

Queensland



Parliamentary Debates  
[Hansard]

**Legislative Assembly**

**THURSDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER 1982**

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

**ADDRESS IN REPLY****Presentation and Answer**

Mr SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that, accompanied by honourable members, I this day presented to His Excellency the Governor the Address of the Legislative Assembly, adopted by this House on 31 August, in reply to His Excellency's Opening Speech, and that His Excellency has been pleased to make the following reply—

“Government House,  
Brisbane,  
2nd September, 1982.

Mr Speaker and Gentlemen,

As the Representative of Her Majesty The Queen, I tender to you and the Members of the Parliament of Queensland my sincere thanks for the Address-in-Reply to the Speech which I had the honour to deliver at the Opening of Parliament on 3 August last.

It will be my pleasant duty to convey to Her Majesty The Queen the expression of continued loyalty and affection to The Throne and Person of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II from the Members of the Legislature of Queensland in Parliament assembled.

The Queen is the unifying centre for the peoples of the Commonwealth of Nations, and a sign to the world of our faith in freedom.

I trust that your labours to promote the advancement and prosperity of this great State will meet with success in full measure.

I pray that the blessings of Almighty God may rest upon your counsels.

JAMES RAMSAY, Governor.”

**PARLIAMENTARY HANDBOOK**

Mr SPEAKER: I inform honourable members that a photography session has been arranged in the Media Room behind the Chamber on Tuesday, 14 September, to allow each member the opportunity to be photographed for the new edition of the Parliamentary Handbook, expected to be published in December. Photographers will be in attendance from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the convenience of honourable members.

**PAPERS**

The following paper was laid on the table, and ordered to be printed:—

Report of the Board of Trustees of the Queensland Museum for the year ended 31 December 1981.

The following papers were laid on the table:—

Order in Council under the Forestry Act 1959-1981 and the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1975-1976.

Regulations under—

Noise Abatement Act 1978-1982.

Traffic Act 1949-1982.

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS****Allegations by Leader of the Opposition about Connolly Report**

Hon. S. S. DOUMANY (Kurilpa—Minister for Justice and Attorney-General) (11.4 a.m.): Unfortunately I find it necessary to rise in this Chamber to refute the absolutely scurrilous, mischievous and untrue accusations made yesterday by the Leader of the Opposition concerning inquiries conducted in the early 1970s by the then Mr Connolly, QC.

The Leader of the Opposition in a mischievous point-scoring attempt to link those inquiries by Mr Connolly with modern-day reports involving tax avoidance claimed that the Queensland Government deliberately tried to protect people involved in Mr Connolly's inquiries.

Such statements do little credit whatsoever to the Leader of the Opposition and show just how little he has been able to come to grips with the whole subject. Once again, I must point out that never at any stage did Mr Connolly in his inquiries have the charter to examine tax avoidance in any form. Had the Leader of the Opposition bothered to even conduct a superficial investigation before he made his unsubstantiated attack, he would have looked at the terms of reference of Mr Connolly's inquiries. They were set out in the Queensland Government Gazette on Tuesday, 14 November 1972 and stated that under section 170 of the Companies Act 1961-1971, Mr Connolly "be appointed an inspector to investigate all of the affairs of the Companies".

The "affairs" of the companies in this context is a technical reference to the matters set down in section 168 of the Companies Act. If the Leader of the Opposition bothers to take the time to read section 168 he will see that there is absolutely no reference whatsoever to taxation.

The result of Mr Connolly's inquiries and the advice of the Solicitor-General of the day, which was given to Sir William Knox, who was then the Attorney-General, clearly stated that there was insufficient evidence for proceedings to be undertaken in court. I find it incredible that the Leader of the Opposition could claim that the Government deliberately decided against taking action in order to protect certain parties. Would the Leader of the Opposition have the Government of the day, whether it be John Cain's Labor Government in Victoria or Neville Wran's Government in New South Wales or the Queensland Government, institute prosecutions against the advice of the Solicitor-General? Honourable members in this House would realise that evidence that can be substantiated has to be found that will stand up in court before such prosecutions can be launched.

The Queensland Government has not, and does not, condone any of the activities of those people involved in the matters investigated by Mr Connolly—activities which the Government of the day obviously saw as allegedly improper practices which were against the interests of the people in this State.

Surely, the honourable the Leader of the Opposition must accept that the matter of avoidance of income tax or company tax is not a matter for the Government of Queensland but is a matter for the Federal taxation authorities. I have said before, and, obviously, for the Opposition's benefit, I must say again, the Queensland Government has given in the past and will continue to give in the future full co-operation to the Federal taxation authorities wherever appropriate.

#### Tobacco Industry

Hon. M. J. AHERN (Landsborough—Minister for Primary Industries) (11.8 a.m.): I take this opportunity to advise the House of my very great concern over the content of the Industries Assistance Commission's draft report on the Australian tobacco industry. In this regard, I have received strong representations from the member for Barron River. Together with Mr Tenni and the Tobacco Board Chairman (Mr Don Hastie), I discussed the matter with the Honourable the Premier on Tuesday. The Premier agrees with my view that the commission's recipe for restructuring the Australian tobacco-growing industry is a recipe for disaster.

It is significant that both the Industries Assistance Commission and my department, together with growers and manufacturers generally, agree on the need for a phased restructuring program. Indeed, in Queensland we have been pursuing such a program for some 10 years and are well placed to complete the task, provided our program is not disrupted.

Where my particular concern lies is in the manner in which the restructuring program proposed by the IAC is to proceed. The Industries Assistance Commission holds the view that the existing stabilisation scheme should be disbanded progressively up to 1990. The commission argues that the Australian tobacco leaf marketing quota should be

reduced by 1.5 million kg each year to a level of 4.5 million kg in 1990. This compares with a marketing quota for 1983 of 15.2 million kg. The commission sees the balance of leaf produced in Australia being sold on a totally free market.

This would be a step backwards in time to a position worse than the highly disruptive marketing arrangements of the early 1960s. Conditions existing then led to the Commonwealth and State Governments implementing the current tobacco stabilisation scheme. In its current proposals, the Industries Assistance Commission also calls for a freezing of prices paid to growers for quota leaf at 1983 levels until 1990.

Although the objective of price restraint is to be commended, it seems unrealistic and totally unfair for tobacco growers to be singled out when no other sector of the Australian economy is expected to follow suit. In fact, tobacco growers have shown considerable restraint over price. This is evidenced by the fact that over the last decade the price of Australian leaf has increased by only 66 per cent compared with 95 per cent for imported leaf and 160 per cent general inflation. The price restraint shown by growers has been made possible by significant restructuring and introduction of new technology.

I have no argument regarding the need for further restructuring of the Australian tobacco-growing industry. However, I believe that the method suggested by the Industries Assistance Commission is impractical and unworkable. It would lead to the virtual destruction of a viable Australian industry at no real set-off benefit to the community. In fact, the commission states that the cost savings resulting from lower leaf prices would be relatively insignificant to consumers. The industry receives no cash subsidy from the Australian taxpayer.

I am proud of the results that the Queensland industry has achieved in its restructuring program. The average farm size in Queensland, for example, has increased from 10 000 kg to 15 000 kg since 1970, although this has been achieved at the expense of over one quarter of the growers leaving the industry. Those growers who have moved out of the industry have done so in an orderly manner and have been compensated by growers remaining in the industry. The entire restructuring program in Queensland has been achieved with a minimum of social disruption and at no cost whatsoever to either the Queensland or Commonwealth Governments.

While people smoke I will support the right of Australian primary producers to grow and sell tobacco. I see the health issue and the growing issue as two quite separate matters. I can see no logic in damaging the local industry unnecessarily only to benefit overseas growers.

Tobacco industries throughout the world have one important issue in common, that is, orderly marketing in one form or another. To suggest that the Australian industry could be handled in some other way is naive.

We currently have a viable industry. It has its problems but these problems are being addressed. As my department proposed to the Industries Assistance Commission, the planned restructuring will achieve the desired level of efficiency by the end of 1988. I am convinced that the industry could achieve this goal provided it is allowed to retain the framework within which to work. I am equally convinced that the framework proposed by the Industries Assistance Commission will not give growers that opportunity.

Tobacco is an important industry in Queensland, and is particularly important to a number of regional areas. The industry is viable under existing orderly-marketing arrangements and I would expect that future policy decisions will be taken in the context of assisting in the orderly restructuring of the tobacco-growing industry.

#### PETITION

The Clerk announced the receipt of the following petition—

##### State Service Superannuation Scheme

From Mrs Nelson (1 003 signatories) praying that the Parliament of Queensland will remove all discrimination from the State Service Superannuation Scheme.

Petition received.

QUESTIONS UPON NOTICE

Questions submitted on notice by members were answered as follows:—

1. Non-compliance by Queensland with International Labour Organisation Convention

Mr R. J. Gibbs asked the Minister for Water Resources and Aboriginal and Island Affairs—

(1) Is he aware that on 18 November 1981 the Federal Minister for Industrial Relations informed the Leader of the Federal Opposition that on 20 June 1977 Queensland indicated by letter that, in its view, the Aboriginal population of the State does not constitute a dependent indigenous population for the purposes of International Labour Organisation No. 65 Penal Sanctions (Indigenous Workers) 1939?

(2) Who wrote the letter and on what date, and by what means did the Queensland Government authorise it?

(3) Did a former Federal Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations inform the former leader of the Federal Opposition on 4 October 1977 that a review instituted by his department in April 1977 had revealed inconsistencies between the provisions of the Queensland Apprentices Act and the convention?

(4) Have the inconsistent provisions of the Queensland Act been repealed?

Answer:—

(1 to 4) I am not aware of these exchanges of correspondence between Federal Ministers and Leaders of the Federal Opposition.

2.

New Police Launch

Mr McLean asked the Minister for Local Government, Main Roads and Police—

With reference to a question asked by the member for Maryborough on 5 August concerning the purchase of a new police launch, in answer to which it was stated that this vessel was not a production line game-fishing boat that had been modified but that it was built to police specifications and no modifications were required—

(1) Will he explain how the same design is sold in Australia from the Hong Kong boat yard as a game fishing boat and is produced on a production-line basis?

(2) Is it also true that one of the modifications on this vessel that makes it different from the production-line vessel is that it does not have controls on the fly bridge as do the sporting models?

(3) Is it also true that because of the design of the vessel without a fly bridge, the controls are situated in a position where it is impossible to have full vision over the bow when the vessel is cruising and, if so, what safety provisions are being planned to overcome this problem?

(4) Was the final decision to purchase this boat based on the Police Department recommendation to Cabinet?

(5) Will he give the reasons and areas where the tenders from local boat-yards did not meet the requirements?

(6) Were the specifications that were given to the local boat-yards also given to the Hong Kong builder?

(7) Why are there such major structural differences between the boat decided on from Hong Kong and the requirements given to and asked for from local builders?

(8) Were the local builders allowed a further chance to tender with new prices when it was decided by the department to change the requirements of the vessel?

(9) When will the vessel arrive in Australia?

(10) When will the boat be trial tested, where will it be tested and who will trial test the boat?

(11) If the boat is tested outside Australia, who will pay the cost of transport and expenses for those involved?

(12) If repairs are required while the boat is under warranty, who will do the repairs and who will pay for these repairs?

(13) Who is bringing the boat to Australia?

(14) Does the design not allow for the engine to be taken out unless the full cabin is taken off the boat?

(15) Will he explain the statement made to the media by a senior police officer who said that in the past the local product has been unsatisfactory?

(16) Is he aware of the reputation, the long and proud history of the Australian boat-building industry and its very high-class world-standing in the quality of its product over many years?

(17) Was the agent, Mike Gore, through whom this purchase is being made and who has his business on the Gold Coast, convicted and fined approximately \$5,000 for false advertising some time ago?

(18) If so, what checks have been made and by whom on the validity of this particular product?

*Answer:—*

(1 to 18) It is pointless for the honourable member to endeavour to make political capital on this matter. The simple facts are that the successful tenderer offered a launch in accordance with police requirements whereas local boat builders did not.

3.

#### Keith Clarke Insurances

Mr McLean asked the Deputy Premier and Treasurer—

With reference to the recent announcement that Keith Clarke Insurances would be put into receivership—

(1) What protection have people who insure through agents or brokers when their payments are not passed on to the insurance companies?

(2) What obligation is placed on the insurance companies to inform insurers of any problem that exists with agents or brokers?

(3) How many people who were affected by the activities of Keith Clarke Insurances have claims pending and what is the obligation of the insurance companies concerned to honour those claims?

(4) Have all the people who have insured through Keith Clarke been informed by the various insurance companies or his department of the position regarding their coverage?

(5) Will the people who held insurance policies through this agent be refunded the money they paid for coverage they did not receive?

(6) What obligation have insurance companies to check the activities of agents or brokers who publicly represent them?

(7) Were there any insurance companies who cancelled their association with Keith Clarke long before the eventual closure of the agency?

(8) If so, what action did his department take to check the operations of this agency and inform the public?

(9) What action will be taken by the Government to ensure that this type of situation does not happen again?

*Answer:—*

The honourable member's question implies that there is no real difference between insurance brokers and agents. This is not the case. As I have advised the House previously, insurance brokers in Queensland are licensed by State legislation and are an independent insurance entity not having any relationship with particular insurance companies which could bring about a conflict of interest. On the other hand, insurance agents, whether sole or multi-agents, are appointed by insurance companies which are subject to Commonwealth legislation. There has never been

legislation in Queensland to control the appointment or set standards of competency, experience or integrity for agents. Against this background the answers to the specific questions are as follows:—

(1) For brokers—The Insurance Act 1960-1976.

For agents—Any regulation or control at present is a matter of Commonwealth jurisdiction.

(2) See (1).

(3) The number of claims outstanding is not known. The Fraud Squad is currently investigating the matter.

The obligation of insurance companies is always governed by the nature of the contractual commitment.

(4) Because of the confused state of the business records this is not possible at this stage.

I refer to my ministerial statement to the House on 17 August, when I asked people in the community who thought they were insured to contact their insurance companies immediately.

(5) This is a matter for determination by the provisional liquidators who were appointed by the Supreme Court on 10 August 1982, or on the basis of civil remedies available to those concerned.

(6) See answers to previous questions.

(7) This information is not known to me.

(8) See previous answers.

(9) The matter is under consideration by the Government. I hope to be able to make an announcement in the near future or at some other appropriate time.

4. Lighting, Norman Park Railway Station

Mr McLean asked the Minister for Transport—

With reference to a question I asked in Parliament on 25 November 1981 in regard to the general amenities for the public at the Norman Park Railway Station, the answer being that the extremely bad lighting at both the station and the surrounding areas was the responsibility of either the Brisbane City Council or SEQEB—

(1) What responsibility has the Railway Department to supply lighting to station platforms, approaches and exits, car-parks and surrounding areas?

(2) Has the Railway Department requested the BCC or SEQEB to install adequate lighting in the areas they are responsible for?

(3) If so, what is the result of such requests?

(4) If not, when does the Railway Department intend acting on this very important safety question?

(5) If an accident occurs because of bad lighting, which department is responsible for any damages claim that may follow?

Answer:—

(1) The Railway Department is responsible for the provision of lighting on station platforms, foot-bridges and on pathways located on railway land providing access to stations. Lighting has also been provided where necessary to car-parks which were constructed by the Metropolitan Transit Authority.

The department is not responsible for street lighting on roadways adjacent to stations. The responsibility for that lies with the Brisbane City Council and the South East Queensland Electricity Board.

(2 to 4) No. I suggest that the honourable member contact his local city council alderman, or write direct to the manager of SEQEB regarding any lighting problems on streets in the vicinity of railway stations.

(5) Any liability arising from any accident would depend on the location of the accident and the circumstances surrounding it.

5. Non-payment of Bus Fares to Karakan  
Rehabilitation Workshop, Toowoomba

Dr Lockwood asked the Minister for Health—

(1) Is he aware that the bus carrying workers to the Karakan rehabilitation workshop in Toowoomba ceased on 31 August and did not run on 1 September because of non-payment of seven months fares?

(2) Will he urgently examine this problem, ensure that the fares are paid, and lay down firm guide-lines for future payments?

*Answer:—*

(1) Yes.

(2) Senior officers of my department are presently investigating these matters.

Karakan Hostels is a voluntary organisation which receives financial assistance from my department. The matters raised by the honourable member are being investigated and it has been ascertained that the responsibility for the transport of employees lies totally with the organisation. However, further talks are planned with a view to alternatives to their present system.

6. Depo-Provera Injections

Dr Lockwood asked the Minister for Health—

(1) Has the State of Queensland authorised the routine or specific use of Depo-Provera injections as a contraceptive?

(2) If so, in which establishments and for which routine or specific purposes has approval been granted?

*Answer:—*

(1 & 2) Depo-Provera is available in Queensland public hospitals on the recommendation of a registered specialist or medical superintendent for the treatment of gynaecological conditions.

7. Caboolture Bypass, D'Aguilar Highway

Mr Frawley asked the Minister for Local Government, Main Roads and Police—

(1) Has the Main Roads Department received a plan from the Caboolture Shire Council regarding a proposed main road deviation from the D'Aguilar Highway to the Burpengary-Caboolture Road?

(2) Is this plan likely to be approved by his department and, if so, when is it expected that land resumptions will commence?

(3) If not, has the Main Roads Department any alternative plans for a bypass of the town of Caboolture from the D'Aguilar Highway?

(4) Will a prompt decision be made so that the concern of local residents over the possible resumption of their homes and/or properties may be alleviated?

*Answer:—*

(1 to 4) The Main Roads Department has received a plan from the Caboolture Shire Council. A number of possible locations, including the one suggested by council as well as locations suggested by the department, are under consideration.

It is not possible to say at this stage what location, if any, will be adopted and when.

A bypass of Caboolture by the D'Aguilar Highway is a long-term consideration and it is not expected there would be any early resumption of land.

Because homes and properties could be affected, the department and council will require time to fully investigate all alternatives and assess effects on land-owners. It would be improper to reach a hasty decision without thorough consideration of the total impact of each proposal.

8. Pre-school, Morayfield

Mr Frawley asked the Minister for Education—

When is it proposed to open a pre-school at Morayfield?

*Answer:—*

I have given a high priority to allocation of funds for this project in the 1982-83 capital works program, and preliminary planning has been undertaken by officers of the State Works Department. However, implementation of this project will depend on availability of funds.

9. Aerial Spraying of Herbicides, Wamuran District

Mr Frawley asked the Minister for Primary Industries—

With reference to a petition from 1 696 electors of the State which I presented to Parliament on 31 August regarding the aerial spraying of hormones—

Will this petition be noted, and has any investigation been carried out by officers of his department at Wamuran into the spraying of hormones from a helicopter?

*Answer:—*

The honourable member may be assured that the petition to which he refers has been noted.

Two complaints were received recently concerning aerial spraying of herbicides in the Wamuran district. Both complaints were investigated by officers of my department and a statement of the findings of one of the investigations has already been issued by the Agricultural Chemicals Distribution Control Board with copies being forwarded to all interested parties. A statement concerning the second complaint is now being prepared by the board and will be released shortly.

10. Bridge over Wild River, Kennedy Highway

Mr Eaton asked the Minister for Local Government, Main Roads and Police—

Is the previously-announced bridge over the Wild River on the Kennedy Highway between Mt Garnet and Ravenshoe still to be built and, if so, when will construction commence?

*Answer:—*

Design has commenced for the project, including bridge and approaches. The current design program should permit release of the scheme early in the 1983-84 financial year, subject to availability of funds.

11. Young Farmers Establishment Scheme

Mr Eaton asked the Minister for Lands and Forestry—

With reference to the Government scheme to help young people settle on the land—

(1) How many have actually been settled under the scheme and what primary industries are they involved with?

(2) How long can an applicant expect to wait after interview before being notified that application for finance was successful or unsuccessful?

(3) What is the number of applications still waiting now that the terms and interest rates are known?

*Answer:—*

(1) To date, 12 applications have been approved outright and three have been granted provisional approval subject to satisfying certain requirements of the commis-

sion which, in the main, cover the liquidation of current assets to provide the required equity. The approved applications cover various primary industries as set out hereunder:—

Types of Properties	Approved Outright	Approved Provisionally
Mainly cattle .. .. .	2	—
Mainly sheep .. .. .	1	—
Small crops .. .. .	2	—
Cane .. .. .	—	1
Mixed farming .. .. .	2	—
Dairying .. .. .	1	—
Mainly grain .. .. .	3	—
Piggery .. .. .	1	—
Mainly fruit-growing .. .. .	—	1
Poultry .. .. .	—	1
	12	3

(2) Every application received is given urgent consideration and, where it is obvious that the applicants do not meet the criteria laid down for acceptance, advice to that effect is forwarded within a matter of days. In cases which merit full investigation, the applicants are advised of the outcome of their approaches within two to three months, provided that there are no unforeseen circumstances and all the required information is supplied.

