty-gritty matters such as this involving monopolies as against free enterprise and competition, they cave in. They do not believe in free enterprise.

Mr. Bourke interjected.

Mr. BURNS: The honourable member does not believe in free enterprise. I have watched the story on the Milk Bill; I have watched the story on the Bread Bill, under which the Government is wiping out competition and creating monopolies, as it is in this case. On each occasion, the stories that members of the Liberal Party have told the people of Queensland about believing in free enterprise and competition have been just so much rubbish.

I should like to recap some of the history of Mr. Baillie and give the reasons why I believe that the Bill is now before the House. In November 1977, the Port of Brisbane Authority issued invitations to companies to submit proposals to form a consortium

with the port authority as one of the shareholders. Two applications were received, the first from Brisbane Wharves and Wool Dumping Pty. Ltd. and the Australian National Line, and the second from Associated Container Transportation (Australia) Ltd.

The port authority, after discussing these proposals, decided to look at leasehold arrangements, and in March 1978 it invited proposals to operate under the lease. The same two, B.W.W.D. and A.C.T.A., applied. The proposals submitted by A.C.T.A. did not strictly conform because it did not submit any investment proposal, but it submitted a management proposal. After a close study of the proposals, the Port of Brisbane Authority, the experts appointed by the Government, thought it would be better for the port authority to construct a facility and then appoint management contractors. B.W.W.D. said it was not interested in managing the facilities; it wanted to control them. That is the question. It wanted to control them, but A.C.T.A. said that it was interested in managing. The port authority recommended to Cabinet that negotiations with A.C.T.A. commence.

Mr. Brian Baillie, the managing director of Brisbane Wharves and Wool Dumping, heavily lobbied Cabinet members who, responding to party donations and lobbying, tried to put blocks in the way of negotiations. As a delaying tactic, they persuaded Cabinet to appoint Hungerford, Spooner & Co., accountants, to carry out an independent survey of the port authority's negotiations with A.C.T.A. and B.W.W.D./A.N.L. The report by a Mr. Tucker of that firm found the port authority's action was correct and supported negotiations with A.C.T.A.

I now refer to a "Telegraph" newspaper front-page story of 24 April 1979 headed, "New Facts on Port Row". The "Telegraph" had a copy of the confidential report from Hungerfords. The journalist, Mr. Quentin Dempster said—

"Hungerfords strongly recommended that the stevedoring rights go to Associated Container Transportation Ltd. (A.C.T.A.)."

The report states that Hungerfords recommended that the authority cannot, in the public interest, put the control of the new terminal facilities into the hands of the Hamilton operator, B.W.W.D., that is, Mr. Baillie. I am now reading from Hungerford's report, which continues—

"This aspect alone must disqualify B.W.W.D./A.N.L. but their proposal, in any event, provides a higher tariff, a more complex rate structure and a greater labour complement at an average cost not indicative of a separate industrial arrangement for Fisherman Islands.

"Certainly they are prepared to invest capital but it is more fitting for the Port Authority to invest that capital if it wants to engage in only a 10-year arrangement."

Hungerfords was appointed by the Government because Baillie could see that he was not to get control of the port. After Hungerfords—the independent group—had studied the whole question it agreed with the Government's advisers—with the port authority—and brought down the report that was published for all to see in the newspapers of the day.

The next delaying tactic was a Cabinet-appointed select committee of top public servants. This committee reported to the Treasury and, contrary to Baillie's and his bought Cabinet Ministers' expectations, it did not find that the port authority's actions were wrong. Again, for the second time the Government used delaying tactics by asking people to investigate what had been going on, and again the investigators found for the port authority.

As a result of National Party pressure, another committee was appointed by Cabinet under the chairmanship of Sir Sidney Roberts, a grazier and well-known National Party stooge. The National Party works on the principle that, to get a favourable decision, one appoints a chairman who knows nothing about the proposal. It therefore appointed Roberts. Roberts carried out what can only be called a sham, incompetent investigation. His report was secret and was not available to members of the port authority.

Roberts told authority members, when he was asked whom he had interviewed in carrying out this inquiry, that he had telephoned a meat exporter—a meat exporter! He did not say who it was but he said that this meat exporter said things were all right. That is a wonderful investigation! That is the type of statement that Roberts made to the authority members. The Minister is wondering whether or not it was a sham. Let me prove what I am saying. Roberts was delightfully vague. He made further vague and unsubstantiated comments. He talked about shipping interests expressing satisfaction with the services of B.W.W.D. But B.W.W.D. had publicly tried to excuse charges of inefficiency at its up-river terminal, the one it currently operates, by blaming the authority or claiming that it lacked land in the area. Whilst, on the one hand, Roberts was saying that people were satisfied, on the other hand B.W.W.D. was admitting that it was having problems at its own terminal.

Roberts supposedly carried out an independent investigation. He did not contact A.C.T.A., the people whom the port authority had recommended, but he talked to B.W.W.D./A.N.L. He did not contact representatives of the major shipping company. One authority member represents interests with \$500,000,000 invested in shipping to Brisbane. These interests were not consulted by Roberts. The United Graziers' Association, the Queensland Meat Exporters' Association and the Chamber of Shipping all supported the port authority; but they were not consulted or, if they were, they were

not properly quoted or reported. Some of them wrote to the port authority expressing their concern at Roberts's report.

I shall now quote two newspaper stories to prove what I am saying. The first appeared in the "Telegraph" on 2 April 1979—

"The United Graziers Association and the Brisbane Chamber of Commerce today claimed that prices of goods landed in Brisbane would rise because of the Queensland Government's decision on the new port of Brisbane.

"The claim followed reports that the Premier, Mr. Bjelke-Petersen, and Cabinet had overturned a Port of Brisbane Authority recommendation that Associated Container Transportation Australia Ltd. (A.C.T.A.) have stevedoring rights over the new multi million dollar container terminal.

"Speaking from Townsville today, U.G.A. president, Mr. John Heussler, said Cabinet's decision would give monopoly control of the port to one group."

That shows that the U.G.A. was opposed to it. Mr. Roberts, being a grazier but, unfortunately, also a National Party stooge, went ahead with his recommendation.

On 31 March 1979, Mr. Peter Morley reported in "The Courier-Mail" as follows—

"Somersault' over port contract angers shippers.

"Shipping agents have complained to the State Government over its decision to grant a Brisbane Wharves and Wool Dumping consortium stevedoring rights to the new container port."

It would be true to say that Roberts carried out some sort of investigation, but he did not go into the A.C.T.A. proposal. He vaguely sought comments from some people who were involved, but did not accurately report the comments of all these bodies.

A report from the "Telegraph" of 4 April 1979 read—

"Import and export agents today warned of a likely shipping boycott of the port of Brisbane over State Cabinet's decision on control of the port.

"The warning was in a letter to the Premier, Mr. Bjelke-Petersen, from Mr. Athol Flynn, president of the Customs Agents Association of Queensland.

"The letter described as incredible Cabinet's decision to reverse a Port Authority recommendation that Associated Container Transportation Australia Ltd. (A.C.T.A.) have stevedoring rights on the new container terminal at Fisherman Islands.

"The 40 members of the Queensland Customs Agents Association handle more than 80 per cent of all goods handled through the Port of Brisbane.

"The association's letter to Mr. Bjelke-Petersen said: 'Our understanding is that the recommendation of the Port Authority

on the operation of the port has been rejected by Cabinet in favour of a report commissioned and carried out independently by the National Party of Australia."

That was by Mr. Roberts, of course. The article continued—

"We have no objection to political parties carrying out investigations in the interests of those they may represent. In fact we welcome it."

"However, the letter said, 'we find it incredible that a committee could carry out such an inquiry and pronounce findings without consulting those who carry on the business of the port and who are most affected by its viability.'"

Remember that I am quoting from the association's letter, which continued—

"If consulted by the National Party committee we would have reported instances of our clients electing to no longer ship through Brisbane, but to distribute their goods through Sydney.

"We would have suggested that the prime reason for this decline, quite uncharacteristic of Queensland industries, is the increasing and unwilling dependence on an unconcerned autocratic monopoly and its unholy alliance with particular sections of the waterfront unions."

"The letter attacked the P. and O. group's . . ."

That is Baillie's group. Baillie is chairman of P. & O., the Australian subsidiary of the English group. Baillie is the chairman of B.W.W.D. Baillie is the chairman of the consortium B.W.W.D./A.N.L. The article continued—

". . . involvement in the port. It accused the company of seeking to dominate and monopolise the port.

"This was stifling true free enterprise and increasing costs to all Queenslanders."

In the light of all of those attacks by the U.G.A., the Chamber of Commerce and Customs Agents of Queensland, and the recommendations from Hungerford, the public servants and the port authority experts that this Parliament appointed, what happened? Roberts, who is not an elected member of Parliament or anybody responsible to this Parliament, told them in the Premier's office that they had to do as they were told. He gave them a lecture on free enterprise and socialism. They were directed to come to the Premier's office to talk to him. Here is the free-enterprise National Party enforcing the bodgie Roberts report.

On the morning of the Premier's testimonial dinner, the port authority chairman, the general manager and others from the board were called into the Premier's office and were told that they should take notice of what Sid Roberts had to say. Sid Roberts, in the Premier's company, gave them a

lecture on socialism under Labor in 1956 and private enterprise under this coalition Government. The public servants—the experts who had been appointed—were being lectured by an outside party member, in the presence of the Premier, and the funny decisions came from there. The board members were told by the Premier that they should favourably consider the Baillie/B.W.W.D./A.N.L. proposals. I want to know what sort of donations B.W.W.D., A.N.L. or Baillie have made to the Joh fund. I am told that it is \$250,000.

Mr. WHARTON: I rise to a point of order. I wonder can the honourable member substantiate what he is saying? I am sure he cannot. I object to what he is saying because I do not think he can substantiate it.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. W. D. Hewitt): Order! There is no point of order.

Mr. BURNS: I most certainly can substantiate it.

Mr. Wharton: You would say that?

Mr. BURNS: Yes, this is a matter of public record. I am taking this out of the newspapers of this State. This was not denied. In fact, I made the point in a speech in the debate on Matters of Public Interest, and while the Premier hopped up and down and took a few points of order, he did not deny the accusations I made. The Minister for Works and Housing cannot deny them on the Premier's behalf.

Mr. WHARTON: I rise to a point of order. I object to the statement made by the honourable member. I doubt that it is true—

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! There is no point of order.

Mr. BURNS: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

So we have the situation where these senior members of the port authority reported back to the board that they were shocked, and at one stage all but one member of the authority considered resigning. These people went back to the board and those who were Government supporters talked about the party and how Roberts had told them the party wanted it that way; that even though they had carried out 14 months of investigations they had to do what they were told because the party wanted it that way. Most board members were aware of this, but felt that the Government would not let them down. They felt that the Government would not place the authority in the position of making it a tame-cat party body, but tonight it is being done exactly that way. The port authority then had to make a decision, and it wrote back to the Minister and said that it would not cop

what the Premier had tried to tell it to do. I am told that the port authority's letter said this—

"Having reconsidered its resolution of 28-6-78 that approval be sought to negotiate a lease with ACT (A) to operate the Fisherman Islands Container Terminal within the framework of the offer that has been made, the Authority is still of the opinion that this is the correct decision.

"The Authority draws the Minister's attention to the urgency of being allowed to proceed with the Development of No. 1 Container Terminal. The Authority wishes to be allowed to continue its negotiation with ACT (A) which it commenced following the Cabinet decision of 16 October 1978."

On 20 February 1979 in a minute Cabinet decided that Decision No. 29930 of 19 October 1978 be rescinded and directed that the Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism convey the views of Cabinet to the Port of Brisbane Authority, namely, that the Port of Brisbane Authority enter into negotiations with Brisbane Wharves and Wool Dumping Pty. Ltd. The Premier directed the authority to do just that. The Cabinet minute shows that that is what Baillie wanted, and that is what Baillie got. He ordered all these investigations, and he said himself in "The Courier-Mail"—

"When I realised what the staff were doing I went to all sorts of people, and finally I went political."

I want to know how many other people have been able to get that service. I believe that Mr. Baillie bought his way into monopoly control. I also believe that that is not all he wants from this Government for the donation he has made to National Party funds. I make no bones about it; as far as I am concerned, he will be asking for a lot more before this is over. When the staff were prepared to stand up to Baillie, he launched an attack on them. If anyone doubts that Baillie talked about the problems he had and how he went out and canvassed political people, it is in the newspaper for anyone to read. He said that he had to look at the anti-free enterprise elements apparently working within the port authority's administration. I wonder whether any of the clauses of the Bill which refer to ex officio officers are meant to deal with the members of the staff whom Baillie wants to get rid of. The member of the board, who is appointed to represent the wharf-owners had to reply in the newspapers defending the staff against the attack by Baillie. The point here is that the membership and representation of this board is being altered because the Government says that it has decided to change the rules.

