

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, October 20, 1966.

The SPEAKER (Hon. L. G. Riches) took the Chair at 2 p.m. and read prayers.

ASSENT TO BILLS.

His Excellency the Governor, by message, intimated his assent to the following Bills:

Apprentices Act Amendment,
Appropriation (No. 2),
Licensing Act Amendment.

QUESTIONS**GREENWAYS LIMITED.**

Mr. HALL: Difficulty is at present being experienced at Fairview Park, where the firm of Greenways Limited has, I believe, become insolvent. This difficulty arises in respect of the ownership of a number of houses, the purchase of which has not been fully completed. I was approached this morning by the wives of three men concerned in transactions, and many points of difficulty were put to me. I am told that the Premier attended a meeting at this estate and gave certain assurances to people at the meeting. I believe he said that the Government would do everything in its power to see that the money which was paid as deposits on temporary finance by people would not be lost. However, the people who approached me this morning said that the problem was faced by many people in the district, and that they were at present trying to find out how many families were in difficulties, although they thought the number was between 30 and 50. They made the following points: is it proper for the company (as has been done) to deposit over \$3,000 with the Savings Bank for three days to obtain the mortgage priority given by the Savings Bank to people who have money deposited with it; why have deposits paid by prospective purchasers not been included in a trust fund; what is to happen about the maintenance of houses (a regular feature of these companies is to sell a house with a guarantee that the sale will be followed with essential maintenance for a period); and what is to happen to families involved in deposit transactions, who are paying weekly sums for temporary finance, when the breadwinner is out of work, which I believe is the present situation of several of these families? There is much disquiet in this area, and I do not ask this question in a critical manner. However, as it is necessary that the public be assured that this estate will receive as much assistance as possible, can the Premier give that assurance?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: This matter has received my personal attention and last evening there were further discussions. Regarding bank deposits, there is only one answer: the people did not have the money to pay a deposit to the Savings Bank but the company did so on their behalf. In one known case it received the money back. About \$1,600 was paid into the Savings Bank on behalf of these people by the company and the sum on deposit reached approximately \$2,600, but two days later because of withdrawals from the bank it was reduced to less than \$10. The explanation of this, of course, is misrepresentation to the bank. I assure the House that as a result of last evening's conference I undertook to make representations (which I have done this morning) and requested that the Savings Bank, which would be the principal lender in this case, should inspect each house in respect of which the applicant had registered for assistance. In respect of those who have not applied for assistance and who, therefore, have not made representations, the bank would undertake to inspect each of the houses concerned to ensure that the standards for an advance were met. Each application would be considered in its turn, and nobody would receive preferential treatment, despite the particular circumstances existing.

The finance companies are endeavouring to meet the position but have expressed concern that some of the people involved are over-committed with hire-purchase payments for such items as motor cars. I have asked the finance companies whether they will agree to grant a concession in the case of an emergency, so that as a house is approved it may be occupied on a rental basis (even though a deposit may have been paid) until a loan is forthcoming. A further investigation is being made into the general financial position of all concerned. Many of these people do not possess the deeds to their properties, and the deeds are not in the hands of the finance companies. So that maintenance and improvements can be effected to a house in order to obtain a bank loan, 307 blocks of land in the northern areas are to be offered for sale, so that finance may be raised. The position is being closely watched by the Government, as well as, I understand, by the finance companies, especially in view of applications that may arise in an emergency. As about \$400,000 is involved, an effort is being made to remedy the position in the interests of all concerned.

SIX-DAY WEEK.

Mr. LANGLEY: A letter to the Editor in yesterday's *Advertiser*, headed "Six-Day Work Questioned", states, in part:

In this time of unemployment and hardship, particularly within the building and civil engineering construction industry, how can the State Government justify its action in allowing the construction and water supply branches of the Engineering and Water Supply Department to continue working a six-day week on some projects? Admittedly, some maintenance jobs necessitate work for a few on Saturdays and even Sundays, and overtime working on distant country projects is justifiable to a degree, but what could the reason be for allowing work to continue on Saturdays on the construction of a certain hills pipeline?