(3) There are nine applications under investigation at this time.

## 12. State Public Service Superannuation Fund Loan to Queensland Housing Commission

Mr Eaton asked the Minister for Works and Housing—

With reference to the State Government announcement of an extra \$100 million for housing—

(1) Is this money being borrowed from the State Public Service Superannuation Fund?

(2) If so, what is the exact amount being borrowed from this source?

(3) What are the terms of the loan from this fund?

(4) What is the interest rate payable by the Queensland Housing Commission for this money?

(5) What amount of this money has already been advanced to the commission and over what period will the balance of the money be advanced?

*Answer:—*

(1) The money will be provided from funds available to the Treasurer for investment. I understand the bulk of funds come from superannuation sources.

(2) Up to \$100m.

(3) To be re-lent to end-borrowers on income-g geared repayment contracts, with all repayments of interest and redemption remitted to the Treasury as received.

(4) .5 per cent below the prevailing lending rate, that is, presently at either 14 per cent or 14.5 per cent depending on value of new loans.

(5) No advance has yet been needed. The arrangement is for the commission to take advances from the Treasury as and when required to meet commitments.

## 13. Importation of Fruit and Vegetables from Taiwan and South East Asia

Mr FitzGerald asked the Minister for Primary Industries—

Is there any restriction on the quantity and quality, excepting quarantine, of fruit and vegetables imported into Australia from Taiwan and South East Asian countries

and, if so, what guarantee is there that these products will not be imported via New Zealand?

*Answer:—*

Quarantine requirements prohibit the entry into Australia of a wide range of fresh fruit and vegetables from countries including Taiwan and others in South East Asia.

Generally small, if any, tariffs are applicable to fresh fruit and vegetable imports. In addition, any commodities that are permitted entry must meet the grades, maturity and packaging standards applicable in the State.

In general, New Zealand quarantine requirements are similar to those of Australia. In cases in which commodities are generally prohibited but entry from New Zealand is permitted because of that country's freedom from particular pests and diseases, certification that the product was grown in New Zealand is required.

14.

#### Moreton Island

Mr Innes asked the Minister for Mines and Energy—

(1) Precisely what decision was taken by the Government during the week ended 28 August relating to the future of Moreton Island?

(2) What steps have been taken to gain the release of the areas of the island outside the 6.4 per cent proposed for mining which are under some form of mining claim so that they can be added to the national park as proposed by the Cook report adopted by the Government?

(3) What action has been taken to ensure that the recommendations of the Cook report for the protection of certain areas, such as water bodies, within the 6.4 per cent have been followed?

*Answer:—*

(1) As announced in my Press statement of 23 August 1982, Mineral Deposits Limited in negotiations with the Department of Mines has agreed to surrender Authority to Prospect 831M covering 3 330 ha adjacent to the existing national park on Moreton Island. The company has made this decision because the land is outside the 6.4 per cent of Moreton Island on which mining is allowed even though prospecting has indicated the existence of an ore body within the area.

I reported the result of these negotiations to the Government on that day, complimented the company on its commendable attitude and advised that about 54 per cent of the island would now be available for inclusion in a national park.

I understand that on the 27 August 1982 the Honourable the Minister for Tourism, National Parks, Sport and The Arts announced that initiatives had been taken to have the additional area gazetted as a national park.

(2) As advised in (1), the area under Authority to Prospect 831M has been surrendered. Negotiations are continuing with the mining companies holding mining leases and mining lease applications over areas of Moreton Island outside the 6.4 per cent approved for mining, for the surrender and relinquishment, as applicable, of those areas.

(3) The Government has accepted the recommendations of the Cook report as a basis for the future planning and development of Moreton Island. Furthermore, the Moreton Island Mining Advisory Committee has been established and is advising me as proposed in the Cook report. This committee is required to prepare a program and mining plans for the permissible mining operations including requirements to ensure the protection of certain areas, such as the freshwater lakes.

## 15. Seaworthiness of Tourist Passenger Vessels; Licensing of Boat Repairers

Mr Smith asked the Minister for Northern Development and Maritime Services—

(1) In view of his expressed concern about the seaworthiness of some tourist passenger vessels, will he detail any action taken or foreshadowed to ensure greater control over the use of these craft?

(2) In the light of evidence of poor workmanship carried out by some boat-repair firms, including a Townsville firm trading as UNIPLAS, is he prepared to take action to ensure that any firm offering shipwright or boat-repair services is licensed to perform such work?

*Answer:—*

(1) I encouraged charter boat operators to form themselves into an association. That has been done, and the association recently held its inaugural meeting. That is a real forward step and I am confident that the association will ensure that its members abide by the safety requirements of the law. The problem lies with the illegal charter boat operators, not with licensed operators. I am very concerned about any operators who do not comply with safety requirements, such as insufficient life-saving equipment, and I have requested the Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol to continue to carry out surveillance of all charter boats and to do everything within its power to ensure the safety of public.

(2) Under the Queensland Marine Act, the department sets out to ensure that all vessels operating commercially are kept up to proper survey standards. Pleasure boats are not required to be surveyed, and the repair thereof is a matter between the boat owner and the person carrying out the repairs. The owner has the remedy of civil action in respect of poor workmanship, including, if necessary, recourse to the Small Claims Tribunal.

Mr Hansen: Charter boats are required to be surveyed?

Mr BIRD: Charter boats, definitely, but not private vessels.

## 16. Diesel Fuel Rebate Scheme

Mr Smith asked the Premier—

(1) With reference to his reported representations to the Prime Minister—will he, on behalf of Queensland fishermen, also bring to the Prime Minister's attention the severe effect and cash-flow problems created by the imposition of the diesel fuel rebate scheme?

(2) As the time taken for processing and rebate of trawler operators' claims could be up to two months, and that this will have the effect of increasing fuel costs for operators by approximately 16 per cent, will his Government offer financial assistance for a period of time to allow the industry to adjust to those increased costs brought about by the Federal requirements?

(3) Is he aware that the additional cost to fuel an average size dry-freezer boat, with a capacity of 14 000 litres, will amount to approximately \$850 per fuelling?

(4) Will his government also investigate ways to compensate or otherwise assist the tourist resort operators, charter fishing boat operators and operators of cruise vessels who apparently will be ineligible for rebate under the announced guidelines?

*Answer:—*

(1 to 4) There is no need for the honourable member to draw my attention to this matter because, as has been reported, I have already made strong representations to the Prime Minister concerning the overall effect of an excise on diesel fuel.

As the honourable member should know full well, my Government's position will depend on the nature of the Prime Minister's response to my representations.

## 17. Access by State Policing Agencies to Taxation Records

Mr Smith asked the Minister for Justice and Attorney-General—

With reference to the well known and accepted fact that the Queensland Police Force and the Corporate Affairs Office are inhibited to the extent that many known criminals remain free because those agencies do not have access to taxation records—will he make representation to the Federal Government to have section 16(2) and (3) of the Income Tax Assessment Act amended to allow strictly controlled access to taxation records by State policing agencies to combat the ever-increasing instances of white-collar crime and drug trafficking?

*Answer:—*

Matters in this question relating to the Queensland Police Force are not within my jurisdiction.

As far as the Office of the Commissioner for Corporate Affairs is concerned, I say that, contrary to the assumption made in this question, in practice, Federal taxation records would rarely be required in investigations carried out by that office. Its duties relate to the enforcement of company and securities laws.

Any review of the secrecy provisions of the Commonwealth Income Tax Assessment Act is a matter for the Federal Government. No doubt any such review would seek to balance the rights of taxpayers as citizens and companies with the need to improve the collection of taxes from them.

Whatever the Federal Government decides in this matter the Queensland Government will continue to co-operate with the taxation authorities. Investigators from the Taxation Department make continuous use of access to the statutory records maintained by the Office of the Commissioner for Corporate Affairs and that office will co-operate with the Taxation Department in whatever way is possible.

## 18. Carry-on Finance for Drought Relief

Mr Hartwig asked the Minister for Primary Industries—

With reference to the drought situation worsening in Queensland in which millions of dollars are being lost in income from winter grain crops and in which farmers and graziers are having to hand feed stock—

(1) Apart from the normal drought concessions awarded by this Government, what plans has he in hand to make more carry-on finance available to primary producers, bearing in mind his attention to the Prime Minister's promise to assist with subsidising the purchase of fodder?

(2) Is the Premier of Victoria making carry-on finance available to primary producers at 4 per cent interest?

(3) Will he consider the establishment of a committee to determine ways and means of minimising the ever-recurring drought problems and the associated loss of income and production to the primary producers of Queensland?

*Answer:—*

(1) Details of the fodder subsidy scheme are not yet available, but should be soon after the meeting of the Prime Minister with agriculture Ministers, which I am attending on Monday, 6 September, in Melbourne. As soon as these details are available, an assessment of the adequacy of the carry-on loan finance will be made. Appropriate steps can then be taken to try to obtain more funds should they be required.

(2) Carry-on finance loans to primary producers in Victoria are currently available at 4 per cent interest. Interest rate on these loans in Queensland is 5 per cent, which reduces to 3 per cent after properties have been droughted for 12 months. Currently, there are in existence 829 loans to primary producers under this scheme at 5 per cent totalling \$13.4m and some of these have had further extensions of loan at 3 per cent.

(3) There is already, within my department, a Drought Secretariat which continually monitors the technology of drought management. Appropriate drought mitigation measures are formulated into policy, in full consultation with other departmental officers and with industry organisations.

19. Establishment of State Bank

Mr Hartwig asked the Premier—

With reference to the recent National Party Conference decision to defer the establishment of a State bank because of legal difficulties arising out of the Commonwealth Bank Agreement—

What are the latest developments with regard to the establishment of a State bank as funds are urgently required by local government and for the public sector, such as roads, schools, hospitals, etcetera?

*Answer:—*

The question of a State bank is a matter that could come up for consideration at a future date.

20. Employment of Married Women Teachers, Education Department

Mrs Nelson asked the Minister for Education—

How many married women teachers have been (a) employed and (b) re-employed by his department since the change in employment practice announced by him earlier this year?

*Answer:—*

The information sought by the honourable member will take some time to collate, as there are some 21 000 teachers over the the nine regions of my department. Quite a number of these teachers have been admitted to my department since the announcement to which the honourable member refers. Action has been taken to prepare the information requested on the basis of admissions or readmissions since the commencement of the 1982 school year.

The information will be forwarded to the honourable member as soon as possible.

21. Direct Telephone Selling

Mrs Nelson asked the Minister for Employment and Labour Relations—

What efforts have been made to re-establish a point of contact in Brisbane for persons wishing to list their names in order that they not be contacted by direct telephone-selling organisations?

*Answer:—*

The Australian Direct Marketing Association has re-established a list of persons who do not wish to be contacted by direct telephone selling organisations that are members of the association. Persons who wish their names included on the list may contact the association by writing to PO Box 160, North Quay, Brisbane, or by telephoning (07) 221 8305.

22. Crime, Wynnum Police District

Mr Shaw asked the Minister for Local Government, Main Roads and Police—

(1) As the inspector in charge of the Wynnum Police District has "sounded the alarm" in the "Wynnum Redlands Herald" on 21 July and again on 25 August, when will the police respond to this alarm and take some positive action regarding crime in this area?

(2) In the period since the beginning of July, how many complaints of breaking and entering have been received in the Wynnum/Cleveland area and how many prosecutions have resulted?

(3) How many drug thefts have been reported to police and how many prosecutions have resulted?

(4) How many armed hold-ups have occurred and how many prosecutions have resulted?

(5) How many complaints have been received of school children being accosted by undesirables on the way to and from school, or at sporting venues, and how many prosecutions have resulted?

*Answer:—*

(1 to 5) The Commissioner of Police has informed me that he is taking steps to ensure all possible action is being taken to prevent and detect offences in the areas in question.

23. Ranger, St Helena Island

Mr Shaw asked the Minister for Tourism, National Parks, Sport and The Arts—

(1) Has a ranger been appointed to St Helena Island?

(2) If so, when was the appointment made and when did the ranger commence work?

(3) What is the name of the person appointed, where is he or she accommodated and what are his or her specific duties?

*Answer:—*

(1) Yes.

(2) Ranger/Overseer P. R. Devine was appointed on 31 May 1982 and commenced duty on that date.

(3) Mr Devine is accommodated in the area below the bluff near the building described as "the stables". His duties include—

(a) Park maintenance—

Cleaning up of island rubbish  
Weed control

(b) Park protection—

Surveillance of ruins  
Removal of trees threatening ruins  
Further establishment of accommodation

(c) Restoration work—

Stables area (roofing and stabilisation of stone walls) initially

(d) Visitor control

(e) Research of island history

(f) Report writing on all aspects of island management

(g) Operation of plant and equipment

(h) Supervision of work teams periodically assigned to the island.

24. Silent Alarm Systems

Mr Shaw asked the Minister for Works and Housing—

(1) Is he aware that as the result of the installation of silent alarm systems in Victorian schools there has been a notable increase in the apprehension of intruders?

(2) In view of the problems and expense resulting from burglaries and arson in Queensland schools, will he have similar alarms urgently provided in this State?

*Answer:—*

(1) Yes. The Government has been aware of the silent alarm systems in Victorian schools, where the layout of the schools and the centralised nature of the State lends itself to this system.

(2) My department's engineering branch has evaluated the system but the benefits which might accrue would be insignificant compared with the installation cost, which was estimated at \$3.8m in May 1979, particularly as it cannot be assumed that all cases of vandalism and loss of property would in fact be prevented.

25. Brisbane City Council Bus Service

Mr Gygar asked the Minister for Transport—

With reference to the chaotic and inadequate standards of service offered by the Brisbane City Council bus service—

What action has been taken by the Metropolitan Transit Authority to help improve this service, and in particular, what offers of assistance have been made to the Brisbane City Council and what has resulted from those offers?

*Answer:—*

The MTA has made a number of offers to the Brisbane City Council to help improve the cost effectiveness and efficiency of its bus services but to date the council has refused to give any positive commitment to accept our offers.

On 18 May 1981 the MTA wrote to the council asking if it would be prepared to share in a consultancy study design by consultants Travers Morgan. The aim of the study was to set up a system of computerised run prints which would give instant access to bus route efficiency times, and also a detailed breakup of operating costs per route on a daily and weekly basis. The MTA regarded this type of information as fundamental to management if it was to provide an efficient cost effective bus service to Brisbane commuters.

Honourable members would be aware that at the present time the only financial information which is assembled by the Brisbane City Council is an aggregate or system-wide cash costing. The council cannot identify the cost of operating individual routes or the cost of particular types of services, for example, day or night services.

In response to the MTA's offer, the BCC replied on 22 May 1981 and said that although it agreed that the study was of critical importance, it could not afford the resources to undertake it even on a share basis. The MTA wrote again on 27 May 1981 saying that the resources would not be great—only a matter of 15 to 30 man-days spread over a period of eight months. The MTA even offered to give further assistance if it would help the council come into the study. On 10 July 1981 the BCC again said that its transport-traffic division was fully committed and it could not respond to the offer.

Letters have continued to flow to the council from the MTA, and the latest of 17 May 1982 estimated that the cost involved would not exceed \$10,000. If the study was undertaken it would save the ratepayers of Brisbane probably hundreds of thousands of dollars.

To date, the Brisbane City Council has refused to come into the agreement even though it would result in greater efficiency, better costing, and greater savings to the ratepayers of Brisbane.

Despite these refusals, further studies have been funded jointly by the MTA and the BCC, and these have been directed towards assisting the council in the areas of two-way bus radios and control centres, electronic ticketing and cancelling machines, electronic bus route numbering, and improvements to ferry services.

Planning is also currently being undertaken by the MTA on a number of car-bus, bus-bus, and ferry interchanges, particularly at Garden City, Northey Street, The Gap, Carseldine and other locations.

Much other work done by the MTA to improve public transport generally has benefits for the Brisbane City Council, such as the public transport pocket map, timetabling, and planning transport arrangements for the Commonwealth Games.

26. State Emergency Service, Brisbane

Mr Gygar asked the Minister for Local Government, Main Roads and Police—

With reference to his answer to my question concerning the State Emergency Service on 18 August—

(1) What was the total number of personnel from Brisbane City Council-controlled SES groups involved in SES operations following the Brighton storm disaster on 16 December 1980?

(2) In view of the inference from his answer that Brisbane SES groups maintain an appropriate state of readiness, why was it necessary to call in SES groups from 11 other local authority areas surrounding Brisbane to cope with the Brighton disaster?

(3) On how many occasions has the BCC allowed SES groups to use council equipment for exercises or for use in emergency situations and what are the details of each occurrence?

(4) How much money has the BCC paid to each Brisbane-based SES group in each year since 1975 for equipment and other expenses?

(5) Does he consider that the present BCC policy of failing to provide covered, secure storage areas for equipment provided by the State Government is appropriate and what action is he taking to ensure that generating sets, ladders, stretchers, etc., which are currently being stored in SES members' backyards, are not allowed to further deteriorate by continued exposure to the elements?

(6) To which SES group are each of the 1 758 active volunteers, which he referred to in his answer of 18 August, attached?

*Answer:—*

(1) The Brighton storm statistics do not show a breakdown of attendances by individual SES voluntary groups.

(2) State Emergency Service members are community-minded citizens who volunteer their services to assist statutory services and the community in times of disaster or impending disaster. It must be remembered that the temporary roofing task at Brighton was comparable to that carried out in Townsville following cyclone Althea.

(3) Records of this type of support are not kept; however, when the Brisbane State Emergency Service is activated the resources of the Brisbane City Council become available in accordance with the Brisbane counter-disaster plan.

(4) The State headquarters of the SES does not compile statistics on the moneys expended by the Brisbane City Council or any other council supporting SES organisations in the State. In Brisbane, however, the council does provide electricity, rates, telephone, accommodation, administrative support, food and fuel during exercises and the valuable services of the volunteer local controller, Mr Fairweather.

(5) The Brisbane City Council has progressively, as finance has become available, as well as the need has warranted, supplied accommodation for the Brisbane SES groups.

At present there are six groups in the Brisbane area. Accommodation and equipment storage facilities have been provided at Brookes Street, Fortitude Valley, Albert Park, Kedron, Taringa, Yeronga, and, by agreement, with the State school at Belmont.

(6) Brisbane unit registered membership: 1 758

A Group	234
B Group	271
C Group	460
D Group	296
E Group	215
B. HQ	67

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1 543

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In addition, 215 members have transferred in from other units, and are in the process of being allotted to groups on a residential basis.

### QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

#### Connolly Report on Investigations of Various Companies

Mr D'ARCY: I wish to ask a question of the Minister for Justice and Attorney-General.

Mr Jones: No appearance.

Mr D'ARCY: Mr Speaker, one would think that he would be in the Chamber this morning.

Honourable Members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order!

Mr D'ARCY: I see that the Minister for Justice and Attorney-General has returned to the Chamber. In directing a question to him, I refer to the Connolly report tabled in this House in December 1973, in which Mr Connolly stated in section 1, paragraph 1—

“By Order in Council of the 19th December, 1972, I was appointed an inspector to investigate all—”

and I stress that word “all”—

“affairs of Finance and Guidance Pty. Limited during the whole period of the operation of that company and to investigate such of the affairs of the other companies mentioned above as concern dealings including financial dealings with Finance and Guidance Pty. Limited during the periods in respect of those dealings.”

As section 1, paragraph 1, of Mr Connolly's brief is clearly different from the interpretation the Minister gave this morning, and in relation to financial aspects uses the words “all”, “whole” and “as concern dealings including financial dealings”, which obviously include taxation, financial and share dealings of that company, will the Minister apologise for misleading the House this morning?

Mr DOUMANY: The Deputy Leader of the Opposition made some scurrilous comment about my temporary absence while I was speaking to an officer in the lobby. He made that comment yet his own leader has been absent for the whole of question-time after his most scurrilous attack yesterday, a disgraceful effort based on nothing but a lot of superficial leakages, which meant nothing and had no substance.

I stick to what I said in my ministerial statement this morning, which was very carefully considered. I will certainly look at some of this further scurrilous nonsense brought up by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, but I can assure the House that all we have is more rubbish and dirt being thrown from the Opposition benches.

#### Flood Mitigation Programs, North Queensland

Mr ROW: In asking a question of the Minister for Water Resources and Aboriginal and Island Affairs, I refer to his visit last week to the Hinchinbrook electorate. Will the Minister continue to support the flood mitigation programs that are currently under investigation in the Herbert and Tully River delta areas and, if possible, allocate priority to North Queensland coastal flood mitigation and drainage proposals?