Let us have a look at some of the other boards that the Government has appointed. As I read the Bill, in future the local authority will not be represented. There

will be no way that any separate group will be able to make its own nomination to this board. The Act provides that the port authority shall consist of nine members ordinarily resident within Queensland, being—

"the Director for the time being of the Department of Harbours and Marine who shall be a member ex officio;" (John Leech)

"the General Manager for the time being of the Port Authority, who shall be a member ex officio;" (he is well known)

"one person nominated by the Brisbane Oversea Wharftowners Association on behalf of all owners of wharves in the port..." (Mr. Brian Baillie, the chairman of directors of B.W.W.D.)

"one person nominated on behalf of businesses engaged in the operation of the port (not being the owner of a wharf in the port)..." (Captain Peter Dann)

"three persons nominated on behalf of associations representative of and associated with trade or commerce generally..." (Gordon Fraser, general manager of Luya Julius, Merv Phillips, general manager of the Queensland Wheat Board, and I am sorry that I do not have the third name in my list)

"one person nominated by The South Eastern District Local Government Association..." (the Lord Mayor)

"one person nominated on behalf of authorised labour..." (Doug Pye).

That is the present composition of the board. As I understand it, in future the Minister will pick out nine people. I suggest that probably people like Pye and Sleeman, who take a line different from that taken by Baillie and Bjelke-Petersen, will not be reappointed to the board.

Let me look at some of the boards that have been established. The first is the Bread Industry Committee. The Bill setting up that committee was assented to on 31 March 1979. The members of the board consist of three persons representing the bread manufacturers, one person representing bread retailers, and one person representing bread consumers.

Now I look at the Fish Board. There is a chairman and not fewer than three persons nominated by the Minister from a panel of seven. One at least shall reside in the part of the State lying north of the 22nd parallel of south latitude, one shall reside in the part of the State lying south of the 22nd parallel of south latitude, and not fewer than three persons nominated by the Minister from other areas of the State. Again, they are people from the various organisations. Then there is the Central Sugar Cane Prices Board. The members consist of a cane growers' representative, a mill-owners' representative, a qualified sugar chemist and a person experienced in accountancy and audit. It is all spelt out. I refer then to the Tobacco Quota Committee. There are three

representatives of the tobacco producers, who shall be nominated by the State board. Under the Primary Producers' Organisation and Marketing Acts, there is a Council of Agriculture consisting of representatives from all of these boards: the Atherton Tableland Maize Marketing Board; the Barley Marketing Board; the Broom Millet Marketing Board; the Butter Marketing Board; the Cheese Marketing Board; the Cotton Marketing Board; the Egg Marketing Board and the Central Queensland Egg Marketing Board; the Ginger Marketing Board; the Navy Bean Marketing Board and the Northern Pig Marketing Board. But we change this authority where Baillie puts money in the hand. There is no right of selection any more. I could refer to the Milk Board and to other boards. This has been happening with all of these boards. In this instance, when some money changes hands, when the Bjelke-Petersen Foundation comes on the scene, there is a complete change. This is a retrograde step.

Mr. WHARTON: I rise to a point of order. The honourable member for Lytton said that his allegation had not been denied previously. I deny that this happened. I am not going to stay here and listen to this sort of thing. I deny it. It hasn't been bandied around. One cannot take notice of the Press.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. W. D. Hewitt): Order! There is no point of order.

Mr. BURNS: There are a number of other things associated with this authority. What this Government is introducing here tonight is Cabinet government. The Cabinet is a puppet of the Premier. He controls Cabinet. The port authority will be subservient to the whims and the fancies of Cabinet, which is ill-advised by a professional lobbyist. The professional political lobbyist is the director of P. & O., a subsidiary of an overseas company. Mr. Baillie's only aim is to establish his own company with a complete monopoly of the container industry in the capital city port and extend that monopoly to the whole of the State.

I refer to the other board that we have set up just recently, the Gold Coast Waterways Authority. A gentleman by the name of Williams was appointed as chairman of that authority after making a large donation to the National Party. He was appointed to that position after making a public donation to the National Party at a fancy dinner. I challenge the Government to deny that. The Government can deny it as much as it likes, but the people of Brisbane, every wharf-owner, every ship-owner and everyone associated with the port knows that Baillie was able to manipulate the Premier and the Cabinet in relation to this deal.

A number of other things associated with the port of Brisbane must be mentioned. This amending Bill being debated tonight will remove the Brisbane City Council and local authority representation from the Port

of Brisbane Authority. Alderman Frank Sleeman represented not only the Brisbane City Council but also the contiguous shires covering areas such as Redcliffe, Esk and Moreton. However, the honourable members for Sandgate and Port Curtis assure me that they will go into that matter further. By the contiguous shires I mean the councils of the cities of Ipswich and Redcliffe and the shires of Albert, Beaudesert, Esk, Moreton, Pine Rivers and Redlands. All of those local authorities were represented on this board by the Lord Mayor.

When the Government decides to leave off the representative of the local authorities, it removes a person who should have a vital say in a lot of the matters that the board will carry out in the electorate of Lytton and the city of Brisbane, as they will be subject to the ordinances of the Brisbane City Council and subject to the control of local authorities. In that regard I mention roads, the supply of water, sewerage and other services—essential services to that board. I know that some members of the board have said that the Lord Mayor played a very vital role in its operations. I suggest to the Government that someone who represents the people of Brisbane is needed on the board so that facts are made available to the community.

On a number of occasions I have written to the board in relation to the roads that will service the port. On 23 March this year I wrote to the then Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism about the problems of road traffic to and from the port. He replied to me that road-works and improvements in the metropolitan area are within the province of the Brisbane City Council. So roads are the responsibility of the Brisbane City Council. Without any local authority representation the Port of Brisbane Authority can make decisions for which the rate-payers of this city have to pay.

Someone may say that the people of Queensland can act on the advice given to them by this Parliament. In relation to that I quote an answer of the Minister for Local Government and Main Roads on 9 March 1977 to a question asked by the member for Bulimba. In that regard I will also quote a letter of 6 July 1977 from the Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism to me. The member for Bulimba asked—

“When the new port for Brisbane becomes operational, what is the anticipated increase in traffic density in the suburbs of Morningside, Bulimba, Hawthorne and Norman Park?”

“What effect will it have on traffic noise at night in these suburbs?”

Part of the answer from the Minister is as follows—

“Were the facilities at Fisherman Islands not constructed, it is predicted that in 1991 . . . the traffic volume in Wynnum Road from Norman Creek to

Junction Road would reach 55,000 vehicles per day and in Junction Road 16,500 vehicles per day.

"With the construction of the new port the comparable 1991 traffic figures are 58,500 vehicles per day and 20,000 vehicles per day . . .

"Of the additional 3,500 vehicles per day, it is anticipated some 1,150 per day will be trucks."

In his letter to me the Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism stated that the traffic on the Story Bridge in 1990-91 will be 184,879 vehicles a day; in Wynnum Road, East Brisbane, 100,297 vehicles a day; and in Wynnum Road, Morningside, 65,658. The Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism said that Wynnum Road would carry 65,658 vehicles a day. However, two months earlier we were told there would be 58,500 vehicles a day. That is a difference of 7,100 fewer vehicles a day in the estimates of two Government departments about the same road. One said there would be an extra 3,500 vehicles a day in relation to the port and another said 5,712 vehicles a day. Surely with figures like that being bandied about in an answer in the Parliament and a letter from a Minister—two months apart; two different Government Ministers. We have a prime reason why we need a representative of the council on the board. I believe that my colleague from Wynnum, Eric Shaw, who was then an alderman, at one stage was considered as being the representative on the board. However, Bill Lamond, who was the member for the area at the time—the temporary member of Parliament for the area—decided that Eric should not be there and, as I understand it, he lobbied the Government to ensure that, if the Brisbane City Council or the local authorities were to have representation, it was not to be him.

Let me talk for a moment about some of the other stories about Mr. Lamond. I want to show the House again how people were misled on this issue. I will quote from two sources for the information of honourable members. On 27 July in the "Wynnum-Redlands Herald" Mr. Lamond had a story headed "Coal loading a long way off", in which he was reported as saying that, although the new Brisbane port development was capable of providing coal-loading facilities, they were not included or planned at that stage. I repeat that he said that coal-loading facilities were not included or planned at that stage. However, on 2 August 1976, 11 months earlier the Minister at that time (the Honourable T. G. Newberry), writing to me on this matter, said in the fourth paragraph—

"The proposed exports from Brisbane would be coal mined in the West Moreton coal fields and on the Darling Downs."

He then went on to advise me—

"Our consultants, assisted by experts in the field of dust control from stockpiles, have analysed the potential problem at the Fisherman Island."

So the Government had consultants analysing the potential of dust control at Fisherman Islands. He also told me—

"The stockpiles are located approximately 8 kilometres distant from the nearest residents in Wynnum North. The prevailing breezes, in excess of ten knots in this area, at night time and in the early morning are from the south-west, and during the afternoon are from the south-east".

He could tell me all of that information; consultants were carrying out studies; but Lamond 11 months later was saying that they were not included or planned at that stage. Lamond was deliberately misleading the people down there, and that letter signed "T. G. Newberry, Minister for Tourism and Marine Services" proves it.

Those misleading figures to this House either by the Minister in answer to the question or in a letter in answer to me shows that we were getting all sorts of answers out of that board. I believe that the people of Brisbane are entitled to a representative on the board. We are entitled to have somebody there to represent the area that is going to be affected by the port; to represent the people who will have to pay the rates to deliver the services to the port; to represent the people who will be involved in the development of the road.

There is talk about the road itself. The access from the port up Lytton Road goes as far as Junction Road at Morningside. The Commonwealth has given money that the council is using to widen the road, but no-one is worried about the additional 5,700 trucks and cars that will travel up and down that road each day. What will happen to them when they reach the corner of Junction Road? No-one is worried about it at all. The Federal Government says, "That is the end of it."

Mr. Warburton: No-one is worried about it except the council.

Mr. BURNS: Yes, except the council and the ratepayers who will have to pay the charges.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, you know as well as I do that traffic will start to flow down Creek Road, through the area where you live. Traffic will flow down Bennetts Road and make its way to the Gold Coast. It will go off down Kianawah Road and other local council roads. Some of them that have been developed by the council are virtually main roads, but the council has received no Government money for them. Yet the Government has the temerity to come before this House tonight and suggest that names submitted by the local authority representing the people—the ratepayers who will be involved in those costs—should be excluded from the list. That is one of the first amendments. I believe that that is not good enough; that the people of Brisbane are entitled to a little bit more than

that. The Liberal members of Parliament who represent seats in Brisbane and vote for that are dumping the citizens of this city. They are saying to them, "You are not entitled to it." The National Party is able to manipulate them and tell them what they have to do.

The Bill also refers to Cairncross Dock. When we talk about that dock, we have to talk about some other problems in the river itself. One of the reasons for the development of the new port at the mouth of the river was the decision that we were spending too much money on dredging the river itself. There was talk of the millions of dollars that were being spent on dredging. At the time of the first debate on this legislation in the Parliament, I raised the matter of what would happen if we were to save that money by not dredging the river any more. That is a question associated not only with the Cairncross Dock but also with local flooding. There have been inquiries into dredging. In fact, I think there is a report by an English group called the Wallingford Hydraulic Research Station, which carried out an investigation and made a report in 1978. We have not heard any more about it, but a \$300,000 study of the Brisbane River was carried out to discover the dredging necessary to maintain Brisbane as a viable port. I want to know the result of that study, because it has something to do with the operation of the Cairncross Dock.

The question of the Gateway Bridge also arises because, if a bridge is to be built, the height of the bridge will have a great effect on the Cairncross Dock, which is up river from where the bridge is supposed to be built. If a decision has been made to build a tunnel, obviously some of the problems of dredging associated with the tunnel will be important and I will need to know about them. I need to know about those things, and most honourable members who live on the south side of the river also need to know them, because the painters and dockers, the fitters and those associated with Cairncross Dock itself need to know about the future of the dock.