Has the Minister of Works any information about the working of a six-day week by Engineering and Water Supply Department employees, as implied in that statement?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: Having seen the letter and had an inquiry made, I assure the honourable member that it is not the department's practice to work overtime where it can be possibly avoided. The only construction work involving working a six-day week (and this applies only to alternative weeks) is on the Heathfield scheme, because of the great fire risk in the area concerned and the urgent need for a water supply for the coming summer. In order that we may honour that agreement and protect people in a high fire risk area, some overtime work has been done on alternate weeks.

STOCKWELL MAIN.

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent question about work on the Swan Reach to Stockwell main and about the likely completion date of that work?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: The Director and Engineer-in-Chief states that work on the Swan Reach to Stockwell main will commence this financial year and is scheduled for completion in 1969-70.

FRUIT PRICES.

The Hon. T. C. STOTT: When I visited Waikerie yesterday I heard some complaints by citrus growers about the payment of \$6 to fruit-processing factories. Apparently there is a misunderstanding of the position amongst growers and my question to the Minister of Agriculture is designed to clear up that misunderstanding. Has he any official statement to make on the position, and has he been informed by the Citrus Organization Committee

of the position regarding Berri Fruit Juices Co-operative Limited and fruit processing?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I have no official statement to make on the matter, but this morning I had a long discussion with the Citrus Organization Committee on various matters affecting the citrus industry, one of which (as the honourable member will recall, as he introduced a deputation to me recently) concerned prices paid to producers by the processing plants. This position applies not only in South Australia but throughout Australia. I understand that it was suggested that Berri Fruit Juices Co-operative Limited had refused to pay the extra sum as agreed by processors in other States. However, I want to contradict that suggestion because it is not true. The situation is that it was agreed that the sugar concession price was what the Minister for Primary Industry recently told the Commonwealth House of Representatives was the minimum price. The processors could pay above this price if they desired and whatever was the price agreed to between the growers and processing factories could quite easily be arrived at. One company in another State went outside this agreement and purchased at sugar concession prices, and this upset the whole arrangement. Berri Fruit Juices Co-operative Limited was not at fault on this occasion: it was the company in another State that was at fault. At this stage only sugar concession prices will be paid. This does not prevent Berri Fruit Juices Co-operative Limited from paying the extra later. My information is that it may still pay this sum at a future date. I do not know whether that completely answers the honourable member's question, but it is all the information I have at present.

TEA TREE GULLY SCHOOL.

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my question of September 29 about the acquisition of additional land to extend the present restricted Tea Tree Gully Primary School?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: The land referred to by the honourable member was valued by the Land Board, but the owner insisted on a figure which was in excess of this valuation. As a result, approval was given for the compulsory acquisition of the area, and the Crown Solicitor has issued an originating summons out of the Supreme Court to have the compensation assessed. However, to facilitate the Education Department's entering into

possession of the land, the Crown Solicitor has been asked to proclaim it under section 23a of the Compulsory Acquisition of Land Act.

GRASSHOPPERS.

Mr. BOCKELBERG: Some time ago, when I introduced a deputation to the Minister of Agriculture regarding grasshoppers, the Minister said that the Government would be responsible for part of the cost incurred. I know the Minister is satisfied with the kill that has been achieved. Will he indicate to the House how much the Government will contribute towards the cost of the eradication of grasshoppers?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: True the honourable member introduced a deputation from residents of Ceduna and the surrounding area who were perturbed about the increase in grasshoppers. He was accompanied by the member for Ridley (Hon. T. C. Stott), who supported the case, and I was pleased to take the matter to Cabinet, which was pleased to assist by providing for a subsidy on the cost of the spray material. The people of the area have claimed that this is an obnoxious insect area, and it has now been proclaimed as such. Therefore, councils now have powers to rate the landowners. The entomologist from the department (Mr. Birks) and another officer have been to the area frequently and have taken an active part in the spraying campaign. The lindane spray that was first used was not as effective as we would have desired. Although it effected something better than a 50 per cent kill, which was better than had been achieved in the past, it was still not up to what the department would have liked. The department then began using another spray, which has had an 85 per cent kill and has been very effective in this area. As members realize, this is a spray that had to be watched carefully. However, I understand that there is no worry concerning residues from this spray in the area, for in the isolated nature of these colonies it would present no problem. From the latest information I have had, this spray has proved much more successful, and the people in the area are happy with the work of the department and with the results. It is true also that this year the grasshoppers will not have the same movement as they had last year, when feed was short and the crops were very sparse. As there is much cover in the area, there is not expected to be as much movement of the grasshoppers, even of those that are left, as there has been on other occasions.