Mr TOMKINS: I thank the honourable member for Hinchinbrook for that question. He gave me notice of it. In developing the list of projects and priorities for submission to the Commonwealth Government for financial assistance under the National Water Resources Program, consideration is given to a wide range of Queensland projects providing for water conservation, irrigation, flood mitigation, resource assessment, etc.

Although it is to be expected that top priority in most years will be given to continuing schemes, the honourable member may be assured that the relative merits of all projects are considered before each submission is made.

I would also point out that three of the top seven projects submitted to the Commonwealth for financial assistance in 1982-83 were for flood mitigation works. The Herbert River Flood Mitigation Project was included in the 1982-83 listing and rated priority seven. The project should at least maintain this position in future years.

Recently I have made two visits to the Tully River, so I know something about the investigation of that scheme. The report will not be released for some time, but the honourable member can rest assured that when the report becomes available the Government will study it and stick by it. In other words, the Government thinks that both the Tully River and the Herbert River should receive top priority.

#### Corporate Affairs Commissioner's Office

Mr R. J. GIBBS: In asking a question of the Minister for Justice and Attorney-General, I refer him to his reply yesterday to a question by the Leader of the Opposition that it would require 250 man-weeks to provide information on how many Queensland companies have failed to lodge annual returns. I ask the Minister: Why has the records section of the Corporate Affairs Commissioner's Office not been computerised, as requested by the office? Would not computerisation allow superior supervision of companies and perhaps prevent the type of abuse that has occurred with the mushrooming of bottom-of-the-harbour schemes in Queensland? What improvements have been made in the Corporate Affairs Commissioner's Office since the National Companies and Securities Commission legislation was passed by the Queensland Parliament?

Mr DOUMANY: First, if the honourable member compares the Queensland Corporate Affairs Commissioner's Office with similar offices in other States he will find that the advances that have been made there in the adoption of technology, whether through the use of microfiche or moves towards computerisation and other more modern methods of handling information and data, have been at least comparable to, and in most cases superior to, those made in interstate offices. I venture to say that if the question asked yesterday by the Leader of the Opposition had been asked in any other Parliament, particularly in New South Wales or Victoria, with their large populations, the answer would have been very similar.

In fact, a certain element of the co-operative scheme that has been adopted, which involved changing over the records of all registered companies in their entirety, has had to be taken in stages to allow New South Wales enough time to catch up, because it faces an enormous problem in handling information retrieval. Within the constraints of resources of manpower and money, the Corporate Affairs Commissioner's Office in this State has done its job as best it could.

Since Queensland's entry into the co-operative scheme, there has been a very significant development, in that in the last two months approval has been given by the Government for the creation of an additional 26 positions in the Corporate Affairs Commissioner's Office. That was done at a time when no other commission throughout the Commonwealth was able to obtain a similar response from a participating Government. A case is presently being prepared for a further addition to the resources of the office. The Government recognises how important the work of that office is.

I assure the House and the honourable member who asked the question that every effort is being made to update and modernise the information-handling techniques and resources of the office. If computerisation can be installed to handle all data, it will certainly be introduced as soon as finances permit.

#### Tabling of Connolly Companies Inquiry Report; Action Taken by Member for Mackay

Mr SCASSOLA: I ask the Minister for Employment and Labour Relations: In relation to claims made by the Leader of the Opposition about investigations into various companies carried out by Mr Connolly, as he then was, will the Minister inform the House whether a report of Mr Connolly's findings following the investigations of those companies was tabled in the House? Was the Leader of the Opposition a member of the House at that time? Did the Leader of the Opposition take any action at the time, after the tabling of the report? Who was the Federal Treasurer at the time, and did the report receive widespread media coverage? Would the report and the findings contained in it have been brought to the notice of the Federal Treasurer of the day?

Sir WILLIAM KNOX: Yesterday honourable members witnessed an attempt by the Leader of the Opposition to trick and mislead a number of people into believing that what he was saying was the truth. He implied a number of things that have been discovered to be untrue.

As the Attorney-General at the time, I tabled the report in the correct manner on 7 December. I made a full statement to the Parliament—it is in the "Hansard" record—as to the contents of the report, the reason for the inquiry and the recommendations and observations of the investigating officer, who was then Mr Connolly. That statement was circulated widely and was available to the media and any interested party. As I said, the report was tabled in accordance with the usual procedure of this House.

To the best of my knowledge, the Leader of the Opposition was in the House at that time. The record certainly shows that he attended the House on that day. He was then an Independent member of Parliament, having been expelled from the ALP, and he sat on the back bench. A few minutes after I made my ministerial statement, the honourable member asked a number of questions in the House. Therefore, I have reason to assume that, at the time I tabled the report, he was present.

The Leader of the Opposition, who was then the Independent member for Mackay, did not move from his place to put a motion before the House to have the report printed. Every member of this Assembly has the opportunity at any time, if he feels that it is in the public interest, to move to have a report printed. If the motion is approved by the Parliament, the report is printed.

There was no need for me to ask that the report be printed, because I said in my statement to the House that the matter had been referred to the police for further inquiries. The document became a public document at that moment for any member to peruse and to draw from it any conclusions he wished, and to do whatever he wished with the information that he gained from it. That information was available to any other agency in the community, as were the two previous reports.

The Federal Treasurer at the time was Mr Frank Crean. He was a member of the Whitlam Labor Government. The information in those reports was available to the Federal Treasury and to any Federal Treasury officer who cared to obtain any information. To the best of my knowledge no inquiry was made by the Federal Treasury for copies of the reports, or any of the information or recommendations in them. I repeat that the reports were published documents. They were tabled in this House. They were widely reported in the Press.

For the benefit of honourable members I table a copy of the report that appeared in "The Courier-Mail" the following day. No doubt the Opposition will move that it be printed. The matter was widely circulated in the southern Press as well as on radio and television.

*Whereupon the honourable gentleman laid the copy of the report on the table.*

Sir WILLIAM KNOX: There is no doubt in my mind that the honourable member for Mackay had every opportunity at that time, as did all of his colleagues—they are now unusual bed mates—to move to have the documents printed. That would have made no difference to the status of the reports or to what would have followed from them.

They could have been debated at any time but no member of the Opposition attempted to move in that way. It is time that the behaviour of the Leader of the Opposition in this matter should be unmasked, as it has been by the Attorney-General. The Leader of the Opposition made a deliberate attempt to mislead certain people in the media and the public about reports that were public documents and available for all to peruse. He could have taken any action he cared to take as a consequence of the information in those reports.

#### Toohy Forest Park

Mr SCASSOLA: I refer the Minister for Lands and Forestry to the proposal I put forward that efforts be made to incorporate Toohy Forest Park, which is owned by the Brisbane City Council, together with adjoining Crown lands, into the Brisbane Forest

Park, for the benefit and enjoyment of people residing on the southside of Brisbane. I ask him whether the Government has accepted that proposal and whether he has had discussions with the Brisbane City Council with respect to it and, if so, the outcome of such discussions.

Mr GLASSON: I am aware of the concept put forward by the honourable member, following the setting aside as environmental park of an area of land in the Mt Gravatt area adjacent to the Toohey Forest Park, as well as the setting aside as environmental park of the Mt Gravatt Recreational Area and another area of Crown land after representations were made by our colleague the honourable member for Mansfield some time ago.

It would be desirable if all those areas of land were put under the one umbrella so as to provide, on the southside, an area similar to the Brisbane Forest Park, which is governed by the Brisbane Forest Park Act and is under the management of a board with representatives from the Brisbane City Council, the Ipswich City Council, the Esk Shire Council, the Moreton Shire Council, the Pine Rivers Shire Council, the Lands Department, the Forestry Department, the Main Roads Department and the National Parks and Wildlife Service. I believe that any fair-minded person would see it as one of the success stories in the setting aside of areas for the use of Brisbane people.

There has been correspondence between the department and the Lord Mayor, requesting that the Brisbane City Council accept the proposal in principle and that it be managed as the Brisbane Forest Park is managed. The suggestion is that the Brisbane Park Authority manage the area that would be set aside. Regrettably, in its first reply, the council did not accept the proposal put forward by the Government. I think it feared where it would stand in relation to the Toohey Forest Park, which is freehold land.

On 23 August I again wrote to the Lord Mayor setting out quite clearly that in no way would the control of Toohey Forest Park be jeopardised. I am hopeful that his reply will result in a scheme to set aside and manage that park.

Regrettably, at the moment that park is becoming a haven for the riders of trail bikes and persons who are too lazy to take their rubbish to the tip. To obtain maximum benefit from the park, it should be managed by an authority similar to the authority that manages Brisbane Forest Park.

#### Protection of Queensland's Building Heritage

Mr PRENTICE: I ask the Minister for Tourism, National Parks, Sport and The Arts: Could he advise the House as to what steps the Government has taken or will take to protect Queensland's building heritage?

Mr ELLIOTT: Queensland's building heritage has been a subject on which there has been much discussion by Government and community groups. My department has been working with a number of them. Quite often criticism is levelled at the Government in the media. Reports are published that the Government is not prepared to consult with interested people before legislation is introduced. A great deal of consultation has taken place between the National Trust and architectural and engineering institutes. Many private individuals who have an interest in this matter have also been consulted. Input has been received from a number of members of Parliament. Alderman Sallyanne Atkinson has prepared a submission. The public has made a tremendous input into the legislation. A proposal that I took to Cabinet is being considered. That is all I can say at this time. The responsibility as to how that matter should be handled lies with Cabinet.

#### Condition of Wards at Royal Women's Hospital

Mrs KYBURZ: I ask the Minister for Health: As the public wards at the Royal Women's Hospital are in a deplorable state, are there any plans for the Health Department to upgrade or at least brighten that section of the hospital?

Mr AUSTIN: In view of the honourable member's present condition, I am delighted that she should ask me that question. I understand that her baby is due next week. The thoughts of each and every one of us will be with the honourable member, and we hope that everything goes well for her.

As to the Royal Brisbane Hospital—some time ago the Government decided to split the North Brisbane Hospitals Board into three separate boards. I do not think it is commonly known by honourable members that the Royal Brisbane Hospital, which has an annual budget of \$110m, has an annual allocation of only \$1.2m. The boards of some of the smaller hospitals throughout the State have expressed the belief that a loan allocation of \$1.2m for construction work is far too low. The annual budgets of some of those small hospital boards were as high as \$5m or \$6m. Honourable members can see the great strain that is imposed on the Royal Brisbane Hospital Board by an annual loan allocation of only \$1.2m.

As I said, the Government decided to split the board into three separate boards. There are now a Royal Brisbane Hospital Board, a Royal Women's Hospital Board and a Royal Children's Hospital Board, each of which has an allocation this year of \$1.5m.

The honourable member for Salisbury will realise that for the first time the Royal Women's Hospital has its own board and its own loan allocation. At the most recent board meeting, held last week, the board appointed its own architects. I feel sure that the chairman of the board, who is a very fine lady—I am aware that the honourable member for Salisbury knows her—will have a specific works program set out.

I have held preliminary discussions with some members of the board. They are aware of the state of some of the wards in the hospital and of the X-ray Department in the basement. No doubt the honourable member for Salisbury, too, is aware of its condition.

Over the next year the Royal Women's Hospital will be upgraded significantly. If at this time next year the honourable member for Salisbury decides to have another baby, she might elect to have it at the Royal Women's Hospital.

#### "Foreign Orders" in Railway Workshops

Mrs KYBURZ: In directing a question to the Minister for Transport, I refer to the well-known practice engaged in by some employees in railway workshops of taking bribes and charging to do outside orders in the department's time and with the department's material. I ask: Will he ensure that the current investigation into inefficiencies in the railway system will allow for a thorough exposé of the so-called "foreign orders", especially those that are done at the Ipswich Railway Workshops?

Mr LANE: I am sure that honourable members will know that it is not unusual for employees in workshops of all kinds to do some "foreign" work. In most areas of employment it is usual for employees to have the little extra advantage that goes with the job. I am not saying that I could in any way officially condone such an activity, but I am sure that if it got out of hand the administrators of the workshops would clamp down on it.

Just as police officers travel to work on buses free of charge and just as theatre usherettes are admitted to theatres free of charge, employees in workshops engage in a little bit of unofficial activity. It is not realistic to suggest that it will ever be stamped out.

Today and next week I will be interviewing a number of consultants who have shown an interest in the conduct of an investigation into the Railway Department. The consultants will examine the total cost-effectiveness of railway practices. If it is found that anything reflects in any meaningful way on the efficiency and financial side of the Railway Department's operations, no doubt a report will be given to me and suitable action will be taken.

#### Gold Coast Casino

Mr BORBIDGE: I ask the Deputy Premier and Treasurer: What stage have discussions with Jennings Industries in relation to the Gold Coast casino licence reached? When is it expected that work will begin on the Gold Coast casino? Does he foresee any difficulty in having the project proceed according to schedule?

Dr EDWARDS: Discussions and negotiations are proceeding on target. Recent meetings have been held with Jennings Industries Ltd, and all matters relating to the development of the project are on target.

I am pleased to announce as well that it is hoped that construction will commence early next year and that it will be completed as originally suggested by Jennings Industries Ltd when the contract was awarded to it. I hope to present to Cabinet in the next 10 days a submission on the legislation. Once that is approved by Cabinet it will then come into this Parliament, and we are hopeful that it will be passed by the Parliament by the end of the session this year.

We are delighted with the progress that is being made on the Gold Coast complex and on the one in the Townsville area. We have received the utmost co-operation from both parties. I pay a tribute to Jennings Industries Ltd and to World Resorts Pty Ltd for the way in which they have approached this matter. We have received tremendous co-operation. There is no doubt that they will be on target and that construction, as I have said, will commence early next year.

#### Brisbane International Airport

Mr BORBIDGE: In directing a question to the Minister for Transport, I refer to the report of the Federal Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works that recommended a deferral of the completion date of the redevelopment of the Brisbane International Airport until 1990. I ask: Can he advise the House of the Queensland Government's response to that report?

Mr LANE: The honourable member gives me an opportunity to comment on this matter not only as a member of the Government but also as one of the local members who are vitally affected by the redevelopment of the Brisbane Airport. As far as I as the local member, the honourable member for Nundah and the Government are concerned, it is "Brisbane Airport 1986" That is the slogan that has been adopted in all the promotional, educational and explanatory material put out by the department. That is the long-standing commitment that has been given by the Federal Government for the completion of the redevelopment of the Brisbane Airport.

Any suggestion that the completion date be deferred until 1990 is just nonsense. It would be completely unacceptable to the people of Queensland, not the least of whom would be the people on the Gold Coast who will benefit greatly from the redevelopment of the Brisbane Airport and the construction of a high-grade international terminal. I can envisage, as I am sure the honourable member can, tourists flying into Brisbane and driving across the Gateway Bridge and along the Pacific Highway to the Gold Coast in about 30 minutes to use the tourist and other wonderful recreational facilities that are available on the Gold Coast. The new airport will be a major asset not only to the people of Brisbane but also to people on the Gold Coast and indeed throughout the rest of Queensland and to tourism generally. The sooner it is completed, the better. Despite the efforts of the Labor Government when Whitlam was in office—

Sir William Knox: They postponed it for five years.

Mr LANE: The Whitlam Government postponed the redevelopment of the airport for five years. As soon as the Fraser Government came into power it put the project back on the tracks and gave us a firm commitment for 1986, and we will hold that Government to it.

#### SOCCER FOOTBALL POOLS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

##### Second Reading—Resumption of Debate

Debate resumed from 24 August (see p. 489) on Dr Edwards's motion—

"That the Bill be now read a second time."

Mr D'ARCY (Woodridge) (12.15 p.m.): As the Minister pointed out, the Bill is purely mechanical. It provides that the licensee shall pay a duty of not less than 30 per cent of subscriptions and allows a new game called "six from thirty-six pools" to be

conducted. In that game players have to select only six numbers from 36 numbers on the coupon instead of eight from 55, as it now is. All other Australian States have agreed to this and Australian Soccer Pools Pty Ltd believes this will give it a better share of the market.

Since the introduction of Gold Lotto, the pools market has been rather limited. Although it is not directly connected with the Bill, I wish to ask the Treasurer if he has information about the contribution of Australian Soccer Pools Pty Ltd to sport. The money that the Queensland Government receives from soccer pools goes into Consolidated Revenue, but at the outset Australian Soccer Pools Pty Ltd gave an undertaking that it would make donations according to its circumstances. I am aware that the circumstances of that company have changed, but I ask whether the Treasurer is aware how much money Australian Soccer Pools Pty Ltd has donated to sport in Queensland and what percentage that represents of its turnover. Has the Treasurer received an assurance from that company, as the result of the introduction of this Bill, that the donations to Queensland will increase in accordance with an improvement in the company's circumstances, if they do improve?

The Opposition entirely agrees with the amendment but it is a little concerned—some members have expressed personal concern—at the proliferation of gambling in Queensland. It seems to have reached into every facet of life and into family life. The Opposition wonders if a more orderly approach could not be organised so that one body is responsible for all aspects of gaming in Queensland, particularly in view of the introduction of casino gambling in the next 12 or 18 months.

The amendment is purely mechanical; the Opposition has no objection to it and agrees completely with it.

Mr MILLINER (Everton) (12.18 p.m.): I support the comments of the Deputy Leader of the Opposition (Mr D'Arcy). The Bill allows for the incorporation of another game, which is to be on an Australia-wide basis. One never knows but, if things continue the way they are at present, with the establishment of casinos and the like, in the near future we might be debating the introduction of poker machines.

I wish to raise with the Deputy Premier and Treasurer the commission that is paid to agents. During the present hard economic times, small businesses are being particularly disadvantaged and newsagents who are agents for Australian Soccer Pools Pty Ltd are finding it fairly difficult to compete. I sincerely hope that the Treasurer considers the matter of commissions to agents, not only on soccer pools but also on the Golden Casket and Gold Lotto.

During the debate that marked the introduction of Gold Lotto to Queensland, I raised with the Deputy Premier and Treasurer the protection of the players. I am quite satisfied that participants in Gold Lotto are adequately protected, but I am not so sure that that applies to those who play the pools. I understand that through neglect or for some other reason the coupons in one game were not microfilmed and the information did not go south.

I am concerned about protection for the player at the shop-front level when he lodges his coupon with a newsagent or agent. The Soccer Pools system is not as satisfactory as the system used for Gold Lotto. With Gold Lotto a machine stamps the coupons, but with the Australian Soccer Pools an old-style hand-numbering machine stamps a number twice. The system is open to fraud by an agent or his employee. I hope that the Treasurer can give an assurance that something will be done to ensure that the players are fully protected.

Mr WRIGHT (Rockhampton) (12.21 p.m.): Although it does not specifically pertain to Soccer Pools, I want to raise a matter that does relate to those persons who act as agents, and I refer to newsagents. I ask for some clarification about the necessary requirements to be an agent, particularly an agent involved with Soccer Pools and the Golden Casket.

I raise this point because, in recent weeks, I have had representations made to me by newsagents who believe that they ought to have a right to be involved in Gold

Lotto. I believe the Treasurer would admit that one of the reasons for this change in the legislation is that the Soccer Pools have been seriously affected financially by the success of Gold Lotto.

The public acknowledges the simplicity of Gold Lotto. People do not have to follow any particular sport and there are no academic skills involved. Those outlets in the community that do not handle Gold Lotto are being financially disadvantaged. I have made representations on a couple of occasions on behalf of newsagents, but I have yet to learn exactly what the policy is. I was told one consideration was that if a person had purchased a newsagency and it had a Golden Casket and Gold Lotto agency, then no-one wanted to jeopardise that investment by allowing another person a few yards away, or just up the road, to compete. But I see that as a restrictive trade practice, and there ought to be a general policy that those within the newsagency industry should be able to carry out these services on behalf of the Government because, after all, it is the Government and the people who are finally benefiting from this so-called gambling investment.

So I believe that a statement by the Treasurer is necessary to indicate exactly what the policy will be. I am told that he has had representations made to him because of problems that have arisen in the Valley where people in close proximity are in conflict as to the rules. I have approached his office and, as I said, no-one can give any clarification. I am told that the matter is under investigation. I believe a statement ought to be made.

Mr KATTER (Flinders) (12.23 p.m.): I want to make just a brief observation, as did the previous speakers. I have some reservations about Soccer Pools, and have had right from their inception. I do not think Mr Sangster is the type of person who should be promoted in this State, and although I realise that very little in the way of profits is going in his direction, I believe it is highly undesirable for this Government to be associated with him in any way. There was some sort of a case for such an association before the introduction of Gold Lotto, but now that it is being promoted by the Queensland Government I do not believe there is any necessity for the continued existence of the Soccer Pools. As they slowly move out of favour, I hope we can give them a little push.