There is no doubt that for some time the newspapers of this country, especially the shipping newspapers, have been saying that Australia lags badly in dry docks. In 1976 "The Australian" said that Australian dry-dock facilities are very limited when compared with those in other countries. On a number of occasions, I have spoken to people associated with the dry dock and asked that it be developed further. I believe that the Cairncross Dock should be widened and lengthened. The building of the new port should improve the viability of such a proposal, and there are added reasons why both the Commonwealth and State Governments should come to the assistance of that dock. From the point of view of national defence, it would be better to separate ship-repair facilities, rather than have them in one vulnerable point around Sydney and Newcastle.

Geographically, Brisbane is the most suitable site for a large ship-repair facility because of the changes in the pattern of Australia's development, particularly in the mining industry. All the large bulk carriers operating on the Australian coast pass Brisbane during their operations. These include the iron-ore ships as well as the bauxite and alumina ships on the Queensland coast. The growing improvement in the South-East Asian, Japanese and United States trade favours traffic along the eastern coast, and shipping to and from Europe has commenced operating via the Panama route. Brisbane is therefore well situated to execute emergency repair work on vessels operating on these routes, thus providing an opportunity to increase export earnings. Most importantly, it would provide greater opportunities of employment and would ensure that ship-building and ship-repairing skills were not lost to Queensland.

Australia has reached its highest level of unemployment since the Great Depression of the 1930s. In recent months, unemployment has reached an all-time high, and the crisis in the ship-repair industry can be attributed to ship-owners docking and repairing their ships in Singapore, Japan, Europe and North America. It seems to me that some decisions have to be made relative to the charges at Cairncross Dock. I understand that some of the charges there are the highest in Australia.

When the New South Wales State Government opened a new floating dock worth \$15,000,000 in Newcastle last year or the year before, it decided to reduce the capital indebtedness of the dockyard by writing off assets of between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000 where those assets were redundant to the future activities of the dockyard. That was to cover assets such as ship-building berths and associated facilities. It also decided that the State would bear the capital debt incurred in the purchase of the dock and associated facilities, which amounted to \$15,000,000.

The dock and facilities were then to be leased to the dockyard at an annual rental of 10 per cent of the capital cost, but that was not to be collected for the first two financial years. Under the agreement, the New South Wales Government could charge a fee of up to 50 per cent of any profit made during the two years. When the dockyard is operating at a profit, the New South Wales Government will introduce a profit-sharing arrangement between the dockyard, the Government and the employees. That seems to me to be a way of overcoming problems associated with charges.

As I said, I have been told that the charges at Cairncross Dock are fairly high and that one of the reasons why the tragic accident happened down at the old meatworks wharf was that, because of the high charges associated with the dock, many people repairing ships tie them up down there rather than at

Cairncross Dock. All these matters need answering and need to be raised in this debate.

As most people know, I am a keen fisherman. When I was a lad my father frequently took me fishing to the area around the wrecks at Bishop Island. When the new port is developed, Bishop Island will disappear. When I took my father fishing down the river recently we talked about the growing danger caused by the small boats that go past the oil terminals. I was reminded of a story that appeared in "The Sunday Mail" of 8 May 1977, which reads—

"Special measures might be taken to keep small boats away from loading tankers in the Brisbane River because of the risk of explosion.

"This could be one of the recommendations of a special committee which will meet this week to discuss the handling of dangerous cargoes in the port."

I do not know what usually happens, but I can say that in our 12-ft. dinghy we could have run our hands along the side of the Ampol tanker while it was unloading without anyone leaning over the side to tell us to get away.

I am not having a go at Ampol or anyone else, but it is time that something was done. On the dry side of the bollard many signs read, "Caution, No Naked Lights", while on the other side a man can be sitting in his anchored dinghy smoking a cigar. It seems unreasonable to have cautionary signs on one side of the bollard while safety precautions are not taken on the other side. Maybe the Minister will comment on that in his reply.

The Opposition is opposed to this Bill. We see it as a Brian Baillie Bill. We will be opposing it at this stage, but we will not divide on it. We will be discussing the measure further in the Committee stage. I will leave further comment until then.

Mrs. KYBURZ (Salisbury) (10.32 p.m.): In rising to speak on the amendments to the Port of Brisbane Authority Act, my first comment is that it is one measure that the Government has moved quickly to amend. It is obvious that the amendments came up during the parliamentary recess, and they have appeared far too quickly for the Government to gain a great deal of credibility for the Bill.

Some of the comments made by the honourable member for Lytton were carefully thought out. One could expect that, because the new port will be in his electorate. Indeed, I would expect him to take an intense personal interest in it. However, many of his comments reflected his party's attitude and his political persuasions. I do not take umbrage at him for that because that is the obvious thing for most of us to do.

One important component of the costs of running any port in Australia, namely, the wages of waterside workers, was not

raised by the honourable member for Lytton. In the light of the skills involved, their wages are exorbitant. Perhaps they have rightly earned the nomenclature of "wax-works". If a candle were applied to them, they would burn slowly like the average block of wax.

I am rather sorry for the Minister because he is bearing the weight of one of the Government's heavier millstones around his neck. Because his is a rather new ministerial neck, I imagine that it will not pull lightly on it. I hope that he is strong enough to overcome the encumbrance and, with his background, I am sure he will.

I listened carefully to the Minister's second-reading speech. His rationalisation of the reasons for the Bill were indeed plausible. He made it sound so nice that I felt it could be placed in the category of what Ministers are pleased to term machinery measures. I am always interested to hear about "machinery" Bills because one always discovers, two months after they are passed, that they contain provisions which are enormously significant. However nice the Minister may be, it is rather difficult to trust his every word. I am not worried by his personality, his character or whatever, but I would simply say that I am of the opinion that we have to read far more into legislation than we are told about it. I say that because I feel sure that in six months' time someone will discover something in this Bill that we were not told was there.

I asked the Parliamentary Library to research the background of Brisbane Stevedoring and Wool Dumping Pty. Ltd. so that I could find out if there was any smelly business in the company itself. The Parliamentary Library went through the company reports and it seems that, although the company was incorporated in 1905 and was originally a wool agent and merchant and has grown to steadily increase its shareholding, it is now two large companies. The pattern was set very early for the major shareholders who were connected with the firms. One of the major firms involved was Orient Steam Navigation Company. It was the forerunner of P. & O.

In 1964, it was decided, for administrative purposes, to separate the company's stevedoring activities from its wharf and wool activities. Accordingly, Brisbane Stevedoring Limited and Brisbane Wharves and Wool Dumping Pty. Ltd. were formed. So the major, parent company split.

In the early 1970s, P. & O. became the ultimate owner of the company by buying out all the other shareholders. I wonder where the Premier was when that giant take-over bid was made. Perhaps, in those days, take-overs were not fashionable and it slipped his attention. Through P. & O., Brisbane Wharves and Wool Dumping is a member of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Group, which is a rather large group incorporated in the United Kingdom under

royal charter, with its head office registered in Hong Kong. So one could say that a lot of Asian money is flowing into this company. That is quite an interesting state of affairs which I do not think has been mentioned before.

The last financial statement of Brisbane Wharves and Wool Dumping deposited with the Corporate Affairs Office is dated 1979. It shows that the company has three directors. They are Brian William Baillie, Douglas William Anderson and Gordon Simpson. I hope it is not our Mr. Gordon Simpson.

The principal activities for the financial year 1978-79 were the operation of the company-owned wharves, Hamilton 1, 2, 3 and 4. The net profit of \$658,000 was not extraordinarily large. It is of extreme interest that P. & O. of Australia is not a part-owner but the total owner.

I have perused the balance sheet, and the unappropriated profits in 1977 amounted to \$2,500,000 and in 1978, \$2,850,000. Once again, they are not extraordinarily large profits. I imagine that, after the amortisation of the amount put into new developments, not a great deal of that profit would be left.

The recent controversy over the stevedoring rights of the new Brisbane container terminal has been rather interesting. I went through the Press reports and gleaned the nice, little, nit-picking sentences that one tends to find in going through that sort of material. It comes down to the fact that there has been a great deal of bickering over the port authority, particularly during the last year. That is where my concern lies because it is obvious that this Bill is designed to keep the Lord Mayor of Brisbane off the port authority, and it seems that the Government's attitude is entirely one of control.

Whether or not the allegations of political patronage and dirty-money donations earlier this year are true—and that is not for me to say—they have fuelled the row over the \$56,000,000 port complex to such an extent that many members of the public are wondering just who is telling the truth and which side is telling the truth. I think a lot of people tend to say, "Well, the Opposition says this and the Government says this and we do not know which side to believe." I believe that sort of situation leads to a lack of credibility in the Government simply because the public is not able to discern the truth. How that can be overcome, I have no idea, except perhaps by a little bit of truth-telling from the Government. As a body, it has a grave responsibility to do just that. I suggest that if the Premier were not always the person to put himself out in front before the other Ministers, the Government would have a great deal more credibility than it has currently.

However, the authority recommended that A.C.T.A. should be awarded the stevedoring rights for the new container terminal at the mouth of the Brisbane River. The subsequent State Cabinet decision to award

the contract to the consortium comprising Brisbane Wharves and Wool Dumping and the Australian National Line was a political surprise not only to a lot of ordinary people but to a lot of business people in the community. They obviously expressed their concern to many members, as these concerns were raised quite often in the party room.

It is understood that while A.C.T.A.'s trans-ocean terminal charges were slightly over \$130 to load a full export container, Brisbane Wharves and Wool Dumping will almost certainly charge \$160 to load a full export container, an increase of almost \$30 per container load. I suggest that that is a large amount when one considers the flow of containers through the new port.

I believe that a glimpse back through some of the Press clippings relating to this matter is imperative simply because so many have already been referred to, and that, as we did not have an opportunity to speak at the introductory stage, now is the time to do it. The first clipping I have here is headlined, "Price rise feared over port move". I suggest that the fear over the price rise is based on fact. This cutting states that the United Graziers' Association and the Brisbane Chamber of Commerce claimed that the price of goods landed in Brisbane would rise because of the Government's decision on the new port of Brisbane. It went on to state that negotiations between the authority and B.W.W.D. were continuing in line with the Cabinet decision, and that the B.W.W.D. proposal would cost an extra \$2,000,000 in one year.

That figure is repeated in every newspaper article I have been able to obtain, and I have not heard the port authority reject the claim. Indeed, some higher figures are mentioned. That is the lowest figure that I have come across. I would like to hear the Minister tell us how much more this monopoly that has been given to B.W.W.D. to operate the new port will cost.

The recession in the shipping trade is mentioned in another newspaper article which states that, owing to the depressed nature of business conditions and the drought in Queensland, it would be a difficult trading year for the Port of Brisbane Authority. The annual report of the authority stated that it would be a difficult year, particularly because of the fall in the export of mineral ores, mainly in mineral sands, fertiliser and chemicals. These had been affected by depressed overseas markets. I suggest that is a particularly important point when we are considering a \$54,000,000 investment in the new port. What will it really cost the people of this State? After all, we have a population of only 2,000,000 and I just do not see why everyone should have to pay for this new port, particularly if it will cost this extraordinary amount and cannot pay its own way.

The next newspaper article I have deals with the Hungerford report. The honourable member for Lytton detailed its contents and

nothing more can really be said about it, except that it was overturned by an expert committee of the National Party. I think that is a rather coy way of saying it. The members of the committee are probably quite delightful old fellows. One would hope that Sir Sidney Roberts, Mr. Peter Addison and Mr. Murray Adams must have some sort of expertise in this field. After all, why would Cabinet have acted on the advice of this National Party special committee? I suggest that, if the Cabinet did act wholly and solely on its advice, it is quite superficial to have a Public Service structure in this State. The Public Service is just there as window-dressing. Obviously these "expert committees" make these very important decisions.

The committee studied the proposals and recommended in favour of B.W.W.D. This report goes on to state that the particular Minister at that time warned Cabinet of the huge industrial backlash against the Government if the B.W.W.D. was granted a monopoly control of the port. Obviously, we are still waiting for that backlash. Maybe everything is quiet at this particular time.

However, Mr. Baillie made the comment that he could only "presume" that he was referred to in the Henderson report and that the personal attacks in that report referred to him. What a coy little statement to make! Obviously, he is a very shy man.

The next Press release refers to what a Mr. G. Fraser, the port authority's deputy chairman, said. He said that the port board staff was loyal and competent, and that Mr. Baillie's descent to denigration of the Port of Brisbane Authority and defence of his own vested interests was regrettable.

I take the opportunity now to demand that Mr. Baillie not be reappointed to the port authority. He should resign as of tonight, because not only has he a pecuniary interest in the port authority but, as my colleague the member for Wavell has pointed out to me, it is his whole business as well. The fact that he is still on the Port of Brisbane Authority says little for his integrity. He simply must resign on the passing of this Bill. I believe that as it is his whole business, and as he is able to control the authority, the authority will do precisely as he wishes, particularly if further Government puppets are appointed to it.