EXPORT LAMBS.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I asked a question of the Minister of Agriculture several weeks ago based on observations I made in London and various other towns in England where the cuts of meat being offered to housewives appeared to come largely from local sources of supply and from rather larger animals than producers in this State have been recommended to produce. As this disturbed me very much, I asked the Minister to obtain a report to see whether further investigations confirmed or disproved what appeared to me to be the position. Has the Minister that report?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I have a report from the Deputy Director of Agriculture (Mr. Irving) which states:

The question raised by Mr. Pearson in the House of Assembly concerning the quality and weight of lamb sold on the United Kingdom market has perplexed producers for many years. During my visit in 1959, I was struck by the same distinctions.

The following observations are made by way of an interim report:

- (1) The English housewife (like all others) has a very strong preference for fresh meat over frozen. She will therefore always be willing to pay more for home killed lamb than imported frozen. When displayed together in the butcher's shop, the imported frozen product is at a serious disadvantage. It would be safe to say that it would be very hard to sell at all in an Australian shop.
- (2) With this strong consumer preference, it is possible for the home producer to sell his lambs at heavier weights without prejudice. Producers estimate that their returns are more economical if they can carry their lambs to the higher weights.
- (3) Most home produced lambs are retailed in provincial cities and towns of the Midlands and Northern England and consumed by rural and semi-rural communities. These consumers traditionally prefer heavier and more "finished" cuts of meat.
Most imported lamb is distributed to the large metropolitan areas where small lean cuts are preferred.
- (4) The wide margin between prices for fresh and frozen lamb which prevails in the spring and early summer months (when Mr. Pearson was in England), narrows later in the summer when supplies of home killed lamb increase.
- (5) The wholesale trade at Smithfield was adamant that heavyweight frozen lamb was quite unacceptable to the trade. In fact at that time there was a preference for the lower grades of imported lamb because of their less "finish".

- (6) Australian lamb always suffers by comparison with New Zealand imported because of its marked seasonality of supply. It therefore lacks the trade image created by the continuously supplied New Zealand "Canterbury lamb".

With a view to bringing these observations fully up to date, the question will again be raised with the Chairman of the Australian Meat Board at a meeting of the Animal Production Committee in Armidale next month. Further inquiries will also be made with the Department of Primary Industry on the latest grading standards, and I will arrange for a report from this department (so far as can be determined) on the relative economic returns from light and heavy weight lambs. With the reduced significance of the export market, the issues raised by Mr. Pearson could have important implications for Australian producers.

TORRENS RIVER.

Mrs. STEELE: About a fortnight ago I addressed a question to the Minister of Works regarding beautification of the Torrens River outlet channel at Henley Beach. Has the Minister a reply to that question?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: As the area referred to by the honourable member is under the control of the Engineering and Water Supply Department, I took the question up with the Director and Engineer-in-Chief, who now reports that this proposal has already been considered and certain action taken. In 1962, the Director of the Botanical Gardens was asked to give a list of suitable trees for planting along the River Torrens outlet channel and on receipt of his list an overall plan was prepared for the planting layout, having regard to the operational and maintenance requirements for the channel. In 1963, a trial section upstream and downstream of Henley Beach Road was planted with the co-operation of the local progress society and this area has been kept under observation to assess the suitability or otherwise of the trees selected. This winter, a further section adjacent to Military Road was planted with the co-operation of the Henley and Grange council and the planting in this area will be continued next season. With regard to the provision of recreational facilities such as seats, etc., it is felt that this should wait until the trees are well established.