I also wonder about the logic of taking such a great interest in a foreign game played in a far-away country. Whether we like it or not, we are promoting interest in a foreign competition played some 12 000 miles away. Again I do not think that is desirable.

I want to draw the attention of the House to the all-pervading sport in Queensland, Rugby League. Unfortunately, Queensland is constantly placed at a disadvantage because of the enormous amount of money available to the game in New South Wales, be that a good thing or a bad thing. I emphasise the character-building advantages of the sport for young people. In Charters Towers, with its population of 10 000 people, almost 1 000 young men and boys play Rugby League every week-end for a fairly large portion of the year. That is an indication of the popularity of the sport.

The only criticism that I hear of the sport from parents is that their children may be injured in that brutal, barbaric game. Fewer than 10 per cent of the students attending each of the boys' boarding schools in Charters Towers do not play Rugby League.

Mr Moore: That wouldn't be true. You're drawing the long bow.

Mr KATTER: It is true. In addition, six junior leagues are based on the State schools in Charters Towers. When they are taken into account, it is obvious that about 1 000 boys play the game.

It is profoundly important that young men should stretch themselves, or come face to face with fear. In more primitive cultures, young men have to undergo initiation ceremonies. Irrespective of how people may try to suppress the need for young men to face fear, it seems to crop up in one way or another. When football is pushed out, outward-bound schools and similar organisations are formed, they have exactly the same basic purpose, but it is in a different guise.

I ask the Treasurer to keep closely in mind the problems associated with Rugby League. As to parents' fear of injury to their children—although the sport has been played in Charters Towers boarding schools since their establishment in 1910, to my knowledge—and there has been some member of my family at one of those schools since its incorporation—there has not been one serious injury. Over a period covering 15 to 20 years, my brother, my cousin and I attended one of those boarding schools. Never in that time was there a serious injury to a player. Fear is very ephemeral. It may effect senior teams, but it certainly does not affect junior teams.

I say to the Treasurer that the Queensland Government is engaging in an extremely dubious activity when it messes about with English League Soccer, which is played 12 000 miles away, and in some way assists a man with the reputation of Sangster who epitomises all the undesirable qualities of a decaying society. I ask the Treasurer to push the Rugby League cause a little harder. Unfortunately, in the past, the Queensland Government has treated Rugby League as the Cinderella sport, rather than as the sport in which most Queenslanders are interested.

Mr BOOTH (Warwick) (12.28 p.m.): After listening to the comments of the honourable member for Flinders, I feel obliged to enter the debate. I am not really pleased about the Government's association with Mr Sangster, but it would be very unfair of the Government to decide that soccer is not a desirable game.

Mr Milliner: Did Andrew Peacock give you this brief?

Mr BOOTH: No, he did not.

I emphasise that it would be very foolish for the Government to suggest that Queensland should be tied to any particular sport. People are likely to be injured when they play any code of football. They certainly can be injured on the soccer field. On one occasion, a man wrote—

“No game was ever yet worth a rap  
For a rational man to play,  
Into which no accident, no mishap,  
Could possibly find its way.”

It would be foolish for us to say that any particular sport has our blessing.

Mr Moore: That was Shakespeare, God bless him.

Mr BOOTH: I do not think it was. I do not know who said it, but there is nothing wrong with it.

The soccer pools are just another gambling game that give agents a chance to break even. I am prepared to go along with that. I am sorry that the Government is associated with Mr Sangster. I should not like the impression to get abroad that we are tied to any game of football. They all have a part to play. For those people who can play a bustling game, perhaps Rugby is the best game. Those who are clever on their feet and wish to play soccer should be allowed to do so.

Mr WARBURTON (Sandgate) (12.30 p.m.): I join the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and other honourable members who have spoken in support of the legislation. One matter that has not been raised is where the Government's share of the money goes.

Mr Moore: We're trying to pay off the National Debt; that's what we're trying to do.

Mr WARBURTON: The honourable member for Windsor has no idea of the importance of what I am about to say.

Over a period of years, the soccer pool funds have been quite significant. The major part of those funds has gone to the Sports and Youth Fund. That is the main reason why I support the proposal. I sympathise with the people who suggest that we should be looking at some other means of providing those funds and should not be lining the pockets of people such as Mr Sangster.

On the other hand, at this stage, we are considering a Bill. The last thing that we on this side of the House want to do is prevent those significant funds from going to the Sports and Youth Fund. I do not have the figures with me, but I understand that the amount was slightly down in the financial year ended 30 June 1981. It is essential that, if the level of assistance is to be maintained, innovations need to be introduced. I see no harm in the proposal put forward.

I make the point that, for a period, a percentage of the profits from the pools has been divided up between the different sports. Money from funds in the Welfare Services Department is distributed among various youth groups, and the Director of Sports is responsible for the distribution of a percentage of the funds to the sporting administrative bodies.

I believe that, recently, the Treasurer was approached by some of the organisations that receive benefits from the Welfare Services Department because it was found that some gambling money was going to a number of church youth organisations. I am not sure how he will overcome that problem, but I understand that the church organisations finally decided that, provided their money came from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, all would be well. I tend to think sometimes that these people are a little hypocritical.

I remind honourable members where the largest proportion of these funds go. It is commendable that the youth and sporting organisations benefit.

Mr FRAWLEY (Caboolture) (12.33 p.m.): I support the Bill. I have a few suggestions to make. The Government is to be commended on its assistance to sport since 1972. It is the only State that gives such great assistance to sport. I am pleased that 30 per cent of the money subscribed to soccer pools goes to the Government.

The money received from soccer pools should definitely go to non-professional sports. I am a member of the Redcliffe Rugby League Club. My boy played for Redcliffe. I support that club as well as the Caboolture Rugby League. I support any sport because it is good for people. However, a professional sporting club should not receive any assistance from soccer pool funds. I repeat that those funds should be given to amateur bodies only.

One organisation that I have in mind is the Queensland Amateur Athletic Association, which represents both men and women. I suggest that the pools be run on athletic events. The investors should be required to guess the first six places in the discus throw, for instance, and how far the discus is thrown. That would be far harder than selecting the winners of soccer games.

Hockey is another sport in Queensland which could benefit greatly from money raised through the pools. Hockey is one of the true amateur sports in the world and is played at the Olympic Games. It is a sport that has been neglected by all Governments. The Queensland Government still does not give enough money to hockey clubs. Some clubs cannot afford to build a clubhouse. I am the patron of the Redcliffe Hockey Club. I still play in the over-40 team—and on the wing, too!

Mr Booth: Are you saying that you would be much better than the members of the Opposition?

Mr FRAWLEY: No. Some members of the Opposition are quite fit. Even though the member for Wolston is a Labor member, he is not a bad type of fellow. The member for Everton is a fine young man. He is a good soccer player. When he played centre-forward for the Pineapple Rovers—that was the team down near Shafston Avenue—he was a brilliant player. I have no doubt that he will support the Government on this Bill. I hope to hear a contribution from him.

Mr Eaton: There would probably be a lot of protests when they see you run out. You would be continually having to prove that you are over 40.

Mr FRAWLEY: Recently I was lining up to go for a run in my track suit. A boy came around delivering newspapers. He said, "Are you going for a run?" I said, "Yes." He said to me, "What do you do?" I said, "I compete with people over 50." He said, "What? You don't look a day over 40." I bought all his papers.

Since 1972 the Government has provided millions of dollars for sport. I congratulate the Treasurer for introducing a Bill that ensures that more money is to be provided for sport. Some of the revenue from the TAB should be distributed to amateur sport.

Mr Lee: Cut it out.

Mr FRAWLEY: Amateur sportsmen bet on the races. I know many people—I will not mention their names—who place their bets with the TAB before they go to the athletics at Nathan on a Saturday. Many amateur sportsmen support the TAB. However, not ten cents is returned to athletics or hockey clubs.

The Caboolture Sports Centre has benefited greatly from Government support. A great deal of money has been given to it to improve the sports facilities at Caboolture. The Leader of the Opposition once asked me to arrange for him an inspection of the Caboolture Sports Centre because a similar centre was planned for Mackay. The centre has been heavily subsidised by the Government. A large number of people have banded together and raised a great deal of money to make the Apex park on the banks of the Caboolture River the success that it is.

The Government should continue to provide money for sporting facilities from the soccer pools. The tax of 30 per cent on the revenue from the pools should be increased to 50 per cent. As much money as possible from gambling should be returned to amateur sport, which is the backbone of the country. The people who play sport do not get into trouble. I am a great believer in sport for young and old people.

I congratulate the Treasurer on the Bill and on the many other fine things he has done since he has been the Treasurer.

Mr SCASSOLA (Mt Gravatt) (12.38 p.m.): I concur substantially with the comments made by the honourable member for Caboolture. It must be remembered that the beneficiaries from the money that accrues to the Government from the operation of soccer pools ultimately are the youth of Queensland. That money will assist in their development of sporting skills and personality. The Government should be commended for the role it has played over the years in promoting sport in youth. Since the scheme began, more than \$16m has been provided for sport. A great deal of that money has been spent on junior coaching. That has benefited many people in a large number of sports.

As many as 87 types of sport benefit from the Sports and Youth Fund, in particular from assistance to junior coaching. A wide variety of sport is engaged in in my electorate.

It is very important to build up the physical skills of young people and to educate them to take part in sport, whether it be competitive or otherwise, so that, apart from other things, they learn to use the time at their disposal to great advantage to themselves.

Something that has occurred over the years since the commencement of assistance to junior sport has been the improvement in performance of Queensland junior teams. The improvement has been a substantial one. We have seen an increase in enthusiasm among schoolchildren in particular and also an increase in the enthusiasm and dedication of young people who are members of sporting clubs. They are very keen to join in and take part. This keenness has been reflected in the performance of young people in various sports.

An example was to be seen in Brisbane this week when, for the very first time, the Pacific Games were held here. The idea of the Pacific Games for young people in schools originated in Queensland. It developed in this State. This week I had the privilege of seeing some young people participating in the Pacific Games. The performance of some of the young sportsmen has been first class. The competitors are a credit to their coaches and managers as well as to themselves.

I am quite certain that in years to come the Pacific Games will be of great benefit to Australian athletics and swimming events. We may not see the result in the short term but I am confident that in five or six years time, when many of the young people who participated this week find their way into senior international competitions, we will see the great benefit that flows from the expenditure of money on improving coaching techniques and on other steps that are taken to help young competitors improve their skills and participate.

It is disappointing that a large number of young persons who acquire skills in sport give it away at an older age. In many instances, whereas great success is achieved at junior level, at a senior level people move away from sport because of lack of interest or for some other reason. That is a great pity. More should be done to encourage people, particularly those who possess great capacity and skill, to continue their activity in sport. They should be encouraged to utilise their skills at a later stage instead of deciding at the end of their secondary school career not to participate in sport any longer. Such a decision means that much of the effort that has gone into improving their skills and expertise is wasted.

Encouragement should be given to those who participate in sport at a later stage to put back into sport the skills they have acquired. They can do this by participating in coaching schemes and by assisting those who come after them to develop their physical skills and personality. This Bill will assist in all those respects. I am confident that in the future we will see the benefits of the assistance that is being given to young people in this State. I am sure that those young people will be very appreciative of the assistance.

Mr PREST (Port Curtis) (12.45 p.m.): I have pleasure in entering the debate on this Bill, particularly as it will mean that additional finance will be provided for sport in this State. A lot of praise has been heaped on the work that is being done in coaching juniors in sport. The Federal Government provides money to the State Government, which then distributes it amongst the various sports in Queensland.

I am very proud of what the Whitlam Government did for sport between 1972 and 1975. That Government contributed 25 per cent of the cost of providing facilities, and the State Government made a similar contribution. That meant that money was provided on a dollar-for-dollar basis. Unfortunately, as soon as the Labor Government was defeated in 1975, no more money was provided for sport by the Federal Government. Recently, the State Government reduced from 33½ per cent to 20 per cent the subsidy that it provides for sporting facilities. There has also been a tightening up in the types of sporting facilities for which subsidies are available.

It is not much use providing large sums of money for junior sport if sporting fields and other facilities are not available to enable young people to play sport. I am pleased that I represent an area in which sport is paramount. Hundreds of children in my area play sport. I think that the current interests in sport has been created not only by the provision of sporting facilities but also by the coverage that television stations give to sporting events. That impresses upon parents and also their children that sport is something in which they should participate. Television stations provide direct telecasts of sporting events and also replays.

I hope that after this Bill is passed more money will be made available for coaching juniors. In the last two or three years there has been a cut-back in the amount of money made available to sporting clubs in country areas. When the Commonwealth Games are over the facilities will be available not only to the people of Brisbane but also to country children who visit Brisbane. Primary school sports and secondary school sports, as well as State competitions, will be held at the Games complexes. Now that the facilities for the Commonwealth Games have been built, I hope that the subsidies that have not been provided to country areas in the last few years will be restored. As I say, I am pleased that under this Bill some extra money will be made available for sport. I would like to see a greater share of the cake given to junior sport in particular.

Far too much money has been made available for providing facilities at the main metropolitan racecourses. It costs just as much money to feed a horse in the country as it does in the city. Those who want to attend race clubs should be able to provide the necessary facilities.

Some people say that horse-racing is the king of sports rather than the sport of kings; I go further and say it is not the king of sports at all, it is the king of business. Those who engage in the racing game do so to make money out of it. If they wish to call it a sport, let them race for smaller prize-money and for the fun of sport, not for any financial gain. If prize-money for races is to be \$200,000, then those who wish to participate in that sort of sport should pay for it.

Much more of the money made available for sport should be provided to amateur sport.

Mr Booth: You are suggesting that we should smash the racing industry.

Mr PREST: No, I am not saying that at all. Of course a certain amount of money should go back into the racing industry. Those who bet on the TAB should not have to put up with the present very poor facilities.

Mr Booth: You have just said that the money from the TAB should not go back into racing. Surely it should.

Mr PREST: No. What has it got the people out at Arrilalah and similar places? They bet on the TAB but what benefit do they get from the construction of massive grandstands, public bars and private bars with carpets on the floor? What benefit do they get from the 17 per cent that is taken from money they invest in the TAB?

If racing is the king of sport, let it be for sport; but if it is a business, then let it be so.

Mr Frawley: Do you go to the races?

Mr PREST: Of course I do. Honourable members would not know that in my younger days I was a jockey. It was only because of my participation in sport, from the activity and exercise involved in keeping my weight down to remain a jockey, that I have developed my present massive frame. After my days of being a jockey I was able to participate in other sports. However, I will not do as the member for Caboolture does and speak about what I have done in the past.

My purpose today is to give my support, as other members of the Opposition have done, to the Bill before the House.

Hon. N. E. LEE (Yeronga) (12.53 p.m.): I join in support of the Bill, and I am pleased to see that the ALP also supports it. Normally the Opposition cannot tell the difference between the good legislation and the very good legislation that the Government introduces. The Opposition appears to believe that most of the time the legislation is all bad, so I am quite heartened that on this occasion the ALP has seen fit to join us on this side.

Of course, the honourable member for Port Curtis (Mr Prest) was not too happy about certain things, and I will mention them later. I am pleased that the Bill will enable more support to be given to Australian sport, such as soccer, with not so much emphasis on English or other overseas sport, which many Australians do not have the opportunity of seeing or hearing unless it is the World Cup or something like that.

Other members have mentioned the support that the Bill will provide to youth sports and sporting clubs. The member for Port Curtis was very sarcastic and said that all the money was used to provide sporting facilities in the cities. The Treasurer has been very fair and has distributed the money evenly throughout country and city areas. For the honourable member for Port Curtis to say that it has been a one-sided affair is to adopt a very narrow attitude.

Mr PREST: I rise to a point of order. I did not say that all the money went to the city. I said that over the past two or three years it has been well spent on the facilities for the Commonwealth Games. But to say I was against the money being spent in the city over past years is totally wrong, and I want that withdrawn.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! I ask the honourable member for Yeronga to accept the honourable member's explanation.

Mr LEE: I accept the honourable member's explanation, but he still wants money derived from racing through the TAB to flow into everything else other than what it was originally intended for.

Mr Moore: You better tell him that Prince Ruling is a horse—

Mr SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Yeronga has the floor.

Mr LEE: I sold Prince Ruling to the Honourable K. B. Tomkins, and I have to thank the honourable member for Sandgate for helping me to advertise him so thoroughly throughout Australia. It received front page coverage, something one cannot buy. I may have another horse to sell soon, and I hope the honourable member for Sandgate gives me similar assistance then.

The money from Soccer Pools has greatly benefited sporting clubs in my electorate, and this amendment will mean even more money for sporting clubs in my electorate and throughout the State. I have never thought that the money was distributed unevenly or unfairly, but I would still not like to see TAB money being diverted in that direction. For the benefit of the member for Port Curtis, I point out that it costs a fair bit of money to train a horse and pay a jockey. Horse-racing is one of the biggest businesses in the country, and it would be quite unfair for TAB money to be directed away from racing.

I now want to deal with the matter raised by the member for Rockhampton, namely, the confusion about which agencies have the right to operate Soccer Pools. I have had a lot of problems with a newsagency and two casket agencies at Moorvale. There is a lot of competition between those agencies, and none of them can see why all of them cannot operate Soccer Pools, even though if they all had that right it would hardly be worth their trouble. But I would appreciate an explanation from the Treasurer about how agencies were first chosen so that I can answer my constituents when they want to know why they do not have the same opportunity as someone else. A person with a newsagency believes he is entitled to a pools agency, and a person with a casket agency thinks the same.

It gives me great pleasure to support the Bill.

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

Hon. L. R. EDWARDS (Ipswich—Deputy Premier and Treasurer) (2.15 p.m.), in reply: I thank honourable members for their contributions, varied as they have been, to the debate on the proposed amendments.

I appreciate the support given to the reorganisation of the operation of the pools in Queensland. As the Deputy Leader of the Opposition said, that has been agreed to by all other Australian States.

I will take up with the pools organisation the matter that the honourable member mentioned. I do not have the answers at the moment, but I have arranged for my officers to carry out investigations. I will ask them to reply direct to the honourable member.

The honourable member spoke about the commission that has come to the State Government. I was advised during the luncheon recess that so far about \$21m has come to the Government from soccer pools.

I was pleased to hear the Deputy Leader of the Opposition speak of other matters relating to this important industry. Without doubt, the pools are playing a minor role compared with the role that they played years ago. Before the introduction of lotto, the pools were running at a fairly even pace. Since the introduction of lotto, the income from pools has been reduced, as have the returns to the agents, the Government and the overall pool.

The people associated with the pools organisation throughout Australia felt that it was necessary to revamp the pools. As a result, they decided to introduce, as the Deputy Leader of the Opposition said, the new forms.

The member for Everton commented on the validation of the Gold Lotto system and safety for the people who play the games and participate in Golden Casket sales. The Government has been looking at these matters for some time. As he indicated, lotto is validated by a machine that makes a record for all time and transmits the information to headquarters. The Golden Casket is based on ticket sales, and ticket buyers are protected by the butts being returned. I hope that the problem to which the honourable member referred, which has been drawn to our attention on a number of occasions, will be overcome in the future. As he suggested, validation would be the best system. It would be ideal if two operators could use the same validating machine, but

it might be a little bit difficult to arrange that. The point raised by the honourable member for Everton is valid. I will take it up with the pools organisation.

The honourable member for Rockhampton raised a query about casket agents. I shall be writing to him so that he may give his constituent a reply.

The facts relative to commission have been under investigation for some time. Many stories have been circulating about the return that Golden Casket agents, lotto agents and others have been receiving. In the main, the Government was reluctant to change the commission system until Gold Lotto had been in operation for some time so that its effect on other sales could be gauged. As a result of discussions with the Golden Casket Agents Association, and with its concurrence, the Government instituted an inquiry by the Government's Internal Operational Audit Service.

The report was received by the Golden Casket Art Union Office a few weeks ago. It was examined and some recommendations were made by the management of the Golden Casket Office. It has been referred to my department and I was briefed on it this morning, and I hope to take some recommendations on it to the Government within two weeks, or within three weeks at the most. There could well be some changes in the commission. It is not an easy decision to make.

I think it was also the honourable member for Rockhampton who asked how agents were appointed. It has been the Government's policy to keep well clear of that matter. I am sure that the honourable member would respect that view. Once political considerations come into the appointment of agents—

Mr Wright: It is the economic considerations.

Dr EDWARDS: I will come to them in a moment.