The next Press release refers to charges. In a consideration of the port of Brisbane that is a matter of great concern. The port of Brisbane is not a particularly active one when compared with Sydney and Melbourne, but if the port of Brisbane is going to be placed out of the reach of importers in particular, I believe that the other ports will get far more business. Probably there will be a boycott of the port of Brisbane, and it will come about simply because of the costs associated with the new port.

Import and export agents have warned the Government of this intended boycott. Indeed, they have warned the Government of the enormous increases in cost that the new port authority will impose on the port and on the import and export agents—all because of the Government's recommendation in favour of B.W.W.D./A.N.L.

Further, I think that the resignation of the Lord Mayor from the authority probably shocked quite a few people. Obviously he resigned simply because he saw the new port authority as having absolutely no weight, which is probably the case. The authority members were obviously under the vague impression that they had some weight. In that respect I feel rather sorry for them; they should have known better.

The next Press release I wish to mention quotes the Premier as saying that the port is a free enterprise. I remember the Premier's reading this out to the House. He stated that State Cabinet had referred the matter to the co-ordinating and review committee for a report. That committee, which was under the Co-ordinator-General's Department, came up with a finding unacceptable to the Premier. The finding was that because of the totally different bases of the submissions, that is, the previous two submissions, and the unknowns involved, particularly labour rates and the roster system to be used, it was difficult to make a positive recommendation. Because of those unknowns, that is a particularly valuable statement.

Because of them, the co-ordinating and review committee was unable to say whether in fact B.W.W.D. or A.C.T.A. should have the rights to the terminal. However, the Premier went on to say that because of that inability he would not accept the report of the co-ordinating and review committee. He then pointed out that the B.W.W.D./A.N.L. proposal provide for a capital outlay of \$5,500,000 in fixed assets, whereas A.C.T.A. made no such provision. The Minister should expand upon that statement, because A.C.T.A. claims that it did make provision for capital involvement. However, I have been unable to find out what that was. That was despite Cabinet's specific request for maximum private-enterprise involvement, which, of course, means money, money, money. I believe that the company should put up or else. However, we should hear both sides of the story, and I think we have heard only one.

My last Press release concerns the Lord Mayor, who has now decided that he wishes to be reappointed to the Port of Brisbane Authority. Even though he is a likeable person, I believe he is a lily-livered lobster in his wishing to get back on to the authority after resigning in protest. I understand the reason for that resignation and I certainly feel that he had every right to resign. However, he has denied claims that his new nomination is a reversal of his previous stand.

He said he had resigned as a personal protest, from a position to which he was appointed as a private citizen. I do not believe he was appointed as a private citizen; I say he was appointed as the Lord Mayor and as the representative of the South Eastern District Local Government Association.

I know the member for Sandgate is waiting in the wings and that he will follow me but will not accept interjections. I am sure he will read a speech that was prepared for him by the Public Relations Department of the Brisbane City Council.

Mr. Yewdale: I know that Mr. Frawley prepared your speech.

Mrs. KYBURZ: I can assure the member for Rockhampton North that I am reading my own scribble.

Because the speech of the member for Sandgate will be one prepared by the Brisbane City Council, it will be word-perfect. That member never accepts interjections, as he might lose his place. I object to the member's voicing the attitude of the Lord Mayor, particularly from a speech prepared at rate-payers' expense.

My last comment is that I disagree entirely with the Government's attitude of "We pay, we say." In other words, the Government says that it controls the purse-strings, and therefore the people. I do not agree with that philosophy; it is a philosophy of entire and utter socialism in the respect that everything is controlled simply because the Government controls the purse-strings. I would remind some Ministers that the money with which they are playing so happily is the people's money. It is taxation money. It is money which should be given out happily to various authorities and departments on the basis of need, and need only. Of course, one knows that in politics need often takes about tenth place down the line after greed, philosophy, financial reasons and so on.

However, as my last comment I make the point that I do not agree with the philosophy, "We pay, we say." I think that the Lord Mayor of Brisbane, whomever he or she may be, should be on the Port of Brisbane Authority. The Lord Mayor of Brisbane holds an important position. One would presume that the Labor administration could not for ever go on ruling Brisbane. If another party or indeed a group of independents comes to power in City Hall—I hope that one day that happens—I wonder if we will then see an amendment to the Act to allow for representation of the Brisbane City Council. I will have one thing to say: "I told you so."

Mr. WARBURTON (Sandgate) (10.56 p.m.): When the Minister introduced the Bill, he certainly gave the impression that it was a simple procedure and that there was no need for very much concern about the amendments to the Act. He may have fooled the honourable member for Salisbury, which would not be very difficult, and he

may have fooled her compatriots in this House; but he certainly did not fool the Opposition.

The honourable member for Salisbury expressed her interest in the fact that people may be appointed to the authority even though they have vested interests in the port of Brisbane. If she had taken the opportunity to read the Bill, she may have described clause 5 (which repeals sections 8 to 10) as the Baillie amendment. Under that amendment, all the person has to do is declare his or her interest, not stand aside because of it. I suggest to the honourable member for Salisbury that the term "Baillie amendment" is very appropriate indeed when applied to that clause.

Mrs. Kyburz: The point I made was that Mr. Baillie does not have only a pecuniary interest; that that description does not go far enough.

Mr. WARBURTON: I support that concept totally. I am simply indicating that that amending clause in the Bill was specially designed to suit circumstances similar to Mr. Baillie's.

Since assuming his responsibility for maritime services, the Minister has not had exactly an easy ride and probably deserved some sympathy in the early stages for the way in which he was loaded with problems not of his making. However, he certainly does not deserve any sympathy for this Bill. Once it is examined closely—the honourable member for Lytton, of course, was very concise in his outline of past events—it is revealed as a Bill that is obnoxious to anybody who knows the history of the matter to date. Despite the Minister's endeavour to give the impression that the selection and appointment of authority members is to be fair and above board, I can assure him that members of the Opposition, who speak from experience in this, will believe it only when we see evidence of it through democratic provisions in the Port of Brisbane Authority Act. Certainly the Opposition does not believe that the proposed amendments are in keeping with the democratic principles upon which it would expect boards and authorities to be formed.

For the sake of the honourable member for Salisbury, I will make some reference to the appointments made to the board. I think it is important that I should do so, because the thrust of my argument is that local government should be represented in its own right on this committee, whether by direct representation or by ex officio representation. In fact, I believe that not only the city of Brisbane but also the contiguous local authorities should have a representative on the authority.

In November 1976, the Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism (Mr. Hodges) advised the Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Alderman Frank Sleeman, that the Deputy Governor, for and on behalf of His Excellency

the Governor, acting by and with the advice of the Executive Council and in pursuance of the provisions of the Port of Brisbane Authority Act 1976, had appointed him as a member of the Port of Brisbane Authority nominated on behalf of the Brisbane City Council and the contiguous local authorities. Evidently, appointees to the authority were to hold office from 6 January 1976 until 6 December 1979, so one can well understand why the Bill is now before the House.

The Government Gazette of 20 November 1976 showed the names of the persons appointed to the authority. Although they have been mentioned earlier in the debate, I think they bear repeating because honourable members may be interested to know who the appointees represented and what positions they held. Brian William Baillie was nominated on behalf of all owners of wharves in the port; Gordon Kidd Fraser was nominated on behalf of business engaged in the operation of the port (not being the owner of a wharf in the port), and he was destined to become the deputy chairman; Sir Charles Barton became the chairman; Peter Dann; and Mervin George Phillips was nominated on behalf of associations representative of and associated with trade or commerce generally. None of these organisations or areas of interest can be said not to have a real interest in the port of Brisbane. As I said, Frank Northey Sleeman was nominated on behalf of the Brisbane City Council and the contiguous local authorities, and Douglas Mervyn Pye was nominated on behalf of organised labour within Brisbane.

At that time, in accordance with the Port of Brisbane Authority Act 1976, there were two ex officio members of the authority. They were the then Director of the Department of Harbours and Marine, Mr A. J. Peel, and the General Manager of the Port of Brisbane Authority, Mr. F. M. Wilson.

The Port of Brisbane Authority Act 1976 presently provides that the port authority be constituted to manage and control the port of Brisbane. That being the case, it seems to me to be a fairly reasonable proposition that the Brisbane City Council, with its responsibilities to the port of Brisbane, should have representation on the authority and that such a representative should be one of the council's elected members. I agree wholeheartedly with the submission made by the honourable member for Salisbury in that respect. However, the Act does not make such a provision.

As I suggested, the Brisbane City Council must be heavily involved in the overall planning and servicing of the port of Brisbane, and that point was also made by the honourable member for Lytton. It would be absolutely ludicrous—and certainly not in the best interests of the port—if local government were to be denied some form of representation on the authority.

The Act provides that the authority shall include one member nominated on behalf of the Brisbane City Council and the contiguous local authorities that were referred to by the honourable member for Lytton. The former Minister (Mr. Hodges) was told by the Brisbane City Council that the appointment of Alderman Sleeman to the authority for three years meant that he might be a member of the authority while he was not Lord Mayor or even an elected alderman after the municipal elections that would be held during his term of membership on the authority. I understand that quite a degree of correspondence passed between the then Minister and the Lord Mayor on that matter. Submissions were made about the type of representation on the authority in future. It was suggested to the former Minister—and the proposition had merit in my opinion—that the Lord Mayor of the city of Brisbane should be one of the ex officio members of the Port of Brisbane Authority, irrespective of who held the position. It will be seen that the Bill does not provide for ex officio membership. That surprised me considerably. Perhaps the Minister may care to comment on that deficiency. Considering what has happened between 1976 and today, it appears to me to be extraordinary not to have ex officio membership. It seems that this measure is aimed at individuals rather than at positions.

The Port of Brisbane Authority had its inaugural meeting on 17 December 1976, and apparently it has worked well since then, despite problems associated with the authority's recommendations that were supported by the then Minister concerning who was to control the port-handling operations. I intended to comment on that matter but it was handled very well by the honourable member for Lytton.

The Minister should realise that the South Eastern District Local Government Association recently submitted the names of three nominees, one of whom was to be appointed to the authority. The Minister should also know that the nominees were the Lord Mayor of Brisbane, the Mayor of Ipswich (Alderman Freeman) and the Deputy Chairman of the Redland Shire, (Councillor John Gordon).

It is my firm opinion that not only should the Brisbane City Council have some representation (whether it be direct or in an ex officio capacity) but also that the contiguous local authorities that have a vital interest should also be entitled to representation. It would be rather peculiar if eventually the city of Brisbane were to be pushed aside completely while someone representing one of the smaller shires became the local government representative on this very important authority. I hope that that does not happen. I can only repeat that both the contiguous local authorities and the Brisbane City Council should be capably represented.

I ask the Minister if we are now to understand that not one of those local government elected representatives are to be on the authority by right. The Minister should be in a position to advise us tonight of the position.

We also want to know, if he does not intend to allow local authority representation by right, whether any of the three nominees whose names he already has by way of correspondence will be appointed. If so, who will be appointed? It is fair and reasonable that Parliament be advised at this time.

I believe very firmly that the Government does know at this stage the names of the people who will be appointed to this nine-member board. Not only should the Brisbane City Council have a representative, but also the remainder of the South Eastern District Local Government Association should be entitled to the same treatment.

The Minister would be or should be aware that, at the Brisbane City Council meeting held on 23 October last, the nomination for membership of the Port of Brisbane Authority was discussed, and the council unanimously supported the proposition that the city of Brisbane and the contiguous local authorities should each have representation on the authority. I understand that that information has been conveyed to the Government by none other than the leader of the opposition in the council, Alderman Andrews. That is the position regarding the Brisbane City Council, which represents hundreds of thousands of people in this great city of ours. Both the Labor administration and the Liberal opposition in council are telling the Government that there should be direct or ex officio council representation on the board.

The Government, through this Bill, is showing its true feelings towards local government. Time and time again we hear that it cares for local government, that it would never push local government aside, and that local government is the mainstay of the State of Queensland, yet on every occasion whilst I have been here that the Government has had an opportunity to give local government a say, it has pushed it out of the way.

Mr. Lee: Sleeman resigned from the board.