ARTERIOSCLEROSIS.

Mr. LAWN: Earlier this year the Government, through Professor Jepson at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, commenced an investigation into the treatment of arteriosclerosis. Will

the Attorney-General ascertain from the Minister of Health the number of patients who have availed themselves of this new method of treatment, and any other information that may be of use to the House?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I shall obtain a report from my colleague for the honourable member.

TOTALIZATOR AGENCY BOARD.

Mr. NANKIVELL: On Tuesday, when I asked the Premier whether he could name the Chairman of the Totalizator Agency Board, I was told that the announcement would be made officially after 11.45 a.m. today. Can the Premier now name the Chairman of the board?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: In Executive Council this morning His Excellency the Governor appointed Mr. Bob Irwin Chairman of this board. As much importance was associated with this appointment Cabinet reviewed the names that had been suggested by various clubs, but none of the persons suggested seemed to have the necessary legal knowledge. Cabinet considered that such a qualification was essential, because of the importance of the newly established board.

Mr. Quirke: I thought you would have got rid of the member for Mitcham.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: The last thing I desire is to reflect on any member of this House. I consider that the honourable member for Mitcham has sufficient to do here without being involved elsewhere.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: In view of the Premier's pleasantry a moment ago I should like to ask him a question. On Tuesday I asked the honourable gentleman a question about unemployment figures in this State and, particularly, how they compared with unemployment figures in other States. On that occasion the Premier said he would have an answer for me yesterday, but, unfortunately, he did not have it yesterday. Has the Premier the information I sought?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: In New South Wales the figure is 1.1 per cent; in Victoria it is .9 per cent; in Queensland 1.2 per cent; in Western Australia .8 per cent; and in Tasmania 1.2 per cent. Although they are the figures for September this year, I have a table showing the figures for 1961 and 1966 and ask leave to have this table incorporated in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

		UNEMPLOYMENT.					
		April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.
1961—							
	Males	4,711	4,948	5,710	6,581	6,405	9,045
	Females	3,387	3,585	3,325	3,472	3,238	3,103
	Total	8,098	8,533	9,035	10,053	9,643	12,148
		(2.1%)	(2.2%)	(2.3%)	(2.6%)	(2.5%)	(3.1%)
1966—							
	Males	3,337	3,901	4,414	4,473	4,765	4,629
	Females	2,690	2,813	2,943	2,755	2,582	2,449
	Total	6,027	6,714	7,357	7,228	7,347	7,078
		(1.4%)	(1.5%)	(1.7%)	(1.7%)	(1.7%)	(1.6%)

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I am indebted to the Premier for the information he has given and for his reference to the 1961 figures on unemployment in South Australia, which show that significantly fewer are unemployed, I am glad to say, now than were unemployed then. If memory serves me correctly, however, in 1961, although more people were unemployed in South Australia than are unemployed now, the percentage of unemployed in this State then was significantly lower than that in other States. Can the Premier say whether this is a fact or, if he is not aware of it, whether he will obtain that information?

The Hon. **FRANK WALSH:** I will try to obtain the information, but I sometimes wonder whether the honourable member would care to do a little research of his own.

KANGAROO ISLAND WATER SUPPLY.

The Hon. **D. N. BROOKMAN:** Has the Minister of Works information about the progress on the Middle River water scheme on Kangaroo Island?

The Hon. **C. D. HUTCHENS:** I have obtained the following up-to-date report from the Director and Engineer-in-Chief on progress on the Middle River dam project:

A contract has been let for a 1,000,000-gallon receiving tank near the dam site. The tank should be ready to receive water before Christmas to form a storage for construction purposes when there is no river flow. The permanent access road to the site has been constructed as well as the excavation for the pumping station site, which will be used for the concrete plant set-up. The site roads and the road to the quarry have been roughly cut and tenders will shortly be called for the production of concrete aggregate for the dam. Excavation for the dam has commenced. A camp site has been erected at Parndana. Twenty-six men were employed at the end of September and the number is being gradually increased. The planned expenditure for the current financial year is \$442,000 and the dam will be sufficiently far advanced to store some water for the 1967-68 summer.