While I have been Treasurer I have not countenanced political input in decision-making on whether an agent should be appointed. When I receive a representation from a member—and I respect the right of members to make representations—I request a brief from the Golden Casket Art Union Office under guide-lines to which I shall refer in a moment. That office then makes a recommendation to me. I am sure that the manager of the Golden Casket office would validate my statement that on no occasion have I directed the office to issue a licence to a particular person. I would never do it.

Mr Wright: That was not suggested.

Dr EDWARDS: I know that the honourable member did not suggest it but I make it clear that that is my policy, and I think that it has been generally supported.

The honourable member asked for the Government's policy. It has, as the honourable member suggested, an economic basis. Some problems have arisen in the past because of the large amount of goodwill paid for agencies. We feel that, if a businessman has invested a large sum of money in a business, he should not have his income halved by the appointment of an agent next door to him or down the street, at no cost to that man. No charge is made by the Government for a licence.

There is no doubt that this has caused a great deal of concern. People are complaining constantly. They want either a Gold Lotto or a Soccer Pools agency. As the honourable member knows, Soccer Pools agencies have been fairly widely distributed throughout the community. In general, the Government has been reluctant to make a change. Its policy is to restrict Gold Lotto agencies to newsagents who are also Golden Casket agents. In Victoria and other States, chemists and many other people have been appointed as agents.

I understand the honourable member's concern. Judging by his comments I think that he recognises that it is a very grey area, which is causing a great deal of concern. It may well be that, in the next 12 months or so, as Gold Lotto is now under the total control of the Golden Casket office rather than being operated by Tatts Lotto as it was for the first 12 months, the Government may have to review its policy. I think that it can be reviewed only in consultation with the agents and perhaps the newsagents. I assure the honourable member that if he likes to draw a particular case to my attention I will be happy to have the manager of the Golden Casket office discuss it with him and outline the reason why an agency was not granted.

The honourable member for Flinders wants Rugby League included in the pools. That is not a matter for the Government; it is a matter for the operators, such as Mr Sangster. It is obvious that the honourable member does not have much love for Mr Sangster. That is a matter between them.

Dr Lockwood: He hasn't even met him.

Dr EDWARDS: He may not have met him. It is a matter for him to take up.

What we are discussing is a competition on soccer games operated by Australian Soccer Pools Ltd. Some people believe that the reason why it has not been successful is that the community do not understand the game properly. It would be a completely new competition if Rugby League was included.

The honourable member suggested that Rugby League be a beneficiary. At the moment the beneficiary is the Sports and Youth Fund. The money is divided between the Welfare Services Department and the Sports Department on a basis determined by Cabinet. The money is then used to promote all sport in those fields. It is used mainly for coaching in the sporting field and youth leadership programs in the youth field.

The Deputy Leader of the Opposition referred to the amount involved. I have received information from my officers that the deficiency has been made up each year by an amount equivalent to inflation. Since the introduction of Gold Lotto the additional money has been coming from that source.

The member for Warwick said that Soccer Pools is another gambling game. The honourable member knows my personal views on that matter. Soccer Pools have been in operation for some years and the Bill provides for a modification to them. There should be a halt to the number of forms of gambling that are available. Continuing pressure will be applied to Governments throughout Australia for an expansion of gambling facilities. Personally, I believe that there are already too many forms of gambling. I share the honourable member's view in that regard.

The honourable member for Sandgate raised the matter of the areas to which the funds are directed. The funds that are available are supplemented by revenue from the operation of Gold Lotto. It is possible to maintain a healthy fund for distribution. The Minister for Sport always tells me that not enough money is distributed. That is a fair comment. Because of the tremendous demands made last year he had to make the difficult decision to reduce the percentage of funds distributed so that as many sports as possible could be assisted. The demand placed upon the fund is very well handled by the department.

The member for Sandgate referred to complaints from church groups about gambling money being given to churches undertaking youth leadership programs. Representations have been made to me and, to satisfy their request, an arrangement has been made to pay money out of Consolidated Revenue in a round-about way so that it is not provided directly from gambling revenue. That decision has been accepted by the churches. I am sure that the member for Rockhampton would agree that that was a very good decision.

Mr Milliner: You are not laundering money, are you?

Dr EDWARDS: No. I can assure the honourable member that the Government is not laundering money. Money is being provided to organisations that require money through the avenues that they request.

The member for Caboolture made a relevant point that money should not go to professional clubs. The honourable member is an outstanding sportsman. During the luncheon recess I was reminded that last year the honourable member won a gold medal in the javelin event at the fourth world veteran games competition in Christchurch. I was also informed that he defeated a person who was a bronze medallist in the 1952 Olympic Games. The honourable member's record is well known. I pay a tribute to the honourable member for Caboolture for his interest in youth and sport. He said that a contribution of 50 per cent of pools revenue, rather than 32½ per cent, would not be well accepted by the pools organisation. Most people in that organisation would share his view.

The member for Mt Gravatt referred to the beneficiaries. He obviously understands how the system works. As much money as possible ought to be provided for youth and sport.

The member for Port Curtis found himself in trouble with his comments. The member for Wolston said that the member for Port Curtis was Queensland's answer to Roy Higgins. I am glad that an Opposition member made that statement. The member for Port Curtis made the relevant point that Governments must one day face the situation that a large amount of money will be generated by the TAB, and that funds should be made available from TAB revenue for loans at low interest or at no interest not only to racing clubs but also to sporting organisations. I have never been a supporter of grants to the racing industry, although that has been Government policy. I now fully understand and support it. There will be a great deficiency in the funds of sporting organisations if the Government does not take some care. The point made by the honourable member for Port Curtis is one which I support in principle and one to which the Government must give careful consideration in the future. I can assure the honourable member that the Government will do that.

The member for Yeronga referred to agents. I have already answered his comments in my response to another honourable member.

I thank honourable members for their comments and I trust that the Bill will be as successful as they hope.

Motion (Dr Edwards) agreed to.

#### Committee

The Chairman of Committees (Mr Miller, Ithaca) in the chair

Clauses 1 to 3, as read, agreed to.

Bill reported, without amendment.

#### Third Reading

Bill, on motion of Dr Edwards, by leave, read a third time.

### COMMONWEALTH GAMES (MODIFICATION OF LAWS) ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Hon. J. A. ELLIOTT (Cunningham—Minister for Tourism, National Parks, Sport and The Arts), by leave, without notice: I move—

“That so much of the Standing Orders and the Sessional Order be suspended as would otherwise prevent the immediate bringing in of a Bill intituled, ‘A Bill to amend the Commonwealth Games (Modification of Laws) Act 1982 in certain particulars,’ and the passing of such Bill through all the stages in one day.”

Motion agreed to.

#### First Reading

Bill presented and, on motion of Mr Elliott, read a first time.

#### Second Reading

Hon. J. A. ELLIOTT (Cunningham—Minister for Tourism, National Parks, Sport and The Arts) (2.33 p.m.): I move—

“That the Bill be now read a second time.”

Honourable members will recall that when introducing the Commonwealth Games (Modification of Laws) Bill in March this year I mentioned that there were certain areas where legislative modification was necessary to ensure that the Commonwealth Games were staged in the most efficient and harmonious manner. Although the legislation passed earlier this year has met such conditions, there is a further area requiring legislative sanction to enable an important aspect of the preparation and staging of the Games to proceed.

I received an approach from my colleague the Honourable the Minister for Education seeking to validate the use of the Mt Gravatt campus of the Brisbane College of Advanced Education for residential purposes during the Games. The position is that the XII Commonwealth Games Australia (1982) Foundation Limited sought the use of the residential facilities at the campus of the Brisbane College of Advanced Education during the Games. A proposed lease agreement between the Brisbane College of Advanced Education council and the foundation was drawn for a submission to the Governor-in-Council in accordance with the provisions of the Education Act.

Subsequently, the Solicitor-General expressed doubts to the Education Department about the college council's ability to enter into a lease. He was concerned that the college facilities were situated on a reserve under the Land Act which the council holds as trustee. As the purpose of the lease would be inconsistent with trusteeship, legislative sanction is necessary to put beyond doubt the college council's legal right to enter into a lease with the Commonwealth Games Foundation.

As it is also proposed to use certain State school premises for car-parking during the period of the Games, it is also desirable to validate the proposed use of school reserves for this use.

Both these objectives have been achieved by drafting a new Part IVA of the Commonwealth Games (Modification of Laws) Act 1982 entitled "Modification of Laws Relating to Use of Land for Educational Purposes." The amending Bill presently before the House ensures this result in a simple and uncomplicated form.

I stress that the proposed amendments only modify the use of the Mt Gravatt Campus for the purpose of the Games, which is from 1 September to 16 October 1982.

To give the educational authorities flexibility in dealing with the school-parking situation, provision has been made for participating schools to be prescribed by Order in Council, and similarly a scale of fees can be prescribed. My colleague the Honourable the Minister for Education has indicated that in determining a scale of fees the parents and citizens' associations involved would be consulted.

The amendments proposed are technical ones, but they are designed to ensure the legality of measures decided upon in principle to assist with the staging of the Commonwealth Games.

The amendments have been prepared at the request of the authorities concerned and have the whole-hearted support of the Education Department and the Council of the Brisbane College of Advanced Education. They are being introduced by me as the Minister responsible for the Commonwealth Games (Modification of Laws) Act 1982, which, as stated at the time of introduction, was to provide for the special circumstances applicable to the Games.

I commend the Bill to the House.

Mr WARBURTON (Sandgate) (2.37 p.m.): As the Minister has indicated, the Bill seeks to amend the Commonwealth Games (Modification of Laws) Act 1982. Honourable members will recall that the Bill, which later became the Act, provided for the temporary modification of Queensland laws relating to health, liquor and local government activities, as well as giving protection to the Commonwealth Games Foundation and its commercial sponsors against those people who might choose to improperly gain financially from the Commonwealth Games titles or derivatives. That was the intent of the Bill that we discussed some months ago.

One of the features of the Act is the power that it gives to the Licensing Commission to modify the Liquor Act to such an extent that liquor can be sold and consumed under conditions different from those presently applying, which many Queenslanders regard as being somewhat archaic. Honourable members will recall that on the last occasion the legislation was before us there was quite a bit of discussion on that matter. I am sure that honourable members will be interested to learn of the reception that that provision has received. I realise that the Minister will not be able to provide that information today. It is an interesting feature of the Act, and I believe that it could well open the way

to a more civilised operation of the liquor laws in this State. We do not know yet whether advantage will be taken of that provision of the Act. I am sure that before long somebody in authority will be able to tell us that.

Another matter of some importance that was canvassed previously was the sale of Commonwealth Games souvenirs. I feel very upset when I see the advertisements of Anita Jewellers about the various souvenirs, such as pin badges, that are on sale in Brisbane for the Commonwealth Games. Unfortunately, the jewellery is manufactured in Hong Kong. Its import should never have been permitted.

As the Minister indicated, the Bill seeks to validate the leasing arrangements entered into between the Brisbane College of Advanced Education and the Commonwealth Games Foundation. It is also correct to say that it is designed to ensure that the proposed use of State school reserves for car-parking during the period of the Commonwealth Games is in accordance with the law.

I note that the relevant parents and citizens' associations will be consulted about vehicle parking costs, which is commendable. I understand that the parents and citizens' associations will receive the full financial benefit of the parking fees. Perhaps the Minister will elaborate on that. If that is the case, it is very commendable. I would not want any funds from the parking of vehicles filtering into some other area.

The Bill is quite a simple validating Bill and the Opposition does not oppose its provisions.

Mr SCASSOLA (Mt Gravatt) (2.41 p.m.): I support this very appropriate Bill. Although it may be called a simple, technical Bill, it is very important to the overall conduct of the Commonwealth Games, which will be held in a few weeks and be one of the major sporting events in Queensland in our lifetime.

The Bill seeks to validate leasing arrangements between the Brisbane College of Advanced Education and the Commonwealth Games Foundation and it refers also to parking arrangements in schools. As to the first part of it—the Mt Gravatt college is a very appropriate venue to provide residences for visiting athletes and officials, which I understand is its principal purpose. It is ideally situated. It is within walking distance of Griffith University, and indeed, it is within walking distance, through some very attractive bushland to which I referred this morning at question-time, of the Games site at QE II.

The second part relates to the use of school grounds for car-parking. The question of parking in the near vicinity of QE II for the Commonwealth Games has occupied a considerable amount of the time of a great many people and has involved much planning. I understand that spaces for about 14 000 cars will be available in various localities around the QE II complex, many of them on primary and secondary school grounds. Over a long period, discussions have been held with parents and citizens' associations, the Education Department and the bodies co-ordinating traffic and parking arrangements for the Games. The planning for the use of those grounds is at an advanced stage and many of the school committees have gone to great pains to ensure that their grounds are available. Indeed, in literature being distributed for the Commonwealth Games, those school grounds are now shown as parking venues. Some of them—in fact, almost all of them—are within walking distance of the QE II complex, and they are very appropriate places for parking.

So the Bill has a significance that is not apparent upon a superficial reading of it. It is a very important piece of legislation that will assist to ensure that the arrangements for the Commonwealth Games are carried out and that the Games are enjoyable and comfortable for those who come here to witness them. I am sure that all of us in this Chamber, and everyone in Queensland, want to do everything possible to facilitate the conduct of the Games, to ensure that visitors and spectators can travel easily to and from the Games, that visiting athletes and officials are properly housed, and that people living in the vicinity of QE II can go about their business with the least possible interruption. I understand that all of the arrangements that have been made are directed towards that end, so that the Commonwealth Games will be remembered by everybody in this State as the most significant sporting event in their lifetime.

As I said earlier, this week I had the privilege of seeing some of the events of the Pacific School Games at QE II. They were, one might say, the curtain-raiser to what will happen in a few weeks time. In my opinion, they were an unqualified success.

The atmosphere at the QE II complex for the Commonwealth Games will be outstanding and will be remembered by everybody. It is a magnificent complex. This Bill will certainly help to ensure that the Commonwealth Games are conducted properly and in the right spirit and that they will linger in people's memories.

Mr JONES (Cairns) (2.47 p.m.): The principle embodied in this measure raises a very interesting sidelight relative to the legality of a practice that is followed in most provincial areas, and certainly in my area. The provisions of this Bill probably will not concern unduly the many citizens of Cairns who will not be parking their cars at the Commonwealth Games; but if they are extended they could affect a practice in my electorate.

If the laws relating to the use of land for educational purposes are restrictive and it is necessary to have special legislation relating to the parking of vehicles in school yards, have the members of the parents and citizens' associations that have, in the interests of raising funds, used schoolgrounds for the parking of vehicles by patrons of the Cairns Show done so in contravention of the law? Clause 3 of the Bill refers to the Games period, being the period from 1 September to 16 October 1982. Does that period apply specifically to the lease taken over the area, or does it apply universally? I want to know whether those parents in the Cairns area have been acting correctly, and whether what has previously been accepted will now require approval.

Perhaps we could delete the provision that appears at lines 26 and 27 of clause 13A of the Bill. If we were to do so this could become a universal practice that would provide a means whereby p. and c. associations could raise money for the benefit of the schools. That would benefit the Government because every dollar raised by the p. and c. associations to improve school amenities and facilities means that the Government has to take less money from the taxpayers. I ask the Government to allow all schoolgrounds to be used as car-parks rather than limit their use to the Games period. The present Minister and, I believe, all of his predecessors, have said that they want school facilities to be used fully in the interests of community development and closer liaison between the schools and the general public.

It may be that we have unleashed a monster. It may be that the people of Cairns, acting in good faith, have been raising funds unlawfully for the p. and c. associations. I should like some clarification of this matter from the Minister.

Mr FRAWLEY (Caboolture) (2.51 p.m.): I support the Minister. The amendment is designed to help the Games to be staged in a more efficient and effective way. It will assist in the staging of the Games, but it has a limited life. The Government has opted to provide legislative backing for the areas covered by the principal Act and this amendment. I have in mind licensing hours, permission for visiting doctors and paramedical staff to practise their skills, the variation of certain local authority provisions, and other matters. The Bill relates to the use of certain education facilities during the Games.

In the current climate of international politics such legislation is necessary. It may not have been acceptable in 1956, but we are now living in a different world. It is all very well to hope that everything will flow smoothly and that good will prevails. Protection must be provided in case something goes wrong and creates a potential for legal action against the Government, local authorities or the Games Foundation.

Many overseas visitors will be coming here for the Games. Anything that could lead to an international incident must be avoided. I hope that there will be no demonstrations or protest marches by Aborigines in support of land rights. If the Aborigines try to spoil the Games there will be trouble. When someone pays big money for a seat and, just when the athletes are at a close finish, a group of idiots jump up in front of him with signs, I am certain that he will knock them over to see the finish.

The amendment before us provides the means by which the Brisbane College of Advanced Education and the Commonwealth Games Foundation can sign a lease for the use of the college premises for residential purposes only.

Mr Lee: Only for the period of the Games.

Mr FRAWLEY: Yes, that is right.

The provision relating to the State schools is a very interesting one. I am pleased that the Minister has seen fit to include it. It is a golden opportunity for parents and citizens' associations in the Mt Gravatt area. The honourable member for Mt Gravatt will be interested in it. I hope that the p. and c. associations are allowed to man the parking areas and keep all the proceeds. I only hope that we do not have trouble with the AWU or any other damn union during the Games period. The p. and c. associations should be given an opportunity to raise money through the car-parks.

Mr Lee: We could have trouble with the unions.

Mr FRAWLEY: I think we could.

Mr Moore: The unions are not that damn stupid.

Mr FRAWLEY: I hope that they are not, but there are some rabble-rousers in them.

The sporting fields will be damaged slightly by the cars travelling over them, but the damage will be minimal. It is only right that a p. and c. that top-dresses the schoolgrounds and keeps them in perfect condition, with a 50 per cent Works Department subsidy, should get most of the money raised in that way.

Mr Lee: They could use the swimming-pools too.

Mr FRAWLEY: I will be talking about swimming too.

The Endeavour Foundation should have been given the first opportunity to make all of the souvenirs under licence, even if they cost a fraction more. The Government should not have allowed any souvenirs to come in from overseas countries.

Mr Warburton: You allowed it. You allowed them to be manufactured in Hong Kong.

Mr FRAWLEY: The Games Foundation should not have been allowed to have them manufactured overseas.

Mr Lee: You know the saying, "We make it great in the Sunshine State."

Mr FRAWLEY: That is quite right. I know that the Minister had his suit made in the Sunshine State.

The chairman of the Australian Swimming Association, Roger Pegram, does not know what he is talking about. It is the worst thing in the world to put swimmers or any other athletes into accommodation such as they have been given at Coogee. One of the most important considerations for swimmers is to get good sleep. The food at Coogee is terrible. To think that they have to put up with a diet of rice. That might be all right for the last 24 hours before competing, because rice has a high carbohydrate content, but they should not be living on it all the time. Many swimmers have their own special diets. They should not be forced to live in that training camp under such rotten conditions.

The attitude of the Minister for Sport in this State is to be commended. He has offered free accommodation, in conjunction with the life-saving movement. What better place to be accommodated than in the Sunshine State where they do not need a heated pool to train. They could even train in the pool in the Parliamentary Annexe. I realise that it is too short and that if a couple of our overweight members jumped into it, it would be empty.

Swimmers should be given an opportunity to give their best performances. They will not be able to if they are kept in that place at Coogee. They are used to sleeping in proper beds. They cannot perform properly if they have to use beds in which they cannot sleep and eat food to which they are not accustomed.

An Honourable Member: Why aren't they training in Brisbane?

Mr FRAWLEY: They should be training in Brisbane. The fact that they are not is another example of the attitude of the southern States.

When the team was chosen for the Games in Montreal, Barbara Jordan, a Queensland, was the fifth fastest sprinter in Australia. But a young girl from Victoria, who was No. 18, was chosen. In the end, Barbara Jordan was included in the team. For years Queensland has suffered at the hands of the southern selectors.

In 1962, I was the coach of the Australian field games team. Eric Bigby, another Queenslander, ran fourth in the 100-metre race in Melbourne. The one-eyed Victorian judges placed him fifth. I was standing at the finish line and Bigby ran fourth. But, because only the first four were to be chosen for the Games, Bigby was placed fifth and missed out. It was absolutely disgraceful.

Lenore Lipscombe, a good long jumper, was left out of the team. Queensland athletes have been given a rotten deal. I can cite many instances in which Queenslanders have not been given an opportunity because most selection panels have been dominated by southerners. It is time that they recognised that some of Queensland's sportsmen are a damned sight better than southerners and gave them an opportunity to produce their best at the Commonwealth Games.