Mr. Warburton: I agree that the Lord Mayor of Brisbane resigned at a particular time. It will be remembered, too, that at that time the Government or the Premier was in conflict with the then Minister, Mr. Hodges. I can well recall that, when the Lord Mayor resigned—and we all know why he resigned and I will not go into that story—Mr. Hodges said that it was unfortunate that recent events had highlighted differences of opinion on a matter of policy between the Government and the members of the Port of Brisbane Authority. Mr. Hodges said also that he could appreciate that a man such as the Lord Mayor could have, concerning those differences, views

that were strong enough to lead him into a situation where he felt that he could not continue as a member of the board. As Mr. Hodges said that, I believe that he had a very full understanding of the Lord Mayor's principles and the reason why he resigned. As I have indicated, on this occasion the decision that the Lord Mayor should be a representative of some fashion on this authority was a unanimous decision of the full council on 23 October last. It was not the Lord Mayor's decision. The Brisbane City Council obviously has a tremendous interest in the development and management of the port, and in this case it has a very deep involvement. This is important in the overall planning and servicing of the port.

Again, the honourable member for Lytton outlined some of the problems associated with that servicing. It is not a matter of the Brisbane City Council's saying, "We should be there simply because we are the council"; it is because it has something to offer the Port of Brisbane Authority when dealing with matters of great concern to the people as far as roads and other services are concerned. It is in the interests of the people of Brisbane that local government be represented, just as it is in the interests of the people on the fringe of Brisbane that the contiguous local authorities also have some form of representation.

The proposed amendments to sections 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 throw completely out the door the original concept of representation on the authority. It is no wonder that the Government comes in for such heavy criticism when it is seen by the public to manipulate the membership of boards and authorities. This must happen when the Government acts in the fashion in which it is acting tonight and puts forward such amendments.

It is no secret around the ridges, if one cares to listen, that the whole exercise is aimed at individuals. I had hoped that the Minister was not involved in this exercise, but it appears that he is. I for one will be extremely surprised if a number of the existing members of the Port of Brisbane Authority continue to serve, just as I will be extremely surprised if the former Minister for Maritime Services, Mr. Hodges, is not appointed the next chairman of the authority. That is the word, and I believe that is what will occur in the future.

For the Government to dispense with the system of selecting members of the authority, which gives very interested parties the opportunity not only to be represented but also to have a hand in selecting who will be their representative, is a disgrace. It is particularly a disgrace when the alternative being proposed is for the Government to appoint members without reference to local government or industry, even though the Minister might like to say that he will be consulting groups before he appoints these members. But he might not always be the

Minister. He might not always be in a position to say such a thing and, quite frankly, unless we in the Opposition see that sort of thing in writing, we find it difficult to believe.

When amendments such as this are introduced, one must logically look for reasons for the change. I think that is reasonable. There is no point in being critical of an amendment just because it is an amendment. One must surely look to see the reason why that amendment is being introduced. In this case, surely only one conclusion can be drawn, particularly when the Minister advises that all members of the authority will now be selected. When we look at other similar examples in recent times, is it any wonder that the public forms the opinion that the end result will not be a Port of Brisbane Authority prepared to put forward a well-considered and independent point of view but a group of Queensland Government stooges who will be prepared at all times to do exactly what this Government requires.

From the Opposition's point of view, the amendments to which I have referred are not only disappointing but are a disgusting indication of this Government's dictatorial attitude towards the State's decision-making processes.

Mr. PREST (Port Curtis) (11.20 p.m.): First of all, I wish to say how sorry I am for the Minister for having to introduce, in the early stages of his stay in Cabinet, such a smelly amendment to such a very important authority as the Port of Brisbane Authority.

When one rises to speak at any time to an amendment to any Act, one always expects that one is supporting changes that will make for a better Act, and that the amendments will be seen as being improvements to the Act or as being necessary. Unfortunately, the only thing we can say about the amendments that the Minister has introduced is that they are not necessary and they do not improve the Act. No doubt, we will expand on the proposed amendments as the debate continues.

In his introduction, the Minister stated that these amendments would be identical with the provisions of the Gold Coast Waterways Act of 1979 in regard to the appointment of members to that authority. As that Act is only some weeks old, one has not had time to gauge if that authority, in the way it was appointed, could be used as a model on which to frame amendments for the Port of Brisbane Authority Act 1976-79. The Gold Coast Waterways Authority has not had time to demonstrate that it is or is not working as one would want such an important authority to work.

When we realise the many millions of dollars that have been spent on the Port of Brisbane Authority to date, and the millions of dollars that have been provided for it in this year's Budget, we must ask ourselves: is the Government not satisfied with the work being done by the authority, or are

these changes or amendments designed to provide jobs for the boys or the supporters of the National Party or the contributors to the Bjelke-Petersen Foundation?

There have been strong rumours about why the last two Ministers were appointed to Cabinet. One of those Ministers is in charge of this Bill. If we allow these amendments to be passed, I can only see it as being the thin end of the wedge. If we allow these amendments to be passed, we will see changes being made to the legislation covering the appointment of the harbour boards of this State. At the moment, local authorities nominate the required number of members on the harbour boards, but I will guarantee that in the very near future, amendments similar to those that we are debating tonight will be introduced to cover the appointment of harbour boards.

The first amendment that we are considering tonight takes away the rights of the Brisbane City Council and the contiguous local authorities, including the councils of the cities of Ipswich and Redcliffe and the Shires of Albert, Beaudesert, Esk, Moreton, Pine Rivers and Redland, to have any representation or say on the port authority.

The second amendment changes section 6(1) of the Port of Brisbane Authority Act, which states—

"The Port Authority shall consist of nine members ordinarily resident within Queensland, being—

"(a) the Director for the time being of the Department of Harbours and Marine . . .

"(b) the General Manager for the time being of the Port Authority . . .

"(c) one person nominated by the Brisbane Oversea Wharfowners Association . . .

"(d) one person nominated on behalf of businesses engaged in the operation of the port . . .

"(e) three persons nominated on behalf of associations representative of and associated with trade or commerce generally . . .

"(f) one person nominated by The South Eastern District Local Government Association on behalf of Brisbane City Council and the contiguous Local Authorities . . .

"(g) one person nominated on behalf of organized labour within Brisbane . . ."

These amendments give no idea of from where the members of the port authority will be drawn. Without doubt the port authority will consist of a hand-picked bunch of National Party or Tory yes-men. One can say that the reason for sitting tonight and rushing this Bill through in haste is that the Press has stated that the Lord Mayor is again willing to accept a position on the Port of Brisbane Authority. If the Minister says there is no haste, I would be only too pleased for him to report progress after I have completed, but I am quite certain that will not be the case.

Everybody knows that pressure is being put on Mr. Sleeman to make himself available to the authority. No doubt this is because all other local authorities in the region appreciate that the Lord Mayor of Brisbane is honest and hard working and has an ability that would be most beneficial to any board or authority. Above all, he is a person who would never be a yes-man, especially to this Government.

There is also an amendment to make provision for the proprietary and business interests of the members of the authority to be declared. If any member of the authority declares that he has shares in a body corporate or is a member of a firm that stands to benefit directly by operations of the port, will he be allowed to be a member of the authority and take part in discussions on matters from which he stands to gain? Anybody with pecuniary interests should not be a member of the port authority. I am quite certain that those remarks support those of previous speakers. I say that because one of the members of the board in particular, Mr. Baillie, has so much say in the National Party and also in the operations of the port.

Mr. Davis: Having the ear of the Premier, so to speak.

Mr. PREST: That is very true.

Another amendment gives the Governor in Council the right to remove any person from the port authority for any reason at all. Perhaps that should be for no reason at all. Previously the Governor in Council could remove a member from the authority if he became bankrupt, if he became incapable of discharging the duties of his office or if he became incompetent or unfit to hold office. I ask the Minister if that is the reason for these amendments. Another condition for the removal of a member previously was if he became a servant of the authority. However, the amendment will allow a member to be removed from office for any reason at all—in fact, for no reason at all.

Most of the other amendments are simply machinery measures that become necessary because of the two major changes. The first of the major amendments takes away the right of representation of local authorities. The second amendment takes away the right of different sections of business, the wharf-owners, the organised labour in Brisbane and the local authorities in the region to submit names in an endeavour to ensure that they have representation on the authority. Those two amendments are crucial, but the others are merely of a machinery nature which become necessary because of the initial amendments to the Act.

Although I am most disappointed about this, the amendments will make the authority a gang of yes-men, but really it will be a one-man band, not with the Minister calling the tune, but the Premier. While the Premier is still at large he will rant and rave until

his Cabinet joins him in sympathy and lets him play his tune and have his own way. Of course, finance will continue to flow into the Bjelke-Petersen Foundation.

I am the representative for an electorate that has one of the best ports on the east coast of Australia.

Mr. Goleby: Give some credit to the Government for it.

Mr. PREST: What rot!

I was very disappointed when I learnt of the decision to spend millions of dollars on the port of Brisbane. Before it is completed, I am sure it will exceed \$100,000,000. It should have been built where deep water and ample land, with roads, rail, water and electricity, were already available. The cost would have been a fraction of what it will cost to build these facilities on Fisherman Islands. However, the decision was a political one. It is a shame that we will all have to pay for the decision—and pay for it for ever. Other ports in the State are unprofitable; but I am sure that the Brisbane port's operations will make the losses of the other ports look like Sunday school money. The decision has been made. It was a bad decision and we will have to pay for it.

I am more than surprised that these amendments appear before us tonight. One can only say that the Bill is a sham. The Government should feel ashamed to sell itself out for a quick dollar. One can express nothing but disappointment at the Minister's using the Gold Coast Waterways Act as a model. If the Minister proposes a chairman or even a member of the authority of the ability and character of the chairman of the Gold Coast Waterways Authority (Mr. Williams), the authority will be heading for disaster. No person should be able to buy his way on to any board.

In a letter to me personally, Mr. Williams assured me in May this year that he gave money to the National Party. He also assured me that he would not assist me financially. I have assured Mr. Williams that I would never accept graft from anyone, especially from him. I am sure that it would burn a hole in my pocket. It would be too hot for me. I would hate to have a restless night knowing that it had come from a person who overcharges, especially children, for entrance to his attraction on the coast. That has been proved to me by the hundreds of letters I have received supporting the remarks I made in this House in May.

I do not believe that these amendments are in the best interests of the Government, nor do I believe that they are in the best interests of the port authority. By taking away the rights of local authorities—not only the Brisbane City Council but also contiguous local authorities in the region—the Government is taking away the rights of the people. Throughout the length and

breadth of the State, local authorities appoint their own representatives to harbour boards and they do a very good job. I can see no reason why local authorities in this area should not retain their voice—in fact, have a much greater say—in the running of the port of Brisbane.

The amendment to section 6 will result in no-one being able to be nominated. That applies particularly to those working in the port and to local government representatives. No doubt it will be a case of jobs for the boys. That is something that we are certainly not in favour of.

In his introductory speech, the Minister stated that those bodies which have representatives presently on the board have not complained and have expressed satisfaction with the present representation. I hope that the Minister by that statement was not trying to hoodwink us by implying that no changes would be made; that those people presently on the authority would remain on it. I am quite certain that many changes will be made. If all the groups who now have an opportunity to nominate representatives are happy, why the amendments? The reason for the amendments is very clear: jobs for the boys and pressure on the Government to get some members off the authority.

There should not be on the board members who have pecuniary interests. The people on it should work for the betterment of the port of Brisbane and not in their own best interests. As we see it, these people will be working to look after their own financial interests.

Another disappointing provision is that the Minister, or the Governor in Council, has the right to remove a person from the board without giving a reason. As I said earlier, previously there was a list of reasons for which a person could be removed. That is now being omitted and the Minister will be able to remove persons from the authority for any reason that he thinks fit.

The remainder of the amendments are of a machinery nature and are necessary to make the major amendments workable.

I reiterate that the Opposition is very disappointed in the Bill, and I believe that my colleagues and I have put our points very strongly.

Mr. SHAW (Wynnum) (11.36 p.m.): There are many matters that I should like to discuss but, as far as possible, I shall avoid those that have been dealt with by my colleagues.

The quick changes being made in the composition of the Port of Brisbane Authority give good reason for people to doubt assurances given by the Government when Bills are first introduced in this Chamber. Honourable members are told that there is no need to worry about certain aspects because the provisions of the Bill will be applied in a very democratic way. In this instance,

assurances were given that many sections of the community would be represented and that the setting up of the port authority would be a positive step forward. In fact, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I believe that you sought assurances along those lines some years ago when the original Act was before the House.

In my opinion, the need for local authority representation on the Port of Brisbane Authority cannot be doubted. Perhaps it would be better if the representative was someone other than the Lord Mayor, who is a very busy man. I sometimes wonder whether it is best to have on committees the most senior people in particular fields of endeavour. It is often said that so much difficulty arises in the running of large corporations because people go up the ladder and eventually all the most senior and most capable people spend their time sitting on committees.