FARM SAFETY.

Mr. FREEBAIRN: I do not have the precise statistics with respect to farm safety, but it is well-known that the accident rate on farms is high. I noticed that recently the New South Wales Government, under its Factories, Shops and Industries Act, had set up an advisory committee to report on safety on farms. Although I do not know whether the Minister of Agriculture has seen this report, can he say whether he has taken any steps in this matter, and whether he has any views on it?

The Hon. **G. A. BYWATERS:** As I have no knowledge of this report, I will obtain a report for the honourable member.

AGINCOURT BORE SCHOOL.

The Hon. **T. C. STOTT:** Has the Minister of Education a reply to my recent question concerning flyscreens on doors and windows at the Agincourt Bore school?

The Hon. **R. R. LOVEDAY:** The policy of the Education Department for a number of years has been that wire doors and window screens are not provided at schools unless abnormal conditions of fly infestation exist. This question was raised in 1962 when the Minister of Works of the day was asked that consideration be given to providing fly screens for all schools already erected without them and for all future schools. A report was obtained at that time from the Director of the Public Buildings Department. It was pointed out that the approximate cost of effectively screening a timber classroom in the country would be £69 (\$138) and in the city £55 (\$110). The approximate total cost to screen all timber classrooms would be £205,000 (\$410,000), that is, 1962 costs.

The Minister of Works at that time considered that the installation of fly wire screens in schools plus maintenance was not warranted, and as a result the departmental policy not to provide such screens was re-affirmed.

Since that date fly wire doors and window screens have only been provided where there is conclusive evidence that fly infestation in the area is abnormal. With regard to Agincourt Bore Area School, there is no conclusive evidence that this situation exists, and it is not intended to provide screens except in the domestic science room where even one blow fly can be a considerable nuisance.

WALLAROO MOTEL.

Mr. HUGHES: The Minister of Lands may recall that I quoted from the *Kadina, Wallaroo and Moonta Times* on Tuesday last, under the heading "Wallaroo Corporation", the following:

The council passed a resolution that the area of parklands chosen for the Esquire Motel site is no longer required as parklands. The Lands Department is to be advised of this fact and is to be asked to transfer the land to the Esquire Motels, a company in process of formation. The Lands Director has estimated that the transfer may take three months, and council has written to the department asking for the transfer to be speeded up, for the company has stated that an early start on the motel is essential.

That statement by the council conveyed to most of the people in my district that all that was necessary was for the Lands Department to transfer the land concerned to Esquire Motels without any purchase price. It seems that difficulty has been experienced in obtaining sufficient money to proceed with the project; hence, the Government is being blamed for placing a price of \$7,000 on the land in question to which I have previously referred. Can the Minister of Lands say whether Mr. Bavistock (or any other party, including the Wallaroo corporation) has applied to the Lands Department for land in section 1847, hundred of Wallaroo, subject to the conditions as set out in the advertisement under "Department of Lands" in the *Kadina, Wallaroo and Moonta Times* of October 13?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The honourable member may be aware that this portion of land was gazetted open for application for motel purposes and that applications were required to be in by today. From my latest inquiry in the department, no application has been received from Mr. Bavistock or any other person for the purchase of this land. It would seem from what the honourable member has said and from what appeared in the press that the council was under a misunderstanding as to what the Lands Department could do with land that it no longer required for park land purposes. It could well be, too, that

the people interested in building a motel at Wallaroo have been under the impression that they were to obtain this land for nothing. However, of course, that is not possible. As honourable members may know, not only does the land have to be resumed from the purpose for which it was dedicated: it cannot be transferred by the department to any single person without being gazetted open for public application. This has happened in this case, although the gazettal notice was inserted for a specific purpose. Just before the House met this afternoon, I had a telephone conversation with the Mayor of Wallaroo about this matter, and Mr. Bavistock also spoke to me. As a result, those gentlemen will be calling to see me on Monday next to discuss the matter, and it gives me pleasure to invite the member for Wallaroo to be present also, if he so desires.