I hope that there will be no trouble at the Commonwealth Games. I sound a word of warning. Demonstrators should not be surprised if members of the public take it into their own hands to make sure that they get a clear view of the Games.

Mrs NELSON (Aspley) (2.59 p.m.): I thank the Minister for introducing this legislation and thank the House for its indulgence in ensuring that this urgent legislation will be passed today.

One point that needs to be made strongly is that, despite the best will in the world by organisations in the community and the Games Federation to co-operate, there must be protection at law for the people providing the venues and the people running the Games. The problem in this instance is that the trustees of the reserve on which the college is built could not lawfully enter into a lease; hence the introduction of the Bill, which has my full support and, I am sure, the support of all honourable members.

I share the concern expressed by the member for Cairns about the use of reserves. That issue could be clarified at a later date. I do not see it as an important issue in the debate today. The Bill contains a sunset clause. The Bill will apply only during the Commonwealth Games. The honourable member would have known that. He introduced a legitimate matter into the debate. It is a matter that should be clarified at a later date.

Parents and citizens' associations throughout Queensland carry out fund-raising activities on school premises which they feel may be lawful, but in fact they may be unlawful. The amending Bill protects those people who provide the venues and conduct the Commonwealth Games. I applaud the Minister for introducing the Bill despite the difficulties that have been experienced in the last few weeks. I support the Bill.

Mr MILLINER (Everton) (3.1 p.m.): I join my colleagues the member for Sandgate and the member for Cairns in supporting the Bill before the House.

I share the concern expressed by the member for Cairns regarding the use of school buildings. Week in and week out school buildings are used for various purposes. It has been pointed out that the full utilisation of schoolgrounds has been encouraged by the Education Department. In the Minister's second-reading speech he raised the point as to whether those activities are legal. That matter should be examined by the Minister for Education.

Recently a group of parents and citizens wrote to members of Parliament about the consumption of alcohol on school premises. Under the regulations under the Education Act it is not permissible to consume alcohol on school premises. Honourable members know that school parents and citizens' associations are embarking on building programs, including the construction of assembly halls, which cost a lot of money. Members of parents and citizens' associations and principals are responsible people. They should be allowed to conduct functions at which alcoholic beverages are served. I would not envisage a situation where the parents and citizens' association would have a carte blanche to serve alcohol whenever and wherever it liked. A restriction should be placed on it, which could be enforced by the Licensing Commission. I sincerely hope that the Minister for Education will review the Education Act. For 12 months a Bill to amend the Education Act has been before the House. The Minister for Education should take it a step further and look at all the matters raised by the Minister for Sport in his opening remarks, and take steps to remedy those situations.

Mr SIMPSON (Cooroora) (3.3 p.m.): I support the Bill before the House. It raises some interesting points about what parents and citizens' associations are doing and are not doing.

Precautions must be taken to protect those who will attend the Commonwealth Games. Some people cause trouble so that they can get publicity. Some people may cause trouble for parents and citizens' associations even though they are assisting in the staging of the Commonwealth Games, by providing car-parking.

The main function of parents and citizens' associations is to further the education of schoolchildren. It would appear that the conduct of even knock-em and other stalls at school fetes may now require approval from the Minister.

The schoolgrounds at the Nambour primary school are used as a parking area for those attending the Sunshine Coast show. The show has become so popular that all the cars of visitors to the show cannot be accommodated in the car-parks at the showground. The schoolgrounds next door are the obvious choice as a parking area. The proceeds obtained from the use of the grounds as a car-park benefit the school and the students. Of course, proper insurance cover should be obtained, and that aspect raises the possibility of mischievous people taking action against parents and citizens' associations that engage in certain activities in schoolgrounds.

A p. and c. association is not even allowed to buy a bunch of flowers for a retiring schoolteacher; but, of course, that is done from time to time. Guide-lines should be laid down for the guidance of p. and c. associations and the associations should be given the right to apply to the Minister for Education to engage in certain special activities, such as obtaining revenue from making schoolgrounds available for car-parking, holding fetes and other fund-raising activities.

I will be interested to see what means of transport will be used between the various car-parking areas and the Games site and what fares will be charged. I hope that the Minister will ensure that the fares are not exorbitant. If they were, a backlash could be felt by p. and c. associations. Although I guess the fees have levelled out over the years, visitors to annual shows pay exorbitant car-parking fees. Nevertheless, it is not desirable to have them rise sharply at the time of the Games. Exorbitant car-parking charges would leave a nasty taste in the mouth of visitors to the Games, who would believe they were being touched. Similarly, for the duration of the Games accommodation charges should be kept at a reasonable level.

Common sense is needed in the conduct of the Games. They will be a wonderful thing for the State of Queensland. Their smooth running requires a consideration of car-parking facilities and charges, means of transport and accommodation. A commonsense approach will result in the best utilisation of our resources.

After the conclusion of the Games, thought should be given to extending to other functions and activities the special consideration that will be given for the duration of the Games. In the future the resources of Queensland should be utilised to give the people of Queensland the best deal, thereby making the State an even better one in which to live.

Hon. J. A. ELLIOTT (Cunningham—Minister for Tourism, National Parks, Sport and The Arts) (3.8 p.m.), in reply: I am pleased that the honourable member for Sandgate, on behalf of the Opposition, sees the necessity for the Bill and the wisdom in it. In my second-reading speech I used the word "validate". In using it in that context, I was pointing out that although there is not a need for validation as such, because no contract has yet been entered into, the foundation would not be able to draw up and sign a contract until this legislation is passed.

The Solicitor-General's opinion is that the legislation must put beyond all shadow of doubt the entitlement of the council of the Brisbane College of Advanced Education to enter into such a contract. The word "validate" is used in the context that the council's ability to proceed with the contract must be beyond all shadow of doubt. Although the provisions of this legislation will apply from yesterday, 1 September, it is not validating legislation.

I take the honourable member's point about the Liquor Act. It does not relate specifically to the Bill that is now being discussed. I say only that it will be interesting to see the results of this experiment. The Licensing Commission is adopting an enlightened approach to the licensing laws during the period of the Commonwealth Games. My colleague the Minister for Justice and Attorney-General will be able to determine the success or otherwise of the relaxation of the liquor laws during that period and possibly introduce further legislation later.

The honourable member referred also to the Commonwealth Games souvenirs provided by Anita Jewellers. As in many other areas of our society today there is a cost problem. The Commonwealth Government, the State Government and the Brisbane City Council contributed most of the money needed to provide the facilities for the Commonwealth Games. The Government has ruled off the bottom line and said to the Commonwealth Games Foundation, "Thou shalt balance thy books." Therefore, it cannot place too many constraints on the foundation in relation to how it raises extra money. The foundation has to adopt a businesslike approach. That is why many overseas products are being sold in Brisbane as Commonwealth Games souvenirs. We have to be a little fair and allow the Commonwealth Games Foundation to balance its books.

I appreciate the honourable member's remarks about allowing parents and citizens' associations to use school reserves for car-parking during the Commonwealth Games. As I understand the legislation, the parents and citizens' association will receive the funds. I also understand that the charges will be those that apply in Brisbane City Council car-parks. I think all honourable members would agree that is reasonable.

It could be said that the honourable member for Mt Gravatt is almost the host member for the Commonwealth Games, because they will be conducted in his electorate. I was pleased to hear his contribution to the debate. I agree with him that the Commonwealth Games will be one of the most significant events, if not the most significant event, held in our lifetime. They are being held right in our own backyard. If I were the local member, I would consider it the highlight of my political career to have such an event held on my back doorstep.

I also agree with what the honourable member said about the accommodation that is being provided for the competitors and officials at the Games. It is appropriate and very handy to the QE II complex. There are always detractors. I have inspected the facilities, and I think it is fair to say that they are the best facilities that have ever been offered to sportsmen, sportswomen and officials attending a Commonwealth Games. We can hold our heads high and not take too much notice of any petty criticism of the facilities. No doubt somewhere along the line somebody will criticise, but we must accept that.

The honourable member indicated that most of the schools to be used for car-parking are within easy access of the various venues. Obviously that has not gone unnoticed by the Commonwealth Games Foundation.

Overall, the sporting facilities are nothing short of magnificent. Often we are accused of being parochial but in this instance I intend to be magnanimous and say what a good job the workmen, the council and others who have been associated with the project have done. It has been a great team effort on behalf of the Federal and State Governments and the Brisbane City Council. Recently the last foundation link meeting was held with the new Federal Minister (Hon. Tom McVeigh), a representative of the Lord Mayor, who unfortunately was ill and could not attend, and myself representing the State Government. For me, and probably also for the others present, it was a rather historic occasion.

Everybody involved should be commended for the work that has been done and the state of preparedness that has been reached. When some other countries have run the Commonwealth Games, they have been fighting against time to finish the facilities. They have had problems with unions and material deliveries—all sorts of problems. We can be justifiably proud that the Brisbane facilities were completed 12 months in advance and have been used on a number of occasions already. Last year the SGIO Games were a good test of the facilities. At that time many bugs such as acoustic and other nitty-gritty problems were ironed out. Obviously any new facility will present some problems. I commend the honourable member for Mt Gravatt for his contribution.

The honourable member for Cairns raised the interesting matter of the use of the Cairns schoolgrounds for parking for the Cairns Show. I give the honourable member for Cairns, and other members who have raised a similar matter, an undertaking to seek clarification from my colleagues the Attorney-General and the Minister for Education.

The member for Caboolture raised some good points and, as a member of my committee, obviously realised the nub of the matter, namely, to put the point beyond

any legal doubt. It is not good enough to be fairly certain about the matter or to hope that good will prevail and no problems will arise over the lease. That was the original advice but, with the magnitude of the operation and so many people dependent upon it, it was obvious that no risks could be taken and the matter had to be put beyond all doubt. The honourable member for Caboolture was spot on.

The point the honourable member raised about the Endeavour Foundation workshops is one that should be taken on board, and I give an undertaking that it will be passed on through the Commonwealth Games Foundation for further consideration. Perhaps in the future other Australian States, or even neighbouring Commonwealth countries, could have work of that type done by their version of the Endeavour Foundation.

The honourable member for Caboolture referred also to the problem facing Australia's swimming team, which has been causing me great concern. I think all Queenslanders would have been disturbed by what they read on the front page of yesterday's "Telegraph"—

Mr R. J. Gibbs: What has your Government done about it?

Mr ELLIOTT: Quite a bit, and if the honourable member remains quiet, I will tell him what I have done.

I raised the matter with Mr Greg Lalor, the president of the Queensland Amateur Swimming Association, to find out whether the reports in the Press were factual. He said that he had followed the matter up fairly diligently and believed that the reports were, in the main, correct. That concerned me and my colleagues greatly because, from the beginning, the Queensland Government has done its level best to ensure that Queensland athletes had every opportunity to gain selection for the Games team. The Department of Sport donated \$250,000 to assist those athletes. Some \$59,500 was given to individual athletes, but most went to the swimming association to utilise as it saw fit to ensure that those Queenslanders who had the ability to gain selection received the best possible coaching and competition. I believe that the money was spent wisely and well, and the results bear out my belief because Queensland gained the lion's share of team positions.

All that having been done, I thought it would be negligent of me as Minister for Sport not to take some action over that Press report. The Queensland Surf Life Saving Association generously offered to accommodate and look after the entire Australian swimming team either at Maroochydore, where there is an Olympic swimming-pool, or on the South Coast. It should be remembered that the surfing season does not really begin until 3 October, and so the association is in a position to look after the team. Anyone who has not seen the Surfers Paradise life-saving facilities would do well to have a look at them. They are the equal of any in Australia. More than \$1m was spent on those magnificent facilities, and the honourable member for Surfers Paradise will bear that out.

The offer is a generous and practical one, and it has been passed on to the Commonwealth Games Association. A number of people might not know that the Commonwealth Games Foundation is responsible for raising money to provide facilities and also is responsible for raising money for the team itself. So I made the offer to Mr Les Martin, the president of the foundation, and to my Federal counterpart. The facilities are available if they are required.

It should be understood that the approach of the Australian Swimming Union was directed towards getting the team away from Chandler for a while. They were to use another venue for a change, then come back to Chandler in another two weeks.

That would have been fine if the accommodation facilities had been up to scratch. I make it clear that at no stage in the Press, on the radio or elsewhere have we challenged the standard of the pool facilities. I understand that the pool is spot on. We are concerned only about the accommodation, the beds and the food in the hostel situation. Frankly, what has happened in the past few days is not good enough. We did what we did with a clear conscience, and with every justification. I understand that the Australian Swimming Union is looking into these matters closely. If it ensures that the facilities are in line and that the food is adequate, I do not think anyone will have a complaint.

As the host nation, we had the ball in our court. Canada is breathing down our neck. It is the great challenger in swimming. As the home team, we had a tremendous advantage. We should have made the best of it by letting all the swimming team adjust to Queensland's climatic conditions. A mistake was made when the competitors were given substandard facilities. In a way, we have broken their routine. It is very important that something be done about it.

I accept the point made by the honourable member for Aspley that the Bill should leave no shadow of doubt in law. That honourable member and the honourable member for Cairns said that we should put beyond all shadow of doubt the situation of the p. and c. associations. I give the honourable member for Aspley the undertaking that I gave to the honourable member for Cairns.

The honourable member for Everton also spoke about school grounds; I give him a similar assurance.

The honourable member for Cooroora made some good points, as did other honourable members, when he said that the Bill raised a doubt about what schools in this area are doing. I give him the same undertaking. The honourable member for Cooroora mentioned a point which I do not think was raised by other honourable members when he said that the parking fees should not be too high. I take his point on board and repeat what I said initially, namely, that it is important that no-one should be overcharged. We must ensure that people do not leave Queensland with a sour taste in their mouths. If we apply standard Brisbane City Council car-parking charges, in the circumstances, they will be considered realistic. I understand that the fee will be set by Order in Council.

Motion (Mr Elliott) agreed to.

#### Committee

Mr Row (Hinchinbrook) in the chair; Hon. J. A. Elliott (Cunningham—Minister for Tourism, National Parks, Sport and The Arts) in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 and 2, as read, agreed to.

Clause 3—New Part IVA—

Mr WARBURTON (3.30 p.m.): I take this opportunity to clarify one matter. I might have misinterpreted the Minister's statement that we are not validating anything that has occurred. I was of the opinion that there had been some operations at the Brisbane College of Advanced Education. It may be correct to say that the lease has not been entered into, but some actions that have been taken probably need validating. I make it clear that I did not use the word "validating" in my own right; I was simply repeating what the Minister said.

I should like to take the Minister up on one point. He defended the foundation's arrangements for the sale of souvenirs. I disagree completely with his defence. We are talking about Australian pride, and it is the Government's responsibility to enshrine it.

One of the reasons why I did not mention the Games symbol was that I was one of the first members to raise the matter in this Chamber. I am wearing one of the badges, and I know that some other honourable members are wearing them, too. The symbol, which is a kangaroo in flight, was decided upon after a contest was conducted throughout Australia. The Prime Minister said that the design was uniquely Australian. That is true.

Frankly, I regard it as an absolute shame and great pity that thousands of visitors who will be coming from South East Asia to see the Games and compete in the Games will be purchasing souvenirs that were manufactured in their own countries. I am not taking the Minister to task unduly, because I do not think it was his responsibility. I again suggest that Australian pride is involved and that it is a great shame that this has happened. I feel that there will be some repercussions in this area.

Mr ELLIOTT: I take the honourable member's point. First, I think I have covered the lease arrangements adequately and that all members understand the position.

As to souvenirs—what I said in reply to the honourable member for Caboolture applies. We should learn from what has happened and ensure that in future we indicate from the beginning the importance of souvenirs being produced locally in Endeavour Foundation workshops and so forth. They should be given first bite of the cherry.

Mr Prest: Tom Burns raised that months ago.

Mr ELLIOTT: No-one is denying that. We are trying to debate this matter reasonably and without bringing in politics. The honourable member should be charitable and take in what is said.

The honourable member for Sandgate is not playing politics; he is adopting a realistic attitude, and I am trying to answer him. I take his point. Most people would support his viewpoint. But there were constraints on the foundation, and unless the Federal Government, the State Government and the Brisbane City Council were prepared to pick up more of the tab, we had to allow the foundation to tackle the matter on a commercial basis.

Mr JONES: I am pleased that the Minister has given an assurance in respect to the application of the law to permit school reserves to be used for the purpose of car-parks, particularly during the Commonwealth Games. I have no intention to argue about validity. The established practice should not be invalidated. I want to be assured that this Bill does not limit the use of schoolgrounds for the purpose of raising funds for p. and c. associations. I hope that it does not adversely affect that practice. It would be very unfortunate if that activity was restricted under the law.

Mr LEE: Some Commonwealth Games souvenirs that will be sold have been made overseas. Like the member for Sandgate, I am disappointed about that, particularly after the Queensland Government and the Federal Government have spent millions of dollars on advertising "Advance Australia" and "We make it great in the Sunshine State". Australia has the resources available to make the souvenirs. It is a great pity that some of the visitors should purchase souvenirs that were manufactured in their own country. The Queensland Government has spent a large sum of money on advertising. At the moment the Minister for Employment and Labour Relations is chairing a seminar on commerce and training at the RNA Showgrounds. He is one person who advocates the training of young people to become tradesmen. Although Queensland has the resources to manufacture the souvenirs for the Commonwealth Games, it will not do so.

Mr ELLIOTT: To allay the fears of the honourable member for Cairns, I point out to him that the legislation will not radically change the existing activities carried out by parents and citizens' associations throughout Queensland. The Bill contains a sunset clause. I give the honourable member an assurance that I will discuss his comments with the Attorney-General and the Minister for Education.

The member for Yeronga made a valuable contribution to the debate. He referred to the "We make it great in the Sunshine State" campaign. I suppose he is still wearing the suit that he displayed in the television commercials. He has done a great deal of work towards promoting industry in this State. I have been associated with him on many committees and witnessed his dedicated involvement. I thank him for his contribution to the debate.

It is important that we learn from our experience on this occasion. I do not wish to sound political, but I point out that costs in Australia are out of kilter with those in other industrialised nations. That fact must be recognised whenever conditions, working hours and rates of pay are looked at. People want to maintain their high standard of living, but they want to ensure that they do not kill the goose that lays the golden egg. They want to make sure that they do not put out their hand just once too often.

Clause 3, as read, agreed to.

Bill reported, without amendment.

### Third Reading

Bill, on motion of Mr Elliott, read a third time.

### BAIL ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Hon. S. S. DOUMANY (Kurilpa—Minister for Justice and Attorney-General), by leave, without notice: I move—

"That leave be granted to bring in a Bill to amend the Bail Act 1980 in certain particulars and for other purposes."

Motion agreed to.

## First Reading

Bill presented and, on motion of Mr Doumany, read a first time.

## Second Reading

Hon. S. S. DOUMANY (Kurilpa—Minister for Justice and Attorney-General)  
(3.44 p.m.): I move—

“That the Bill be now read a second time.”

As a result of an examination conducted by the Law Reform Commission a Bill relating to the granting of bail in criminal proceedings was introduced into this House in 1979. The result of this examination was to consolidate the law relating to bail in the one statute, whereas previously the law had been contained in the Criminal Code, the Justices Act and in other statutes.

Assent was given to the Bail Act in May of 1980 and the changes brought about by this legislation have been in effect for a little over two years.

Some practical difficulties which could not have been foreseen have arisen and now necessitate amendments to the Bail Act. These amendments do not relate to the principles governing bail which were established by the Bail Act, as those principles have proved to be effective in practice.

The amendments contained in this Bill relate to matters of procedure and will ensure that the sound administration of the criminal justice system in this State continues.

Under the provisions of section 8 (4) of the Bail Act an accused may be released from custody without bail.

Although persons who had been released pursuant to this power were deemed to be released on bail, they did not commit an offence under the Act if they failed to appear.

The Bill will provide for an amendment which will ensure that all persons who are admitted to bail now enter into an undertaking and are then served with notices which advise them of their duty to appear and the consequences which flow should they abscond.

Some doubt has arisen as to whether the bail of an accused person can be enlarged by the Supreme or District Court after the accused surrenders into custody at the commencement of his trial.

The existing provisions of section 10 (2) provide the power for a court in that circumstance to grant bail, and this Bill will clearly establish that the courts also have power to enlarge bail which has been effective for some time before trial. Thus, there will be no inconvenience to sureties or to court staff in preparing new bail documents where an accused has obviously honoured his bail in the past. The courts, of course, have power to revoke or vary bail should the circumstances demand.

In the case of serious offences such as murder, treason, piracy and serious drug charges an accused may be granted bail only by an order of a Supreme Court judge. When an order for bail has been made by a Supreme Court judge under the existing provisions of the Act the bail would terminate when the accused surrenders himself into custody at his committal hearing. If he is committed for trial, a new application should be made to the Supreme Court for bail between the committal hearing and the ultimate trial.