When the port authority was first established, I was nominated, as my colleague the honourable member for Lytton said, by the Local Government Association as the representative of local government on that authority. For various reasons, my appointment did not eventuate, but I believe that the alderman of the Brisbane City Council who represents the area in which the port is situated should be a member of the authority. At present, that is Alderman Randall, a man with a great deal of business experience, who should also be acceptable to some members of the National Party because he comes from a long line of farming stock.

Mr. Houston: Do you think that the Government may be trying to put a Liberal alderman on the authority?

Mr. SHAW: I suppose the most important thing is that there be some representative on it, but I believe that it should be a representative appointed by the local authority itself and that it should be somebody who knows the area and who has a very good understanding of the problems that must arise close to the port. Although the shires contiguous to Brisbane probably think that they should have a representative on the authority, I do not think that their representation should be at the expense of the Brisbane City Council. I am not saying that it is a question of the Brisbane City Council versus the shires and it certainly should not be viewed in that way. It is simply a question of who could make the best contribution to solving the problems that must arise.

One of the matters uppermost in people's minds is road access to the port, and this has caused a great deal of concern to many people. Although many assurances have been given over the years, they have turned out to be meaningless. I have in my possession a report of a statement made by the Premier in 1976 at a seminar held in my area. Unfortunately, the seminar appeared to be aimed at putting people's fears to rest about the

development of the port, without doing anything about the problems that were raised. The report reads—

“The fears of many district residents that heavy traffic to the proposed new Port of Brisbane would cause them grave inconvenience were allayed by the Premier of Queensland last Wednesday when he opened the Port of Brisbane Seminar at Manly.”

The article then quotes the Premier in this way—

“We have set up the Port of Brisbane Authority and we will be planning the port to ensure that road and rail access is kept away from residential areas as much as possible.”

I will not repeat statements by the Minister, a few of which have been quoted earlier today, but it should be noted that all of them reported him as saying, “It has nothing to do with us; it is the responsibility of the Brisbane City Council.” The statements I have referred to are in conflict. Even today many of the problems have not been solved. It is essential to have an input by someone such as a local alderman to make sure that the problems are solved properly.

While I am critical of the port authority and the fact that many Government departments have washed their hands of it, I could also be critical of some of the actions taken by city council engineers who, on many occasions, did not appreciate the problems that could arise.

Pritchard Road provides the most immediate access to the port. On one occasion the Minister for Local Government and Main Roads (Mr. Hinze) said, “There is no problem. The Federal Government has allocated money for upgrading Lytton Road. It is an export road and it will carry all the port traffic.” But that is not true. Some of the trucks that leave that port will be travelling to northern New South Wales. The drivers will want to use the shortest possible route. It is not reasonable to expect them to turn into Lytton Road, come into the city of Brisbane and go from there to the Pacific Highway. They will not do that, and I challenge any statement that it is desirable or practical that they should do so. We should be diverting traffic from the heart of Brisbane and roads that are already heavily overloaded. The Government’s statement was not factual, or, at the best, showed a lack of appreciation of the facts.

At the same time, the council engineers said, “We will construct an access road that will prevent heavy trucks from running through the suburb of Wynnum. They will have to go down on to Lytton Road.” The only thing that the plan prepared by the engineers did not allow for was the fact that drivers of large transport trucks do not have much respect for traffic channels. If they want to turn into a road that is closed by a small channel, they have no hesitation in

ignoring it and crossing it. Following the suggestion of the elected representatives, the engineers had to change their thinking and design channelling that would prevent the trucks passing through the Wynnum suburban area. Of course, the best laid plans of mice and men often go astray. The heavy transports and semi-trailers have been turning into Pritchard Road, backing, filling and obstructing traffic to make a U-turn, and still driving through the suburban areas of Wynnum. The council is now taking action to overcome the problem.

The lesson to be learnt is that it is useless to plan something on paper and say that transport drivers will do the right thing. When time and money are involved in a long trip, even the best of us will look for the shortest and most convenient way. The lesson to be learnt is that we have to provide adequate roads that are suitable for the transports so that they will not cause problems in other areas of Brisbane.

The question that then arises is who will fund the new roads. It is not good enough for the port authority or for the Government to say that it is a local government problem. It is not a problem that should be funded by the ratepayers. The problem was created by a facility which will serve the whole of the State, and it is fair enough that the whole of the State should meet all of the cost or a proportion of it. It needs planning on the part of both the State Government and the local authority.

Assurances have been given by people such as the Premier that there is no problem. My predecessor, Mr. Lamond, gave many assurances to people that the problems had been overcome. Even today I am being contacted by people in the Gumdale area, who are wondering where the roads will go and whether they will affect their property. I have not been able to find out definitely whether or not the property owned by these people will be affected. They are entitled to be told where the roads will go.

This problem arose once before when the town plan was being drawn up. The Government insisted that if these roads were not to be developed in the near future they were not to be shown on the town plan. That might help the person who wants to sell his property to an unsuspecting buyer, but it does not help the genuine person who wants to plan accordingly.

I have suggested to people who are concerned and want to build in these areas that the best thing for them to do is submit plans, because questions would have to be asked. If the people approving the building plans are able to discover that the land will be affected by resumptions for future roads, the applicants would be told that their plans would probably be rejected. It should not be necessary for home owners to go to those lengths to find out whether or not these very necessary roads will go through their property.

Kianawah Road is to be upgraded and many people will be affected. It will have to link up with other roads, and whether or not they are to be new roads going through what is presently vacant land or whether present roads will be upgraded, is a question that should be answered in consultation with the port authority, which should accept some responsibility for what will happen.

There needs to be an involvement by the local authority or some section of the community, and that involvement should continue to be written into the Act. If it is not to be the Lord Mayor who is appointed, it should be the local alderman or the Vice Mayor. There should be that sort of involvement.

The other matter to which I should like to refer briefly is the coal loader. The port has had several coal-loading facilities, and so many conflicting statements have been made about these facilities that it is imperative for somebody to come clean and make a statement on what will be provided, whether or not it will be at the mouth of the river or upstream and, most importantly, what precautions will be taken to ensure that it does not cause pollution in the residential areas close to the port. It is not good enough to claim that the prevailing breezes blow in another direction. The prevailing breezes do not blow in the directions that have been indicated by the so-called experts as often as they indicate. I should know. I was born in the area and I have lived there all my life. I can assure the Minister that on many occasions the strong prevailing breezes will blow from where the coal is likely to be piled, straight into residential areas. They are extremely strong breezes. My home overlooks the bay, and the breezes have been strong enough to blow heavy furniture along my patio and pile it up at one end, so I am quite sure that they will be strong enough to lift the dust off the coal pile and take it into the bayside suburbs, and probably even further into the city of Brisbane. This is a question that needs to be answered in much more positive terms than it has been to date. To say that the breezes do not blow in that direction is not good enough. To say that the coal pile will be wet down is also not good enough. If the pile is to be as large as those we have seen in places such as Gladstone then it is not likely that we will see someone standing on top of it wetting it down with a hose.

I admit that there will possibly be a lot of benefits to the Wynnum area following the development of the port. I would like to cite just one example of where the members and chairman of the port authority were most helpful, even though it was only in a very small way. For many years we have had difficulties in providing a decent sort of sand not only for the foreshores of Wynnum but for the bottom of the wading pool situated on the beachfront. It is used by a large number of people from all over Brisbane and, indeed, from areas outside Brisbane. The

extent of its usage is quite surprising. I know that people come quite long distances to use the pool because when it was closed I received complaints by telephone from people in areas from which I would not have imagined they would travel just to use a small salt-water pool. It has been pointed out to me that a lot of people still want to swim in salt water, but do not want to travel long distances to swim in the open sea as they fear attacks by box jellyfish or sharks.

We had a problem providing suitable sand for the bottom of the pool, and it was available from the port authority. It was pumping up filling that was excellent for that purpose. It made it available at cost to the Brisbane City Council. That co-operation by both parties was very praiseworthy. I would like to see it extended to provide this very good sand for the foreshores of Wynnum. While some people might continue to try to denigrate Wynnum as a recreation area, members can believe me when I say that it is used very extensively by people from all over Brisbane, and even outside Brisbane. They would appreciate that sand being provided just as much as would the people of Wynnum.

In conclusion, I would ask that the extended shopping hours which are permitted in Redcliffe be allowed in the Wynnum area so that people who spend their week-ends down there would be able to take advantage of doing their shopping in cooler and more pleasant conditions. It would also help to improve the viability of the local shopping area. It has taken quite a beating from shopping centres built in fairly close proximity, although I know that that problem exists in other parts of Brisbane as well.

Hon. M. D. HOOPER (Townsville West—Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism) (11.55 p.m.), in reply: I thought the honourable member for Lytton who led for the Opposition would have spoken in more glowing terms about the new port of Brisbane, because it is close to his electorate—

Mr. Burns: I asked you to take me down there, and you wouldn't.

Mr. M. D. HOOPER: I would not bother to ask the honourable member now, because obviously he has no pride whatsoever in this marvellous development at the mouth of the river. I thought that the honourable member would have given some credit to the Government for its foresight in establishing this marvellous export port and for the hard work done by the members of the original authority to bring the port to the stage where, after the expenditure of something like \$50,000,000, it will be able to begin exporting goods some time next year.

Regrettably, the member for Lytton did launch a personal attack on Mr. Brian Baillie of the P. & O. company, and accused him of asserting some undue influence on decisions made by the authority and by this Government. I emphatically deny those

accusations made by the honourable member. After all, Mr. Baillie has only one vote among an authority of nine members and, under the terms of the Act, he is not allowed to vote on any issue in which his company may have a pecuniary interest.

The member for Lytton also attacked the Brisbane Wharves and Wool Dumping company. That is also regrettable, as B.W.W.D. has, for many years, been to the forefront in developing the port of Brisbane, in the upper reaches of the Brisbane River. It has invested a considerable amount of money over many years in developing the port of Brisbane to an international standard.

The honourable member also made a personal attack on Sir Sidney Roberts. He attacked his credibility in compiling a report to the State Government earlier this year, in which he recommended the awarding of a contract for stevedoring rights at the new port. He wrongfully accused Sir Sidney Roberts of standing over the Premier in determining who would get the contract.

Mr. Burns: No, I didn't.

Mr. M. D. HOOPER: The honourable member said words to that effect. He said that Sir Sidney Roberts told the Premier and the Cabinet how they should vote.

Mr. Burns: Your speech-writers have got it mixed up.

Mr. M. D. HOOPER: I wrote this myself. It is in my own writing.

The honourable member also quoted Cabinet minutes. I do not know how he ever got the opportunity to read Cabinet minutes. He said that Sir Sidney Roberts had stood over the Premier. I do not know how anybody would stand over the Queensland Premier. If he has any suspicion at all about anybody standing over the Queensland Premier, I suggest that he contact Mr. Gough Whitlam and ask him how successful he was, as Prime Minister of Australia, in trying to stand over the Queensland Premier.

The member for Lytton went through a lot of history, but much of it was not very relevant to the Bill. The happenings to which he referred occurred under the existing legislation. The Government makes no apologies for upholding the principle it adopted in that particular case. The alternatives were to give long-standing wharf owners in Brisbane, such as B.W.W.D., the opportunity of moving into the era of the new port at the mouth of the Brisbane River, or to bring in new operators, who had no previous investment in the port, to take over a situation in which a superior competitive position would be handed to them on a platter. The Government could not accept that it was fair to those who had invested in the port in the past to pull the rug from under them by introducing a new operator into such a favourable position. The matter is as simple as that.

Any suggestion that a prompt assessment of the two proposals put by B.W.W.D. and A.C.T.A. could be made to show that A.C.T.A.'s would result in lower costs to port users is just not supportable. The proposals were not capable of comparison on the basis suggested at the time, because they were based on different assumptions as to labour costs and conditions. Furthermore, while the A.C.T.A. proposals did not envisage any significant investment in the new port, the B.W.W.D. will be investing heavily in the construction of a terminal and the acquisition of plant. I ask: how many members have actually read this Bill, or the principles of it?

Mr. Houston: How much time did you give them?

Mr. M. D. HOOPER: They have had plenty of time.

Mr. Houston: You broke an agreement, that is what you did. You have broken an agreement from last night.

Mr. M. D. HOOPER: No, I haven't.

Mr. Houston: My word, you have.

Mr. M. D. HOOPER: Why doesn't the honourable member listen?