CUMMINS SCHOOL.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Cummins Area School Committee considers that the present fire protection of the school is inadequate. I point out, however, that I have not personally inspected the school in this regard. Will the Minister of Education call for a report and take the necessary action, as this school is far too valuable to be left ill-prepared in the event of an outbreak of fire?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: I shall be pleased to do that.

UNIVERSITY QUOTAS.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: On Tuesday last the Minister of Education was asked by the Leader about the bad news that quotas were likely to be imposed in all faculties of the two universities in South Australia. The Minister replied to the best of his ability on the position at the Adelaide University, but he went on to say that he understood the Vice-Chancellor of the Flinders University would be away until Thursday. As Thursday has now come, has the Minister any information about the quotas likely to be imposed at the Flinders University in the coming academic year?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: According to the press, the Vice-Chancellor at the Flinders University will not be back until today. Although he is a very dynamic person, I can hardly imagine his being able to contact me in such short time on such an important matter. In fact, he has not been able to do so yet. When I have some information, I shall be happy to convey it to the honourable member.

EFFLUENT DRAIN.

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked on October 6 about a common effluent drain to serve 46 properties at Ridgehaven in Tea Tree Gully?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: Following the receipt of the letter from the District Council of Tea Tree Gully submitting a plan for a common effluent drain to serve 46 allotments in Ridgehaven, the Director and Engineer-in-Chief notified the council on October 17 that a trunk sewer in the area was scheduled for completion by the end of this financial year. This will mean that the Ridgehaven subdivision should be sewered and connected to the trunk system within four years. In notifying the council of its proposals for the area, the department feels that council may wish to take into account all the factors involved in "writing off" the cost of the suggested common effluent drain in the short time of four years. If, after considering this point, the council still wishes to proceed with its proposal, the department would be prepared to approve the scheme, provided acceptable treatment and/or disposal facilities are submitted.

WATERLOO CORNER.

Mr. HALL: I received a letter a fortnight ago about the Waterloo Corner and Angle Vale road intersection, a bad intersection which has been the venue of considerable loss of life in recent years and which, I believe, is well-known to most members. Although the council approves very much the action of the Minister of Roads in temporarily closing the road leading from a south-westerly direction to the intersection, it does not approve the permanent closure of the road, nor do the local residents. The view taken is that there could be a much greater emphasis on mechanical engineering at the intersection and that a roundabout or some other significant alteration might be made to render the intersection safe for approaching traffic. Will the Minister of Lands take up with his colleague the possibility of further attention being given to the intersection with a view to opening it after significant alterations have been made?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I shall be pleased to do that. Undoubtedly the closing of the road would be subject to the Roads (Opening and Closing) Act and would be dealt with by the Surveyor-General. All objections lodged with him, as a result of interested parties being circularized, would be considered by him. However, I will bring down a report.

EGGS.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Can the Minister of Agriculture say whether the levy imposed for keeping hens for egg production is sufficient to meet the present requirements and whether either an increase or a reduction is expected?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I do not have the actual information required by the honourable member but I will certainly be most happy to get it and inform him as soon as possible.

Mr. McANANEY: Will the Minister ascertain the amount of levy collected in South Australia and the refund received from the Council of Egg Marketing Authorities of Australia?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: Yes.

Mr. FREEBAIRN: Those of us who are involved in the egg industry usually make a rough estimate of next year's production on this year's chicken sales. Has the Minister received any indication from his department as to the trend of chicken sales in South Australia this season?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I have not received this information but I will try to get it now that the honourable member has asked the question. Today three questions have been asked on the C.E.M.A. plan. I recall that a little over 12 months ago when as many questions were asked on this plan they were much more antagonistic. I am pleased to hear the good spirit in which less antagonistic questions have been asked on this occasion.

DEMONSTRATION.