The provisions of this Bill will amend section 20 of the Bail Act to allow bail granted by a Supreme Court judge under the provisions of section 13 to continue without further order both during the committal proceedings and after that hearing until the accused is brought to trial.

When an accused is committed to stand his trial in a District or Supreme Court he is required to appear at a specified sittings of a court. The existing provisions of the Bail Act allow for a condition to be added to the undertaking requiring an accused to appear at his trial after notice is given to him by the Crown Solicitor as to the date, time and place which is fixed for his trial.

This condition should be included on every undertaking entered into after committal to ensure the attendance of accused persons at their trial. The Bill will provide that this further condition is placed on all undertakings where a hearing has been adjourned to or in the Supreme or District Courts.

Where an accused is in custody in a prison and bail has been granted by a court, he may enter into an undertaking before a prison officer of or above the rank of chief prison officer. In order to assist in the administration of prisons, the class of persons before whom undertakings may be entered will be enlarged to include the superintendent or his delegate authorised in writing in that behalf.

The existing provisions of the Act provide for the service of a notice of trial to be served by the Crown Solicitor on an accused at his last notified address. Obvious difficulties may arise if the requirement to serve the notice at the address of the accused is maintained, as he may well be located by police who are serving the notice at his place of employment or at some other place. The Bill will now provide that the notice is to be served on the accused personally and will not limit the place in which he may be served.

A further provision will amend section 27 to provide that the notice of trial will be deemed to be served on an accused person if it is left at his last known address notified under the Bail Act, after reasonable inquiries have been made as to his whereabouts a reasonable time before trial.

When an accused has been granted bail and fails to appear at the court hearing to which his hearing has been remanded, a warrant for his apprehension is issued under section 28 of the Act. At present, there is no direction in the Bail Act as to which court the police officer who executes a warrant is to take the accused before. The Bill will provide for an amendment directing the police officer to bring the accused before justices.

Further provisions in section 28 will allow the court which issued the warrant to withdraw the warrant where an accused surrenders himself into custody as soon as is practicable after the time at which he failed to appear. Further, where an accused establishes that he had reasonable cause for failing to appear, the court will also be allowed to withdraw the warrant.

Failure by an accused to appear and surrender into custody in accordance with his undertaking may presently be dealt with either as a contempt of the court which issued the warrant or as a simple offence under the Justices Act. This duality of proceedings has caused some difficulties of a practical nature and this Bill will amend the offence provisions to provide a simple and expeditious manner of dealing with absconders.

The Bill will provide that the absconder will be called upon to show cause why he should not be dealt with for committing a breach of duty in failing to appear as soon as he is brought before justices after being arrested on warrant. If he does not dispute the breach he will be sentenced by the court before which he is brought. If he disputes the allegation he will be remanded, either in custody, or on bail, to the court which issued the warrant. That court will then determine whether he has committed a breach of duty by failing to appear before it.

The sentence provided by the Bail Act for the offence of failing to appear was a mandatory sentence of imprisonment. Provisions of the Bail Bill will allow for the fining of offenders of an amount up to \$1,000 as an alternative punishment to a sentence of imprisonment. This will give the courts greater flexibility when imposing sentences, particularly on youthful offenders.

The second schedule to the Bail Act refers to offenders in respect of which bail by way of a deposit of money cannot be granted. The schedule refers to certain offences under the Racing and Betting Act 1954-1980, which has since been repealed and replaced by the Racing and Betting Act 1980-1982. Provisions of the Bill will ensure that cash bail cannot be granted to accused persons charged with offences under sections 214, 216, 217 and 219 of the latter Act. It is considered that a person charged with those offences should not be granted bail merely by depositing a sum of money.

Further provisions will amend incorrect references to the Bail Act itself and to other Acts as contained both in the Act itself and the first schedule of the Act.

I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate, on motion of Mr R. J. Gibbs, adjourned.

## PRISONERS (INTERSTATE TRANSFER) BILL

### Second Reading—Resumption of Debate

Debate resumed from 24 August (see p. 491) on Mr Doumany's motion—

“That the Bill be now read a second time.”

Mr R. J. GIBBS (Wolston) (3.52 p.m.): The legislation now before the Parliament is probably a classic example of the type of progressive legislation that can be brought before a Parliament, politics aside, with mutual co-operation by Governments of different political persuasions. The legislation is an example of that co-operation working at its best and deserves to be described as highly progressive, one that reflects a feeling of some humanity in the prison system and one of the best pieces of legislation on prison reform that we have seen for quite some time. As I understand it, the legislation was the brain-child of the Labor Attorney-General of New South Wales (Mr Frank Walker), so that is enough to commend it to this Parliament. But it is progressive in the sense that it makes provision to assist the families as well as the prisoners who happen to be incarcerated in prison, even for periods as short as six months.

The Bill allows for the transfer of prisoners between States. I stand to be corrected but I do not envisage that if a person is imprisoned for three or four months the Bill will be of benefit to him. By the time the application requesting transfer to another State was made to the relevant Minister and the bureaucracy completed the paperwork involved, that person would not benefit from the legislation. However, it is a truism to say that those who are imprisoned for 12 months or longer will be the ones who will benefit most from the legislation.

The Bill provides that a prisoner who has his or her family ties in another State will be permitted to apply to the Welfare Minister for transfer, and if the Minister agrees or is sympathetic towards the application, he will then liaise with the Welfare Minister in the reciprocal State. If the Minister in that State agrees, the prisoner will be transferred. In the area of prison reform and the type of rehabilitation programs that we should be looking at within the prison system, this program will mean that a prisoner and his family will be able to stay reasonably close together while he is incarcerated.

Apart from that aspect, representations have been made to me on a number of occasions by members of the legal profession—I am sure that the Attorney-General has received much the same sort of representations—about a warrant being issued in, say, Queensland for the arrest of a person serving a sentence in another State. In the past, the system has been such that the prisoner must see out his sentence in New South Wales, be released from custody and then be brought back to Queensland to stand trial on a charge that might be several years old. On occasions that has had a rather devastating effect by plugging up the judicial system, and there could be a delay of many years between the actual commission of the offence and the person's going to trial. This legislation will mean that, prior to the expiration of a person's sentence in another State, the Attorney-General will be able to apply to the Attorney-General of the reciprocal State and, if that State agrees, the prisoner will be transferred to Queensland and will stand trial while he is still serving the sentence imposed in another State.

That is progressive and sensible legislation, and I see it as working in favour of people already serving sentences who know that when they have finished that sentence they will then have to stand trial in another State. My colleague from Bulimba will mention a specific case later. There have been instances in the past in which prisoners in a similar position who have been rehabilitated have asked to be transferred so that they can face trial, but that option has not been available to them.

One of the things that I like about the legislation is that not only the Attorney-General but a prisoner can make an application for transfer. If a prisoner with a charge hanging over his head in another State applies to be transferred so that the charge can be dealt with, that is obviously something in his favour and shows a responsible attitude.

Provision is made to protect the rights of prisoners so affected. In his introduction, the Minister said—

“Where a Queensland prisoner is the subject of an arrest warrant from a participating State either the Attorney-General of that State or the prisoner himself may request a transfer.

If both Attorneys-General agree to the transfer, the prisoner will be brought before a stipendiary magistrate in Queensland who may make an order for transfer.”

It is very important that, at such a hearing, the prisoner should be entitled to full legal representation. Far too often the community's attitude, which at times probably

is inflamed by rather irresponsible statements, is that people who go to prison surrender every civil liberty or right. While that may be acceptable in a few instances, we, as legislators have a responsibility to remain above that type of inane thinking. We must adopt a more responsible attitude and look at these matters with compassion, having in mind the best interests of both the community and the person affected.

Another pleasing feature of the legislation is that if in a hearing before a magistrate a prisoner is effectively denied the right to transfer between States, an appeal will be allowed to him against the magistrate's decision or that of the Attorney-General of the participating States.

I said that people such as members of Parliament and those within welfare organisations have a responsibility to make up their minds on these matters. It is time that members of Parliament had to decide what type of prison reform system they want. I do not know whether honourable members are aware that when a family man with a number of children is incarcerated and his wife draws social support for herself and her children, it costs the community, through the welfare and prison systems, almost \$30,000 a year to keep him in custody. When a man commits a fairly serious offence, there is a tendency for people to become emotional and say that he should be kept in prison, never to be released. I am the first to acknowledge that in some instances that should be so, and I do not think that any honourable members would disagree with that. However, bearing in mind that offenders in that category are in the minority, our choice as members is clear-cut.

There are several alternatives. Either we agree to reintroduce the death penalty—and my party certainly does not support that—or support the present prison system, which is costing the community millions of dollars a year to maintain. As I pointed out, it costs up to \$30,000, depending on the prisoner's family commitments. Another alternative is to look progressively at keeping prisoners incarcerated for a time, then rehabilitating and assisting them with the idea of releasing them. It is obvious that the number of serious crimes is increasing dramatically, and the present system of keeping prisoners in cells, under overcrowded conditions, solves none of the problems.

After having made those comments, it is timely for me to quote from the report of the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. I refer particularly to "Australian Discussion Paper Topic 4" under the heading, "De-institutionalisation of corrections and its implications for the residual prisoners." When I read it, I thought it put in a few words the point that I am trying to make in this debate.

It reads—

"A person is sent to prison as punishment and not for punishment. The Punishment is fundamentally the loss of that person's liberty.

While in prison, the inmate should lose only his liberty and such rights as expressly or by necessary implication result from that loss of liberty.

As few as possible should be incarcerated in prisons and then only when all appropriate alternatives have been exhausted.

Those who are imprisoned should be incarcerated for as short a time as possible. If alternatives to imprisonment (such as probation or parole) are inappropriate at first, they should be used as soon as it is reasonably safe.

Those who are in prison should be housed in the lowest appropriate security.

The Royal Commission went on to propose that 'If these aims are adopted by the Department with the general object of treating all prisoners humanely in a manner befitting their human dignity, it is to be hoped that the prisoners will at least leave prison no worse than when they entered it'."

In my opinion, that is a very important statement. It was often said to me while driving past Boggo Road Prison when improvements were under construction a couple of years ago, "What are they doing? Building a modern motel unit for the crims?" People tend to forget that prisoners are entitled to reasonably warm accommodation while they are incarcerated, that they are entitled to some human dignity and that loss of liberty is the most important aspect of imprisonment.

That brings me to another matter that I wish to raise. Some months ago I inspected the Kennigo Street institution in Fortitude Valley. It has been used as a half-way house to assist long-term prisoners, who have committed quite serious crimes and been institutionalised, to lead a normal life in the community. From time to time they are able to leave that place under the release-to-work program.

The figures I have indicate that the scheme began in January 1970. Up to 31 July 1982, 893 prisoners from the Brisbane Prison participated in the scheme. During the same period, 93 prisoners at Her Majesty's Prison, Townsville, were granted a release to work and during July 1982, 12 prisoners at Brisbane Prison and three at Townsville Prison participated in the release-to-work scheme.

It would be appropriate for me to take up a little more of the time of the House to make honourable members au fait with some of the reasons why prisoners are in gaol, the type of sentences they receive and the length of time they actually serve. In the period 1 August 1981 to 31 July 1982, 26 prisoners were released from the Brisbane Prison on the release-to-work program. Some examples are—

Crime	Sentence	Date sentenced	Date released to Work	Occupation
Murder	Life sentence	16-11-64	25-5-81	Labourer
Receiving	12 months	3-11-80	21-12-81	Labourer
Sodomy	5 years	1-3-78	30-12-81	Storeman and packer
Grievous bodily harm	18 months	13-3-81	18-1-82	Panel Beater
Housebreaking	2 years	1-8-80	11-2-82	Labourer
Conspiracy	5 years	4-9-80	11-2-82	Kitchen hand

I could give other examples. Offences committed by persons who have been released to work include possession of drugs, entering a dwelling, selling a prohibited plant, cultivating a prohibited plant, unlawful possession of a dangerous drug, rape, stealing, housebreaking, stealing with violence, unlawful use of a motor vehicle, arson, entering a dwelling-house at night, possession of a prohibited plant, robbery in company, receiving, robbery in company with violence, conspiracy, wilful and unlawful destruction, murder, attempted murder, robbery whilst armed, wilful and unlawful damage, and breaking, entering and stealing. I point out that those cases—

Mr Frawley: What about Donald Maher? Your crowd was against him getting out.

Mr R. J. GIBBS: I have made no public commitment on the case of Mr Maher. The Labor Party has a very clear policy that was adopted at the last State Labor-in-Politics Convention. A comprehensive set of rules and guide-lines are set down for the rehabilitation of prisoners. I certainly would not agree that Maher should have been let out after two years' imprisonment to attend a concert. He has spent 10 years in gaol. His record indicates that he is a model prisoner. He is entitled ultimately to be released. I hope that he will return to the community and play a useful role. I qualify that by saying that I am aware of the serious nature of the crime. In fact, it was described as one of the most cold-blooded murders ever committed. Ten years in prison is a significant portion of one's lifetime. As far as I have been able to ascertain, no-one who has been let out on a release-to-work basis has been taken from that program and returned to prison. It is recognised by responsible and intelligent people in the community that the program has been successful.

Recently in the "Telegraph", in an article written by Ann Wharton under the heading "Half way to freedom", there is a quotation from a statement made by a young man who said, "I was stupid—bloody stupid. Nothing is worth doing time." That person is involved in the release-to-work program and lives at the hostel at Spring Hill, serving a term prior to his release to the community. The excellent article to which I have referred outlines clearly the type of reform that is available to people who are put into half-way institutions when they are participating in a release-to-work program. I do not listen very often to those people who are sympathetic to the cause of the National-Liberal Parties, but I am reliably informed by people within my own party organisation who are connected with some of those agencies and closely connected to the prison system that those decisions are not made lightly. The system is thoroughly

checked before the persons concerned are granted the type of leave to which I have referred.

I wish to refer now to the Interim Report of the Royal Commission into New South Wales Prisons in 1976, 1977 and 1978, section 238, under the heading "Alternatives to and Variations of Imprisonment" It is very rare that one hears in the community or in the political arena any severe criticism of royal commissions once they have been terminated. Differing points of view may be expressed on certain aspects and findings of royal commissions, but usually it is agreed that royal commissions serve some useful purpose.

The royal commissioners said in their report—

"Facilities should be provided as soon as practicable to extend Work Release and Periodic Detention programs."

That statement was made by persons who do not have a personal commitment to people inside prison and who do not have a commitment to any political party. It was made by a group of persons who were selected by the New South Wales Government of the day to conduct a full royal commission into the prison system in that State. That was their recommendation.

Again I suggest that it is time that the type of paranoid feeling and expression that comes from this Parliament at times and from certain sections of the community was chopped off where it deserves to be chopped off—at the knees. Members are elected to adopt a responsible attitude and to make a responsible contribution in the House. With that responsibility goes the onus of looking at legislation rationally.

I am extremely pleased that my party's spokesman on welfare services, Mr Fouras, will be participating in the debate on this Bill. Thanks to his very able and competent handling of his shadow portfolio, the Australian Labor Party has a very progressive policy on prison reform. I urge all honourable members to adopt a responsible attitude to this very touchy and controversial aspect of the law.

Hon. J. W. GREENWOOD (Ashgrove) (4.17 p.m.): Like most honourable members, I welcome the Bill. It is one that, from any point of view, is progressive and will effect major reform. In speaking to it, I pay a tribute to the late John Maddison, the Liberal Attorney-General in New South Wales, who in July 1973 initiated proposals that finally bore fruit in measures similar to this throughout Australia. I do that without in any way derogating from the activities of subsequent Attorneys-General in New South Wales and other States and without derogating from the efforts of the present Labor Attorney-General in New South Wales, Mr Frank Walker, who, with his colleagues, has worked long and hard to achieve a result such as this.

Perhaps it is as well to say a few words about the way in which the problem dealt with by the Bill has come to the forefront in numerous parts of the world within the one decade. Up till this time the British Commonwealth relied on the Prisoners Removal Acts 1869 and 1884 to effect the removal of prisoners from one member nation to another. So difficult are those Acts to find that within the last 15 minutes I was not able to locate them in the index to the statutes in this Chamber. Nevertheless, exist they do.

I have mentioned the late John Maddison's efforts in July 1973. I refer now to the United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in September 1975. It was the fifth such congress, and at it the Australian delegation was deeply involved in discussions on the drafting of rules providing for the voluntary return of prisoners convicted of crime in a foreign country to their State of residence for the serving of their sentence.

In August 1977, at Winnipeg, the Commonwealth of Nations Law Ministers held one of their regular meetings and, once again, Australia was involved in moves designed to give consideration to the feasibility of developing arrangements under which prisoners undergoing long sentences in one member country could be transferred to another to serve their sentence.

In April 1978, the Home Secretary in the United Kingdom set up a working party of officials to examine the possible scope and means for the United Kingdom to enter

into agreements with other countries in Europe and elsewhere for the repatriation of prisoners and for subsequent parole arrangements.

In June 1978, the Council of Europe's Conference of Ministers of Justice discussed the same matters. Also, in the latter part of 1978, a Canadian delegation, which had had preliminary negotiations with Australian officials, held discussions with New Zealand officials before returning to Canada. A draft treaty, initialled in New Zealand, contains provisions basically similar to the proposals earlier agreed to by the Australian and Canadian delegations.

The following year, in August 1979, the Howard League for Penal Reform published an important paper, to which I would refer those people who are interested in the subject of prisoners in foreign gaols.

In April 1980, the Law Ministers of the Commonwealth held their meeting in Barbados and once again discussed this matter and supported the development of arrangements for the transfer of prisoners between member nations.

Those are some of the groups that have been working towards the same goal in many parts of the world; they have the same end in view. Justice Roma Mitchell put it in these words—

“How much more lonely and bitter must be the situation of a person who, while travelling in a foreign country whether for nefarious or other reasons, commits a breach of the laws of that country and finds himself imprisoned, perhaps for a lengthy term, with no hope of regular visits from parents, wife, brothers and sisters or friends.”

Although the purpose of terms of imprisonment must be to punish and to deter, there must also be the purpose of rehabilitation. Rehabilitation cannot proceed effectively unless the prisoner concerned is capable of both receiving the love of his family and friends and giving love. This Bill is designed to enable him to do that, and I thoroughly support it.

Mr WRIGHT (Rockhampton) (4.24 p.m.): I join with those honourable members who have already spoken in support of the legislation. I am pleased that there exists in Australia a system under which the Attorneys-General can come together and consider legislation not only on a parochial, State basis but also on a national basis. It is good to see that members of the legal profession and the people's representatives at parliamentary level are working together to ensure that some type of uniformity is achieved.

However, I suggest that maybe the time has come for taking that principle even further. In saying that, I am conscious that the Attorney-General in Queensland has been party to discussions in many areas in which uniformity is needed.

But if anything is wanted at this moment, surely it is a reconsideration of existing company laws to ensure that a constant, continuing problem does not arise in the prison system. I relate my comments to the Bill by saying that, if some of the contraventions could be stopped, perhaps this legislation, which deals with the prison system, would not be needed.

My comments refer to the Queensland Buyers Advisory Service. Only a few nights ago I spoke in the House about that organisation and pointed out that it claimed to be a consumer-based service organisation. Any intending purchaser could simply ring up QBAS, as it was called, and receive unbiased advice. The claim was that purchasers, simply by making a telephone call, would within 48 hours get from specialist staff unbiased information on the best possible price and product specifications of any product over \$100. It also offered concessional services for photograph-processing, car rentals, hotel/motel accommodation and a myriad of other things. Because it also involved traders, it sounded very good for consumers. Traders were subjected to a constant PR exercise to have them join as trader members of that body for a small fee. Unfortunately, the fee was not so small; it amounted to \$1,050 and increased by \$100 for every subsidiary firm up to five. So the fee could have risen to \$1,450.

For a couple of years that organisation has presented itself as a consumer-based organisation. It met with Queensland consumer groups and the well known education officer in

Queensland, Jan Taylor. In its literature and in those discussions it implied that it had been going a long time.

I tie it in with a need for uniform legislation because it talked of its link with Australian Buyers Advisory Service, which has been in operation for something like eight years; it also spoke of the potential membership of such an organisation in Queensland and projected a membership of approximately 40 000 and in its representations to consumers, traders and the general community it presented itself as an organisation with a long-term future. Yet on Monday that firm went into bankruptcy and was able to waive its total legal responsibility of \$385,000, made up of \$246,000 in debts to creditors and \$139,000 in unsecured loans. The claim is that the organisation simply could not compete in the present economic circumstances.