The member for Lytton and other members of the A.L.P. said that the Bill excludes representation on the authority by aldermen of the Brisbane City Council and adjacent councils. That is not so.

Mr. Prest interjected.

Mr. M. D. HOOPER: I challenge the member for Port Curtis or any other member of the A.L.P. to show where, in the proposed amendments, aldermen are to be excluded from representation on the authority.

Mr. Prest: Show me where that is.

Mr. M. D. HOOPER: Show me where they are excluded. If the Government feels that any alderman can make a valuable contribution to the deliberations of the authority, he can be appointed to it.

I would now like to refer to the matter of safety in ports. That was raised by the member for Lytton. He said that recently he was able to pull alongside an Ampol tanker in a small boat and that he was not chased away. I believe that boats should stay about 100 metres from tankers while they are moored in a port. I know that if any small boat goes within 100 metres of a tanker in the Townsville harbour, it is very quickly chased away by the safety officer. If the member for Lytton was close to a tanker, he should not have been there and should know better than to do such a thing.

Mr. Burns: That will not be much help if somebody does go near a tanker. If a tanker blows up, you will simply say that the bloke should have known better. What sort of a response from a Minister is that?

Mr. M. D. HOOPER: How would the member for Lytton blow up a tanker?

Mr. Burns: I am talking about people going near tankers at night-time with naked lights, and things like that.

Mr. M. D. HOOPER: I agree that that is not desirable. It should not be possible for that to be done. Ampol should have a safety officer to chase people away from its tankers. Safety regulations do not allow people to be in close proximity to tankers.

The member for Salisbury referred to the wages paid to waterside workers. Workers in other industries would possibly envy the wages that have been secured by negotiation or by arbitration over the years for waterside workers. However, this is not a matter for consideration in the context of the Bill.

The member also speculated on the future charges for the loading of containers at Fisherman Islands. The loading of containers is a business with high competition between the ports of Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane. If overseas conference lines feel that Brisbane charges are too high, they will bypass Brisbane and advise exporters that they will call only at Sydney and Melbourne. Honourable members should not forget that the B.W.W.D. will have a capital investment of its own to protect and it will have to be competitive if it is to get overseas conference lines to call at Brisbane to collect cargoes for overseas countries.

The member for Sandgate alleged that although the members of the authority had to submit to the Minister a list of their business interests before taking up their appointments, there was no restriction on their right to be involved in any decision making which might involve a conflict of interest. I point out to the member for Sandgate that the provision in clause 5—that is, the new section 8—does not change any of the previous provisions relating to declaration of interest. The provisions merely had to be restated with different wording to suit the new appointment provisions. Section 58 of the existing Act requires members to withdraw from meetings when matters in which they have pecuniary interests are being discussed. That provision remains in the Act.

Mr. Burns: Baillie should not be a member—he will never be allowed in the room.

Mr. M. D. HOOPER: The member for Lytton should read the Bill.

The member for Sandgate asked if an alderman of the Brisbane City Council could be appointed to the authority as of right. If the member had read the Bill he would know that no particular organisation or council will have representation as of right on the authority. I repeat that there is nothing in the legislation that will exclude any alderman, whether male or female, from being appointed to the authority if that person has a valuable contribution to make towards the development of the port of Brisbane. As honourable members know, the new port

is a State Government initiative and the Government has a responsibility to the community to make sure that the members appointed to the authority are the best available to make Brisbane the best overseas port in Australia.

As usual, the member for Port Curtis made no useful contribution to the debate. He merely engaged in tedious repetition. Like other A.L.P. speakers, he is not familiar with section 58 of the existing Act which requires members of the authority to withdraw from meetings when matters in which they have pecuniary interests are being discussed. That provision remains in the Act.

The last speaker was the member for Wynnum. He seemed to be more interested in debating the condition of the access roads near the new port of Brisbane and gave little attention to the Bill. He did ask if it is the intention of the authority to export coal through the new port. I am unable to answer that question in the long term. It is hard to predict what additional cargoes will eventually be exported through the port of Brisbane. There is ample land to provide for new installations to handle new cargoes. In view of the export markets that have been won for Central Queensland coal, it would be interesting to see what export markets could be gained by the operators of coalfields in the south-eastern districts that would necessitate their shipping coal through the port of Brisbane.

Motion (Mr. Hooper) agreed to.

[Friday, 23 November 1979]

COMMITTEE

(Mr. Row, Hinchinbrook, in the chair)

Clause 1, as read, agreed to.

Clause 2—Amendment of s. 4; Meaning of terms—

Mr. BURNS (Lytton) (12.6 a.m.): In his reply at the second-reading stage, the Minister made some play on the fact that aldermen from the Brisbane City Council and councillors from the contiguous local authorities have not been excluded. He made the point that there is nothing to exclude an alderman if he has anything to contribute. I think they were his words. He said that if the Government feels that an alderman can contribute in some way the Minister might take it upon himself to put that person on. I think that Mr. Baillie will have to give his approval first. He will have to tell the Premier what he wants, and then the Minister might be able to do just that.

I am suggesting that 700,000 people or more who live in this city and pay rates will be responsible for some of the construction of the roads. Harbour boards throughout the State have representatives of local authorities. The Minister himself spoke about the Townsville Harbour Board and representation from the local authority or people in

the area. All of the authorities provided in the Milk Supply Act, the Fish Supply Management Act and the Bread Industry Committee Act have representatives from the various organisations that participate in the respective industries. I believe that the people of Brisbane have that right. I will be ashamed if I do not hear some Liberals from Brisbane defending the right of the people of Brisbane to have a say in a major development in their city. As I understand it, the Liberal aldermen have said that Alderman Sleeman should continue on the board. However, it will be up to the Minister. It will be another secret decision. It will not be a decision of Parliament. It will not be a decision made in some public place. It will be another one of the secret decisions made in Cabinet.

I want it on record that we oppose this provision, which has been introduced purely out of political spite. It removes the right of the people in this city, in Redland, in Moreton, in Esk, in Redcliffe—all the people in the contiguous shires—to have a say through an elected representative. The Government is proposing an autonomous board appointed in secret by the Minister after the Premier and others have received their instructions from those who donated to National Party funds.

Hon. M. D. HOOPER (Townsville West—Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism) (12.8 a.m.): I do not believe that the member for Lytton has made any further contribution to the material he used in his second-reading speech. I repeat that these terms have only been omitted from the Act. There is no provision that excludes any alderman from being appointed to the authority.

Clause 2, as read, agreed to.

Clause 3—Repeal of and new s. 6; Members of Port Authority—

Mrs. KYBURZ (Salisbury) (12.9 a.m.): The section to be repealed provided "One person nominated by The Brisbane Oversea Wharf-owners Association". I would like to ask the Minister whether or not that would indeed be Mr. Baillie. Another is a representative of each association of persons that in the Minister's opinion represent businesses engaged in the operation of the port. That equally could be Mr. Baillie. Then there is a representative of each association of persons that in the Minister's opinion is representative of and associated with trade or commerce generally; equally, that could be Mr. Baillie. The fourth person is a representative of the South Eastern District Local Government Association; fortunately, that could not be Mr. Baillie. The fifth person is a representative of associations of persons that represent organised labour within Brisbane. I wonder why the terminology "within Brisbane" is used when it

ought to be a person who is representative of the union or unions that will be involved in the port.

I should like the Minister to comment on the fact that a sweetheart agreement has been made between the B.W.W.D. and the Storemen and Packers' Union. I understand that the union has an agreement, which has not been made public, that only storemen and packers will have access to all of the area controlled by the Port of Brisbane Authority. If that is indeed the case, it is quite obvious that the fifth representative on the port authority will be a person from the Storemen and Packers' Union, and that ought to be stated.

It is provided that the Government must be given the names of three people from whom it may choose. That seems fair enough, because obviously the Government will not put a prickly pear on the port authority when it can have a smooth peach on it. However, things do not always work out as intended, and I believe that the port authority should at least have on it someone representing the Brisbane City Council or someone who is a resident of Brisbane.

I object to the wording of the new section 6 (1)—

"The Port Authority shall consist of nine members ordinarily resident within Queensland . . ."

I do not believe that "ordinarily" is sufficient. I think it ought to be either "habitually" or "who have been resident for a long period".

In my opinion, the Redland Shire Council should have a representative on the port authority, and I suggest that, for obvious reasons, a representative of the Redland Shire Council will be on the authority instead of a representative of the Brisbane City Council.

However, my particular concern is about the wording relative to a person "who in the Minister's opinion represents organised labour within Brisbane". That is quite wide when one considers that organised labour within Brisbane could include any union. I think it ought to be more clearly stipulated, as should the sweetheart agreement between B.W.W.D. and the Storemen and Packers' Union, about which I shall have more to say later.

Mr. SHAW (Wynnum) (12.13 a.m.): I shall be brief because the honourable member for Salisbury has already touched on the point that I wish to raise. The expression "a person ordinarily resident in Queensland" was in the original Act, but I think it would certainly be better if the clause said "a person permanently resident in Queensland". It is very difficult to define what "ordinarily resident in Queensland" means. It could mean a person living for six months in the South and then wintering on the Gold Coast. I should like the Minister to clarify that for me.

Mr. BURNS (Lytton) (12.14 a.m.): The honourable member for Salisbury raised the question of a deal with the Storemen and Packers' Union. I think she was referring to the existing terminal, where there seems to be some arrangement between Baillie and one particular union. I understand that within the new area of the port authority it will be waterside workers only.

I am concerned about reports that a gentleman named O'Brien has been offered an inducement by the Baillie group to keep the Clerks' Union out of the arrangement in the port area.

Mr. Campbell: Is that Reg?

Mr. BURNS: No. It is a gentleman by the name of Desmond O'Brien. He is an organiser for the Federated Clerks' Union. It is widely rumoured among the work-force in the area that an inducement has been offered by Baillie to O'Brien so that the Clerks' Union will not organise in the area. In relation to union representation that matter should be investigated.

I have one point to make about Doug Pye, who lives in the Wynnum West area and who is a representative of the organised work-force. A more decent, honest and hard-working fellow would be hard to find. If he is to be replaced because he is part of the old port authority and does not measure up to what Mr. Baillie wants, it will be a damn shame.

Mr. PREST (Port Curtis) (12.16 a.m.): In speaking to this clause, I am very surprised to see that the voice of the authority of the Brisbane City Council, the Ipswich City Council and the Redcliffe, Albert, Beaudesert, Esk, Moreton, Pine Rivers and Redland Shires will be lost. I am surprised that members representing those local authorities are not on their feet trying to retain their representation.

The Minister was fairly dirty in answering me, and I will treat him likewise. I was surprised to hear him say that there would be no guarantee that local authority representatives would be on the port authority; that there was no guarantee as to who would be on the authority. At the introductory stage he tried to hoodwink us by saying that all authorities and sections now represented on the port authority were quite happy. But there is no saying that they will continue to be on the port authority or that they will not be put off. If everyone is happy, why are the amendments necessary? We might even be looking at an authority that will comprise members of the Police Force, including some of the Minister's friends in the North who forgot to synchronise their watches when they arrested his son for drink-driving. Who knows? They are friends of the Minister; he might even put them on the board.

Government Members interjected.

Mr. PREST: I try to do the best I can and I do not like being denigrated by the Minister. There is no saying who will be on the authority.

Hon. M. D. HOOPER (Townsville West—Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism) (12.17 a.m.): The honourable member for Salisbury referred to the various people who may or may not be appointed under this legislation. Unfortunately, she referred to most people who fell into the categories outlined in the Act. Of course, the amendment does not provide for those categories to be necessarily adopted when future appointments are made. I am sure that the honourable member for Salisbury and other honourable members do not expect me to suggest tonight what recommendations will go to the Government about who should be on a future authority or what decisions Cabinet may make.

The honourable member for Wynnum is obviously very tired, or he does not understand English. He wants to know what is meant by the phrase "ordinarily resident in Queensland". I think he should visit the Parliamentary Library to get some assistance.

I remind members that the method of appointment to the port authority will be identical to that provided for in the Gold Coast Waterways Authority Act of 1979.

An Opposition Member: That is no recommendation.

Mr. M. D. HOOPER: That Bill was passed by the House.

Mr. Burns: Isn't that the one in respect of which one man paid \$25,000 to sit down to dinner and later became chairman?

Mr. M. D. HOOPER: The honourable member has more information available to him than I have.

I remind honourable members that the present term of office expires on 5 December 1979. In accordance with the Act, panels of at least three names have already been requested from the various associations for membership of the port authority over the next three years. I repeat that. These nominations will, to the extent appropriate, be taken into consideration when recommending members for appointment to the port authority under the new provisions contained in this Bill.