Mr. QUIRKE: My question is addressed to you, Mr. Speaker. Do the scruffy, untidy children draped around the steps of Parliament House commit any offence being there? If they do, I ask that you, Sir, exercise your known charitable instincts by not endeavouring to remove them until they have had the rest of which they look so much in need.

The SPEAKER: They will not be interfered with so long as there is no breach of the peace and they do not make a nuisance of themselves.

DISALLOWANCE OF REGULATIONS.

The SPEAKER: I refer to a question directed to me yesterday by the member for Gumeracha about whether the fact that notice of motion had been given for the disallowance of a regulation by the Chairman of the Subordinate Legislation Committee meant that no other member would be permitted to give a

similar notice of motion. It is competent for any member to submit a similar notice of motion; if that is done, it will appear on the Notice Paper. The order in which the notices of motion will be dealt with is determined by the House, but normally the first on the Notice Paper will be the first dealt with.

MINES AND WORKS INSPECTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Second reading.

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS (Minister of Agriculture): I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

The object of this short Bill is to remove from the jurisdiction of the Mines Department certain wharves of the Broken Hill Associated Smelters Proprietary Limited situated at Port Pirie. In 1962, the Mines and Works Inspection Act was amended to extend the operation of the Act and regulations to all wharves adjoining the smelting works in order to give the Inspector of Mines jurisdiction over the wharf cranes belonging to the company and erected by it on the wharf area contiguous to the mining lease under agreement with the Harbors Board. The Government has been advised that the expression "all wharves" in the extended definition of "works" includes, not only wharves 8, 9 and 10 which are contiguous to the area of the lease, but also wharves numbers 5 and 6 which are close to the area, but on which the company conducts loading and unloading operations as agent for other companies. These wharves are already under the jurisdiction of the Harbors Board and it is anomalous that they should also be under the jurisdiction of the Mines Department. Accordingly, the Bill provides that only wharves 7, 8, 9 and 10 should be subject to the Mines and Works Inspection Act and regulations.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON secured the adjournment of the debate.

CROWN LANDS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Consideration in Committee of the Legislative Council's amendments:

No. 1. Page 1, line 14 (clause 3)—Leave out "proclamation" and insert "regulation (which he is hereby empowered to make)".

No. 2. Page 1, line 15 (clause 3)—Leave out "proclamation" and insert "regulation".

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Lands): I move:

That the Legislative Council's amendments be agreed to.

The reason the word "proclamation" was used was simply for ease of administration, and in

view of the expressions of opinion on the matter in another place I certainly have no objection to the substitution of the word "regulation". The need to amend the schedule by inserting or deleting a hundred would not arise quickly but would come about over a period of time, so "regulation" will suffice.

The only difficulty I can see is that in the case of the Crown Lands Act a regulation will lie before the House for a period of 60 days, and therefore in my opinion it would not be very wise to use the regulation, once it was tabled, before the period of 60 days had expired and the regulation could be disallowed, because this could create anomalies. However, I do not envisage that this would occur, and therefore I am happy to accept the amendments.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I support the amendments.

Amendments agreed to.

NATIONAL PARKS BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from October 13. Page 2287.)

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN (Alexandra): Although generally I support the Bill, I think there are one or two ways it could be improved. The name "Commissioners of the National Park and Wild Life Reserves" will be abolished under the Bill, and therefore the short title "Wild Life Commissioners" will not now be used. I have always considered that this was one of the more colourful titles we have in this State, and in a way it will be a pity to see it go, especially as I think the commissioners enjoyed the title.

The Bill establishes a commission, to consist of 15 members, and I suggest that in Committee the constitution of the commission should be amended somewhat. The provision is that the Governor shall appoint 15 members, and he shall take into account the recommendation of the Minister. The procedure for doing this is set out in clause 7 (3). No doubt the purpose of that provision is to instruct the Minister to bear in mind that there are a number of very worthy people who have the interests of conservation at heart, and to consider that when making a recommendation.