The man in charge of that service, Alex Ruscuklic, ought to be in prison and, under this new legislation, I want to see him transferred back to Victoria, where he came from. I do not want to see him in Queensland again.

His organisation promised all sorts of benefits. I have with me promises made to consumers concerning refunds. They imply that the organisation would go on and on. They are available if honourable members wish to see them. The organisation mentions journals, clubs and all sorts of things that would benefit the consumer.

It set up subsidiary companies such as FIT (Finance Insurances and Tax), International Purchasing Services Pty Ltd, Global Purchasing Services Qld Pty Ltd, QBAS Travel Club and QBAS Adam & Associates, which was an employment agency. It presented the image that it was an ongoing body.

I contend that for the last two years Alex Ruscuklic and those con men and con women who were with him in this venture planned for the demise of QBAS. They simply used QBAS as a finance or capital-generating exercise and very carefully—regrettably, legally—siphoned off the money from QBAS into other organisations, some of which I have named.

I have been able to obtain a copy of a report on a special investigation carried out by the well-known business consultants, Dun & Bradstreet (Australia) Pty Ltd. It points out that one of the subsidiary companies, Global Purchasing Services Qld Pty Ltd, has an authorised capital of \$10,000 in \$1 shares, but a paid-up capital of \$2.

Shares were held by A. L. Evans, who I believe has been tricked, and the infamous Mr Alex Ruscuklic. The well-known firm of Dun & Bradstreet refused to give Global Purchasing a rating. Before I entered the Chamber I spoke by telephone to a person who invested some thousands of dollars. He has given up hope of ever getting it back. I am told that he is just one of many.

I am suggesting that here we have a firm that planned, prepared and conspired to take down the people of Queensland, be they consumers or traders, for hundreds of thousands of dollars. During that two-year period, however, the firm made out that it had no problems. I have a letter here—proof, Mr Speaker, because it is dated 22 June 1982—stating that there were moves to wind up the company. However, in July 1982, a month later, the same Mr Alex Ruscuklic produced a booklet calling on people to join the company for career opportunities and talked about the new company to be set up called QBAS Adam & Associates. All along he and his cohorts had planned to go into bankruptcy. They got people to stand up in court and make out that a firm in Melbourne known as Interair intended to invest in the company. A person went before the liquidator and said that a number of Bundaberg sugar farmers intended to invest in the company. All this was done to gain time. At the same time Mr Alex Ruscuklic withdrew as a director so that he had no involvement. Then the company went into liquidation, and there is no more financial responsibility on QBAS Pty Ltd. It no longer has a responsibility to the creditors or to the unsecured lenders. It no longer has a responsibility to an estimated 12 000 consumers who paid \$122 a year or more to be members, or to the estimated thousand traders who paid \$1,050 or more to join this organisation. The company has simply taken the money.

If it had stopped at that, I would not have risen to speak today. But, regrettably, when that company went into liquidation on Monday, a man called Don Lockyer, who

for some strange reason is associated with it, went to the liquidator and offered him \$11,500 for the assets that could be realised. They had originally been assessed by the liquidator to be valued at \$10,000. Ten minutes after that company went into liquidation, this man took over the offices of QBAS here in Brisbane, retained the staff, and is now out asking people to continue in the operation.

There is no guarantee, there is no protection, there is no longer responsibility to those many traders who paid such an enormous amount of money, there is no longer responsibility to the Queensland University Credit Union, whose 5 400 members joined en masse, there is no longer responsibility to anyone. I believe we ought to ensure that Alex Ruscuklic is stopped. I ask the media, the Minister and anyone else who can assist to ensure that this issue is publicised so that no longer will this firm—it is not now a company but just a firm name—be allowed to operate in Queensland.

Regrettably, Mr Speaker, as you would be aware, there is nothing that can be done legally to stop it at this point. This man Lockyer has taken over the assets, the partitions, the few typewriters, and is continuing in business. Alex Ruscuklic is allegedly no longer a director, but he is the main shareholder, controller, manipulator and conspirator of the other companies that are behind this whole affair and have gained, I believe hundreds of thousands of dollars of Queensland money. He must be stopped.

I thank you, Mr Speaker, for your tolerance in allowing me to raise this matter. I ask that something be done to warn the public. I ask the Attorney-General to immediately use the powers that do lie within the Companies Act to break through the corporate veil and have this man stopped. I believe that he is culpable and liable and that he planned this entire exercise. There is evidence in just the few documents I have—I will be gathering statutory declarations in the next few days—to demonstrate that this man and those with him knew what they were doing. They planned it, they conspired to do it, they used this company simply to gain fast funds that they would then syphon off to companies that they controlled. Mr Speaker, something must be done, and I urge the Minister to support me on this issue.

Mr FOURAS (South Brisbane) (4.35 p.m.): I congratulate the Queensland Attorney-General who, with the Attorneys-General of other political persuasions, agreed that the Prisoners (Interstate Transfer) Bill should come into effect. The Minister, in his second-reading speech, said—

“The transfer scheme is aimed at maximising the effect of the rehabilitative aspect of imprisonment in an attempt to ensure that prisoners do not again commit crimes in the community.

This will be achieved by allowing prisoners to be transferred to a prison in another jurisdiction near their homes or family so as they may avail themselves of the strong emotional ties which can prevent to some degree the isolation of a prisoner from the society into which he will ultimately be released.”

That is very important. I am concerned that, while that is being done, certain aspects of our prison system do not allow families to be in contact with friends, relatives or dear ones who are in prison.

The prison farms at Palen Creek and Numinbah are successful, well-run institutions, but easy access to them by prisoners' families is not available. In Victoria and New South Wales, organisations are given funds with which to provide free transport to similar prisons. It is ludicrous that church groups and Action for World Development have to find the funds to provide subsidised transport to Palen Creek and Numinbar for prisoners' families. The prison farm environment is free of many of the stresses of the closed prison environment, but close contact between the prisoners and their families is denied. Prisoners are unable to feel that they are part of the community. That denies them an opportunity to make an easy re-entry into society.

My philosophy is very similar to that expressed by the honourable member for Wolston. Although imprisonment is seen by many as a means of retribution and punishment and deterrence, I see none of those matters as being relevant to a prisoner's incarceration. The basic reason for imprisonment ought to be the protection of society. Punishment should simply be loss of freedom; no additional punishment should be involved.

It is time that the Minister for Welfare Services did something positive, instead of grandstanding and saying what a wonderful job he is doing. It is about time that the small sum of money required to provide a subsidised transport service for prisoners' families was found.

While I am speaking about the need of prisoners' families to have contact with them, I point out that a house should be provided near the Brisbane Prison so that prisoners' families can meet volunteers and professionals who may help them on their way. When a man enters prison and leaves a wife and a family behind, usually the first thing that happens is that the family loses its home. The kids are uprooted, they lose their school environment and, quite often, the family breaks up. If the Welfare Services Department were to buy a house close to the prison, those very important facilities could be provided.

At one time, the Minister's department had a Social Work Division, which had the job of looking after prisoners' families. When the department was revamped, the division was transferred to the Children's Services Department. The Minister was lauded by the Father of the Year selection committee because of the progressive welfare improvements in Queensland. However, that vital division, which provided social support for the family and kids, is now pushed under the large umbrella of the Children's Services Department. It will be lost. But, worse than that, it is not receiving the back-up support that it requires. Surely the Minister can find the money needed to rent or lease a house for use as a community centre, so that the prisoners' families can obtain information and help each other. It would be a place in which volunteers could be brought into the system to give much needed support.

Whatever the community thinks about whether prisoners ought to be punished, about retribution, or about recrimination, ultimately society pays for imprisonment. A prisoner will not stay in prison for ever and a day. He will have to be made ready to return to the community and play a role in the mainstream of society. It is impossible to create an environment for such a prisoner, a human being, that will enable him to fit back into the community if he is put into a cage and treated like a mangy dog. It cannot be done if he is treated as being subhuman because of a crime, no matter how horrendous, that he committed in the past.

I support the Opposition spokesman on justice matters. The Labor Party stands positively for the rehabilitation of prisoners. I again commend the Minister for Justice—certainly not the Minister for Welfare Services.

Mr Mackenroth: The Welfare Services Minister is a fraud.

Mr FOURAS: He goes into the community pretending that he is concerned. He has visited every prison in the State. He has been photographed having lunch with prisoners. But nothing positive in policies comes from him. Social workers have not been appointed to prisons. There have been no education programs to the extent they should be introduced. There has been no support for the families and children of prisoners. It is all very well to be seen opening things and using gimmicks. Time and time again the Minister takes the media into prisons, where he outlines all the marvellous things that he intends to do. But only bricks and mortar are being provided by the Minister. He is not providing the other aspects that are so vital to the rehabilitative processes.

I congratulate the Minister for introducing such a commendable Bill. The transfer of prisoners and the conducting of trials that would not be allowed until a sentence is finished are two good principles. A prisoner will be able to learn what his total sentence will be. Every aspect of the Bill is to be commended, and I congratulate the Minister for introducing it.

Hon. S. S. DOUMANY (Kurilpa—Minister for Justice and Attorney-General) (4.33 p.m.), in reply: I thank the honourable members for Wolston, Ashgrove, Rockhampton and South Brisbane for their contributions and, in particular, for their support of the Bill. There is no question that this legislation is something of a landmark, because it is one of the early products of uniform legislative drafting by the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General. It took eight or nine years to produce it. I am delighted and honoured to have the carriage of the Bill through Parliament.

Mr R. J. Gibbs: I would have preferred to do it, but I'll cop you as second best.

Mr DOUMANY: I thank the honourable member.

The Opposition members who have spoken recognise that the Bill deals with facility of rehabilitation and rapidity of justice. Nothing is more detrimental to an accused than long delays before charges are dealt with. Once this exchange becomes operational and works smoothly, charges will be handled promptly, even though an accused might be standing on counts that occurred in various jurisdictions.

At present, consideration is being given to extending this uniform arrangement to countries such as New Zealand and New Guinea. It may well be possible to introduce in neighbouring countries legislation that is parallel in various respects. Ultimately exchanges of this nature may be made on an international basis.

Mr R. J. Gibbs: You will have problems with Singapore.

Mr DOUMANY: We might.

I thank honourable members for their support. The legislation is important, and I commend it to the House.

Motion (Mr Doumany) agreed to.

#### Committee

The Chairman of Committees (Mr Miller, Ithaca) in the chair

Clauses 1 to 34, as read, agreed to.

Bill reported, without amendment.

#### Third Reading

Bill, on motion of Mr Doumany, by leave, read a third time.

#### LOAN FUND COMPANIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Hon. S. S. DOUMANY (Kurilpa—Minister for Justice and Attorney-General), by leave, without notice: I move—

“That so much of the Standing Orders and the Sessional Order be suspended as would otherwise prevent the immediate bringing in of a Bill intituled, ‘A Bill to amend the Loan Fund Companies Act 1982 in certain particulars,’ and the passing of such Bill through all the stages in one day.”

Motion agreed to.

#### First Reading

Bill presented and, on motion of Mr Doumany, read a first time.

#### Second Reading

Hon. S. S. DOUMANY (Kurilpa—Minister for Justice and Attorney-General) (4.48 p.m.): I move—

“That the Bill be now read a second time.”

The purpose of this Bill is to facilitate the appointment of an administrator to assist in administration and generally to update certain provisions of the Loan Fund Companies Act 1982 subsequent to the coming into operation of the co-operative scheme for regulation of companies and the securities industry on 1 July 1982.

I mentioned to the House when introducing the loan fund companies legislation in March of this year that the Government will not hesitate to introduce as a matter of priority any amendments that experience indicates are desirable. Experience in the operation of the Act has indicated that certain amendments will assist the operation of the Act.

In brief, the scheme of the Act was to generally prohibit loan fund companies, but to enable a loan fund company to continue to operate if it met the stringent conditions of that legislation. Any loan fund company in existence when the Act came into effect on 25 March 1982 could continue to operate for a period of three months (which could be extended) during which time it must “put its house in order”.

During this period of three months, only one company applied to be declared a loan fund company. Inspectors appointed under the Act investigated the activities of the

company. Indications were that the company was making an attempt to arrange its affairs so as to comply with the provisions of the Act. A decision to extend the period of time for three months for the company to comply with the provisions of the Act was made following the receipt of a report from the inspectors.

Presently the Act provides for the appointment of an administrator in a number of circumstances and generally follows the New South Wales legislation in this regard. The Bill will streamline certain procedures for the appointment of an administrator and will make provision for an administrator to be more quickly appointed where the need arises and, in the light of experience, will generally improve the provisions of the Act relating to administration.

Clause 3 of the Bill primarily enables the company under administration to be deemed to be a loan fund company during the period of the administration. This will enable a company under administration to become subject to the stringent provisions of the Act and will enable an administrator to effectively run the company in the interests of the shareholders.

Experience in the administration of the Act indicates that, in some circumstances, it is desirable in the interests of the shareholders to appoint an administrator as soon as possible. Clause 4 provides the machinery for this.

Provision has been made for the appointment of a deputy administrator. This will ensure smooth administration of a company if the administrator is absent on account of illness, is required to operate outside Queensland, etc.

If during administration demands are made upon the assets, the supervisor is empowered to look at the desirability of making payment. Undesirable though valid practices will therefore be able to be examined by the supervisor.

A shareholder will not be obliged to make payment in connection with calls, instalments on shares or arrears during the period of administration. This is considered very desirable in the interests of shareholders. Those shareholders of modest financial means will benefit from this provision.

Clause 6 of the Bill updates the winding-up provisions of the Act, generally in the light of the new companies legislation which recently came into operation on a national basis.

If a company can be revitalised during the course of administration, the Act contains provision for the directors to take over from the administrator. Provision is made that if during administration a company continues to deteriorate it can be wound up.

I commend the Bill to the House.

Mr MACKENROTH (Chatsworth) (4.53 p.m.): The Opposition agrees to the introduction of this legislation and accepts the need to have it passed through all stages in one day. The Minister was kind enough to allow me to view the Bill and to be briefed by his departmental officers on the need to have it passed and on the manner in which it will operate. I totally agree that it is necessary to debate all stages this afternoon so that the Bill can become law as soon as possible.

In framing the Bill, the Minister has thought about the shareholders of loan fund companies. That is very good. In the past, the Government has not tended to look after the interests of shareholders. In this instance, it certainly has.

The Minister said—

“If during administration demands are made upon the assets the supervisor is empowered to look at the desirability of making payment.”

In previous speeches that I made in this Chamber I outlined the way in which home loan companies lent money out to companies that they controlled. Until all the books of the company are gathered together, it is impossible to ascertain exactly how much money is involved. A provision such as that outlined by the Minister will protect the small shareholder.

The Minister went on to say that undesirable though valid practices will be able to be examined by the supervisor. Since 1980 I have been making the point that the loan fund companies and those that preceded them were operating within the company laws of Queensland but that most of their activities were undesirable and, in many instances, immoral. Money was being lent by a home loan company to other companies that it controlled and was therefore being lost to that home loan company. That type of practice was engaged in, with the result that approximately \$1.7m was lost. I hope that it will be possible to ascertain how much money was lost through those companies and to determine whether there is any way in which the money can be got back.

The major provision of the Bill is that a shareholder will not be obliged to make payment in connection with calls, instalments on shares or arrears during the period of administration. That is a sensible provision. If an administrator is appointed, people will not know the outcome and many of them will not want to make payment in connection with calls.

The most important provision is that if during administration a company continues to deteriorate it can be wound up. I do not know what the inspectors have found in the four months since the Act was passed; I am not privy to that information.

Certainly my investigations over the last two and a half years would lead me to believe that once an administrator is appointed to the one company that is left, the only decision that he will have to make is to wind up the company. The scheme is unworkable. It has been proved that it cannot work. The companies have already lost 60 per cent of their shareholders' money. I do not believe that the scheme should continue, and I suggest that the administrator will find that out.

As I have said, only one company is left in Queensland, and that is Executive Properties Ltd. At present, it is being run basically by a company in Melbourne, Executive Counsellors, which is actually a superannuation fund. The smarties in Melbourne thought that they could grab this company in Queensland and use it for selling their fancy superannuation scheme.

Executive Properties Ltd was formed last year out of two Queensland companies, the Federated Housing Fund of Australia Limited and the Intercapital Finance Corporation Limited. Both of those companies, in being wound up to form Executive Properties Ltd, admitted to losses of about \$1.7m, which was 60 per cent of the paid-up capital. One would assume that there would have been \$1.3m left. I would hope that there is still at least \$1.3m left and that the administrator, once he is appointed, will be able to get hold of that \$1.3m and pay the shareholders.

Mr Moore: The receiver will end up getting half of it.

Mr MACKENROTH: We will have to wait and see. These people have already lost 60 per cent of their money and I am sure that they would be glad to get 20 per cent back. Before the Minister introduced this legislation they would have been responsible for the rest of the calls.

We need to look at the types of people who are involved in this matter of companies lending to other companies. The Federated Housing Fund of Australia Ltd was set up in Queensland in 1972, and the main person behind it was Brian James Maher, who has been mentioned in the media in the last few days because of his activities in tax avoidance and other schemes.

Reference has been made to the Connolly reports that were tabled in this Parliament. One report concerned mutual home loan companies. After that report was presented to Parliament, the then Justice Minister (Sir William Knox) attempted to take some action.

The startling fact that emerged from that report was that in 1972 Brian James Maher charged the Federated Housing Fund of Australia Limited \$50,000 to lodge the company documents in the companies office. Anyone can buy a shelf company today for \$350, but in 1972 Brian James Maher charged the small shareholders \$50,000 for lodging the documents in the companies office.

In my investigations I found that another company, Rotashare, which was also a Brian James Maher company, siphoned countless thousands of dollars out of other companies. I suggest that Brian James Maher would have made more than \$100,000

from the Federated Housing Fund of Australia Limited in about eight months, got out and left a mess. Other crooks came in and took over the scheme. Over the years, crook after crook has been running the scheme.

The Minister for Justice and Attorney-General has done something about this matter, and I commend him for it. Since he has been the Minister for Justice and Attorney-General he has tried to do something about the problem. This amendment to the Act will allow an administrator to be appointed. I hope that the Minister will appoint an administrator as quickly as possible. In terms of the types of schemes that Brian James Maher has thought up, the sooner this company ends up at the bottom of the harbour, the better.

Hon. S. S. DOUMANY (Kurilpa—Minister for Justice and Attorney-General) (5 p.m.), in reply: I thank the honourable member for Chatsworth for his support of this very important and urgent Bill, and I note his comments. I assure him that the appointment of the administrator will be very rapid indeed. Arrangements have been made so that the appointment will follow very closely upon the assent to this legislation.

From the original Act and this amendment to it and from the current debate that is raging about white-collar crime and its implications in tax avoidance, it is clear that in the company law arena we have to address far more directly the question of lifting the corporate veil. I regard that as a top priority in the next stage of the development of the national companies and securities scheme. With the other members of the Ministerial Council, Queensland will pursue very vigorously some firm and definite action to amend the co-operative scheme, to enable a more effective and prompt penetration of circumstances of this nature with which we have had to deal both on this occasion and on previous occasions. Quite clearly, Governments throughout Australia have to break the nexus and deal with those who erode the savings of innocent and gullible people, who really cannot be expected to know what is in store for them when they enter into many of these arrangements. The culprits have to be dealt with a great deal earlier so that moves of that nature can be forestalled, rather than have the Government act in a curative sense at a later stage, as it has had to do in this instance. Suffice it to say that the Government, on this occasion with the full support of the Opposition, has acted and is certainly set to clean up whatever remains to be done in respect of these companies.

I commend the Bill to the House.

Motion (Mr Doumany) agreed to.

#### Committee

The Chairman of Committees (Mr Miller, Ithaca) in the chair

Clauses 1 to 8, as read, agreed to.

Bill reported, without amendment.

#### Third Reading

Bill, on motion of Mr Doumany, read a third time.

#### PHOTOGRAPHS FOR BOOKLET TO COMMEMORATE RESUMPTION OF SITTINGS IN RESTORED PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, a booklet is being produced to commemorate the resumption of sittings in the restored Parliament House. Arrangements have been made for a photographer to be present to take photographs in the restored Chamber on Tuesday, 14 September, the day that the House resumes sitting. On that day, I propose to suspend the sitting after question-time so that all members may be present for that purpose in the restored Chamber. I hope that all honourable members will be present to participate in that event.

#### SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT

Hon. C. A. WHARTON (Burnett—Leader of the House): I move—

“That the House, at its rising, do adjourn until Tuesday, 14 September 1982.”

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 5.5 p.m.