Mrs. KYBURZ (Salisbury) (12.20 a.m.): I do not think that the Minister answered the question. Subsection (1) reads—

"The Port Authority shall consist of nine members ordinarily resident within Queensland . . ."

The clause does not define from which associations those members should come and it certainly does not define under what conditions the associations will be chosen. The Minister did not define for how long the appointment of the port authority members would be.

Subclause (2) reads—

“The members of the Port Authority shall be appointed by the Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister, by notification published in the Gazette.”

For how long will their appointment be, particularly if they are 68 or 69 years of age? The previous clause stipulates that they should not have attained 70 years of age. I ask the Minister to explain why there is no definition of the associations from which the representatives will come.

Hon. M. D. HOOPER (Townsville West—Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism) (12.21 a.m.): In further reply to the honourable member for Salisbury—it is obvious that she has not understood the whole concept of the Bill. We have made it quite clear that the Minister now has the right to nominate the members of the authority. We are departing from the original text of the legislation. We stipulated the different organisations from which we would draw the membership of the authority, but this clause allows the Government, for argument's sake, to widen its vision and look at other people, such as the port users, who have a major investment and are importing or exporting cargoes through the port. They are the people who should have some say in the charges at the wharf and the development that will take place at the wharf so that the port can expand and compete against Sydney and Melbourne. It is no use bringing in people who are party hacks or come from a particular organisation.

Opposition Members interjected.

Mr. M. D. HOOPER: Is that what the Opposition wants? Do Opposition members want the Federated Clerks' Union represented? They would have every union on the waterfront. There would be demarcation disputes all the time if we listened to Opposition members. Anyway, I am trying to reply to the honourable member for Salisbury. Is the honourable member satisfied with my explanation?

Mrs. Kyburz: Yes.

Mr. BURNS (Lytton) (12.23 a.m.): In reply to the honourable member for Salisbury, the Minister said that people associated with the port and shipping through the port would be represented and that some notice would be taken of what they said. However, no notice was taken of what they said earlier this year when they objected to Cabinet's overruling the decisions in this matter.

On 4 April this year, Mr. Athol Flynn, the president of the Customs Agents Association of Queensland, an organisation with 40 members handling 80 per cent of all the goods going through the port of Brisbane, wrote to the Premier to complain about

the actions of Cabinet in overriding the recommendations of the authority. He said—

“If consulted by the National Party committee ‘we would have reported instances of our clients electing to no longer ship through Brisbane, but to distribute their goods through Sydney.

“We would have suggested that the prime reason for this decline, quite uncharacteristic of Queensland industries, is the increasing and unwilling dependence on an unconcerned autocratic monopoly and its unholy alliance with particular sections of the waterfront unions.”

“The letter attacked the P and O group's involvement in the port. It accused the company of seeking to dominate and monopolise the port.

This was stifling true free enterprise and increasing costs to all Queenslanders.”

The Minister makes the point to the honourable member for Salisbury that notice will be taken of the views of the people using the port. He might like to advise me why he took no notice of the United Graziers' Association, the Chamber of Commerce and the shipping agents in the port who were concerned about the \$2,000,000 being added to the costs to be met by every pensioner, every housewife, every farmer and every businessman. As those costs go up, the workers will ask for wage increases and costs will go up further. That will all be added to the money coming out of the pockets of all people in this State. It will create an inflationary spiral. All this will happen because of a decision taken against the advice of the people to whom the Minister said he would listen.

Hon. M. D. HOOPER (Townsville West—Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism) (12.25 a.m.): I think the honourable member for Lytton is asking the reason why the main stevedoring company is chosen. If he cares to refer to “Hansard” tomorrow he can refresh his memory from the answer I gave earlier.

Clause 3, as read, agreed to.

Clause 4—Amendment of s. 7; Term of appointment of Members—

Mr. BURNS (Lytton) (12.26 a.m.): Clause 4 omits the words “other than a member ex officio”. I am reminded of the statement by Mr. Baillie, who I believe happens to be in a position to manipulate this board, when he said he was worried about anti-free enterprise elements apparently working within the port authority's administration. As there are only two ex officio members on the board, that is the Director of the Department of Harbours and Marine and the general manager of the authority, I would like to ask the reasons why the words “other than a member ex officio” have been excluded.

Hon. M. D. HOOPER (Townsville West—Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism) (12.26 a.m.): I do not think any great

explanation is required. It is only a very minor consequential amendment. The term of appointment of members arises from the new section 6, and if the honourable member refers to it he will get the answer.

Mr. BURNS (Lytton) (12.27 a.m.): As I understand it, in the past the provision in the Act has been that with the exception of the two ex officio members every member of the board was subject to replacement every three years. But now the two ex officio members are subject to the same provisions. They are public servants employed by the Government. One is the Director of the Department of Harbours and Marine and the other is the general manager of the port authority. Why do we have to change that provision if the Minister is not going to remove one of them from the board? If he intends to do that, he should tell us about it tonight.

Mrs. KYBURZ (Salisbury) (12.27 a.m.): I would like to ask the Minister if it is the Government's overt intention, by omitting the word "nominated" and substituting the word "recommended", to exclude a representative of the staff of the port authority from the port authority itself, that is, to prevent his being an ex officio member of the port authority.

Hon. M. D. HOOPER (Townsville West—Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism) (12.27 a.m.): I am obviously not going to come into the trap of trying to pre-empt the nominating of members for the new authority.

Mrs. KYBURZ (Salisbury) (12.28 a.m.): I am sorry, but I do not believe that to be a sufficient explanation.

Mr. M. D. Hooper: It's all you're going to get.

Mrs. KYBURZ: Then the point of argument simply is whether or not the manager of the port authority, who would not be a member of the port authority itself but a person involved in the day-to-day running of the port, and as such a staff representative, will be excluded from the workings of the port authority. If that is the case, it is a reprehensible move. I believe that a staff representative ought to be included if possible.

Hon. M. D. HOOPER (Townsville West—Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism) (12.29 a.m.): All I can say to the honourable member for Salisbury is that I note her comments.

Clause 4, as read, agreed to.

Clause 5—Repeal of ss. 8-10 and new s. 8; Proprietary and business interests to be declared—

Mr. BURNS (Lytton) (12.30 a.m.): I believe this point must be made whenever we see a clause requiring the statutory declaration of proprietary or business inter-

ests by public servants or people appointed to boards. It is a sham that we ask them to do that when the Minister to whom they report refuses to do so. The Government continues to back away from making Ministers declare such interests and yet they will be able to override the decisions of this board. Surely Ministers should be required to face up to the same responsibilities as are being placed on the board members.

Mrs. KYBURZ (Salisbury) (12.31 a.m.): There is a great deal that one could say about the new section 8, simply because it deals with the proprietary and business interests that must be declared. Further on, it spells out the reasons why a member of the port authority should disclose his or her business interests. Paragraph (a) states—

"owns shares (whether beneficially or otherwise) in a body corporate that stands to be benefited directly by the operation of the port;"

That could and should exclude Mr. Baillie, because he has all of those things. Paragraph (b) states—

"is a member of or the spouse of a member of a firm that stands to be benefited directly by the operations of the port;"

Once again, I hope that that excludes Mr. Baillie. Paragraph (c) states—

"is a director or employee of a body corporate or is an employee of a firm that, in either case, stands to be benefited directly by the operation of the port."

Once again, that must exclude Mr. Baillie. Indeed, he is the one person who comes readily to mind as embodying all of those matters. The new section 8 states, in part—

". . . each person . . . to furnish . . . a statutory declaration as to the extent and nature of all proprietary or business interests had by that person that stand to be benefited directly by the operation of the port . . ."

I must repeat my call that Mr. Baillie must resign. In future, he must not be a member of the port authority because, as far as I can see, there would not be any business conducted by the port authority that Mr. Baillie would not be a party to. As I said before, it is not only that he has a pecuniary interest in every single part of the workings of the port authority; indeed, it is the whole of his business.

I also believe that any representative of the Storemen and Packers Union must certainly have a pecuniary interest in ensuring the supremacy of B.W.W.D. That union has been receiving extremely beneficial treatment from B.W.W.D. The sweetheart agreement that I previously mentioned has ensured that the Storemen and Packers Union members have been paid throughout strikes when other members of the union have not been paid. I think it is rather reprehensible that this sweetheart agreement allowed the union members working in the present B.W.W.D.

installation to be paid during the anti-nuclear demonstration and the nation-wide Medibank strike. I am sure that the other members of the Storemen and Packers Union, who do not work in that installation, are not aware of that fact, because it has been kept very quiet.

Further, the B.W.W.D. trucks that queue up at the present port facilities are given precedence over other trucks. I think that that absolutely stinks. I would hate to be a truck driver for a private company that is not involved with B.W.W.D. The trucks of B.W.W.D. get priority when entering the present port facilities. I can see that sort of thing happening in the new port. I think that that will be equally reprehensible.

The whole of the new section 8 must exclude Mr. Baillie from being a member of the authority. I cannot see how he would not be a party to any of the workings of this new port authority. I do not believe in denigrating a person because of his personality. Obviously, his business interests will take precedence over any altruistic motives that he might have. In allowing in a company other than B.W.W.D., the port authority obviously intended to attempt to break the stranglehold that B.W.W.D. has on current port facilities, and equally to break the stranglehold that the Storemen and Packers Union has on the port.

Mr. Davis: Get off the storemen and packers.

Mrs. KYBURZ: I have more bombshells, if the honourable member cares to listen.

I inadvertently alleged that the high wages paid to members of the Waterside Workers' Union were the sole cause of increased port charges. I must correct that statement because I now realise that it is in part equally due to the stranglehold and the monopoly of the Storemen and Packers Union and that, indeed, it plays a far more significant role than the Waterside Workers' Union in the workings of B.W.W.D. I accuse the Storemen and Packers Union of being in collusion with B.W.W.D. to maintain the supremacy of the B.W.W.D. management in the new port authority. I do not see how Mr. Baillie could go behind the backs of the other members of the port authority and make a sweetheart deal with the Storemen and Packers Union. As the other unions will be kept out of the new port of Brisbane, I ask the Minister: will the Storemen and Packers Union have the sole right to all labour in the new port?

Hon. M. D. HOOPER (Townsville West—Minister for Maritime Services and Tourism) (12.37 a.m.): The member for Salisbury seems to be more intent on attacking a present member of the port authority without knowing whether that particular member will be reappointed. She made some allegations about his shares and interests in companies with interests in port usage. She must have more

knowledge about that matter than I have. If she has not, she is speaking without any foundation whatsoever.

I remind the honourable member that, under the terms of the Bill, anybody who is nominated as a possible member of the port authority has to furnish me in advance with a declaration showing the extent and nature of all proprietary or business interests of that person which stand to be benefited directly by the operation of the port. From time to time that statement of interests must be updated.

As I said before, section 58 of the existing Act has not been changed and requires members to withdraw from meetings when matters in which they have pecuniary interests are discussed. Is the member for Salisbury suggesting that the Bill should contain provisions different from those applying to local authorities and city councils? Many councils in the State have councillors who are consulting engineers. With Government permission, those councillors are allowed to do work for the local authority, but they have to declare their pecuniary interests. If the honourable member believes that all who have been successful and have achieved something in life should not be allowed to be members of an authority, the only members appointed would be those who have been business failures.

Mrs. KYBURZ (Salisbury) (12.38 a.m.): The Minister's explanations are sweet, but hollow. The fact remains that Mr. Baillie not only has a pecuniary interest in the port authority; as I said before, it is his entire business interest. The Minister stated that Mr. Baillie would have to provide him with a list of his pecuniary interests if he is appointed to the new port authority. However, if what the Minister says is correct and Mr. Baillie would be excluded from any discussions on matters in which he has a pecuniary interest, he would never be there, because he has an interest in all matters that would be discussed by the authority.

The clause is a sham. Even if Mr. Baillie excluded himself from a meeting of the port authority, he would still have access to the minutes of the meeting from which he was excluded. If he does have access to the minutes of the meeting from which he was excluded, why bother excluding him? It is obvious that he can act on the minutes just as well post-meeting as he can pre-meeting. I suggest that it is a rather hollow clause; in fact, it is a sham.

Clause 5, as read, agreed to.

Clauses 6 to 15, both inclusive, as read, agreed to.

Bill reported, without amendment.

THIRD READING

Bill, on motion by Mr. Hooper, by leave, read a third time.

The House adjourned at 12.42 a.m. (Friday).