In this State we have a number of bodies of conservationists all of which do some good and all of which have loyal supporters. No doubt the purpose of the Bill is to consider such representatives when the commission is being selected. The new commission will have a tremendous area of country to administer, and it will probably add to this country

in the future. Therefore, it should include some representation from amongst primary producers. As it is not obligatory on the Minister to ensure that any such representatives will be appointed, the commission could possibly be overloaded with people of too similar interests.

I believe that in appointing the commission, especially as it will have considerable powers, we should try to make a broad base for its establishment. We have many primary producers who are good, wise people, and many could give active assistance to this sort of body. Many of them are extremely interested in conservation matters and could give concrete assistance in furthering conservation in South Australia. In addition, it can safely be assumed that such representatives would have some knowledge of practical management, which would be of particular value to the commission: for instance, in the prevention of bush fires, in fencing and in other practical matters. It seems too far-reaching to appoint a commission all the members of which are appointed by the Governor, although they will be people interested in conservation. The basis should be broadened and a primary producer appointed. The commissioners are to be appointed for three years, with one-third of them retiring each year to ensure continuity in the management. Three representatives should be primary producers, and selected bodies could submit a panel of names to the Minister from which the Governor, on his recommendation, could make an appointment.

I am sure the Minister will fully consider the variety of interests of conservationists, but no such assurance exists for primary producers. In each group of five commissioners there should be one primary producer. I suggest that the names of three nominees could be provided, one from each of the National Farmers Union, the United Farmers and Graziers of South Australia, and the Stockowners Association of South Australia, with the primary-producer members retiring in different years. That selection would give more confidence to primary producers, would assist the commission considerably, and would follow the normal practice that has been adopted by Parliament for many years.

The Minister pointed out fairly that over the last six years there had been a large increase in the holdings and responsibilities of the Commissioners of the National Parks and Wild Life Reserves. Much of this has been due to the enthusiasm shown by the former Minister of Lands, the member for

Burra (Mr. Quirke), who was keen to ensure that adequate provisions were made. We are inclined to criticize South Australia because it has too few national parks, but, when this State is compared with other States and countries, the national features of topography are sometimes ignored. We have no Rocky Mountains or a Great Dividing Range in this State; it is relatively flat and arid. These factors have added to the problem of creating national parks but, in spite of this, we are not far behind other States, as the situation has changed for the better in recent years. As many people have different ideas of using a national park, it is important to have as broad a base as possible for membership of the authority. The Minister said that he hoped that most (if not all) the present commissioners would serve on the new authority, which means that there will be people with tourist interests as well as conservation interests.

These interests are often directly opposed. The conservationist considers that the entry of man into an untouched area is not in the best interests of the land, but sometimes, even if the land is protected, its balance can be altered. For example, Flinders Chase, which, incidentally, is under another Act altogether, is a defined reserve relatively untouched by man, but because koalas have existed there for about 40 years, every effort has been made to protect the area from fire. As a result, with an accumulation of dry material the damage caused to the area by a fire started by lightning a few years ago was probably more severe than it would have been had no work at all been undertaken. Because of the occasional fires caused by natural circumstances, which burn all the dry and inflammable material in an area, a fire may be all the more severe by the very protection that has been provided.

A conservationist generally desires as little disturbance to an area as possible, whereas a person interested in the tourist trade wishes to provide sporting, catering and sanitary facilities, and fire protection, etc. At least an effort will be made to ensure that some parts of the reserves in question will remain untouched, other parts being used by tourists. However, reserves close to large centres of population clearly cannot remain reserves exclusively. For example, the Cleland Reserve at Waterfall Gully extending towards Mount Lofty cannot completely remain untouched, which presents a problem for the Minister that can only increase. The Minister

has informed me much money is planned to be spent to arrest the growth of South African daisy there. In my short acquaintance with the area, I know that it has been burnt twice, last year's fire being exceedingly severe. I believe the Minister seeks to amend clause 25. As I have an amendment yet to be drafted, I shall ask the Minister, in Committee, to allow progress to be reported to enable me to draft an amendment with the assistance of the Parliamentary Draftsman. If the Minister is to reply to the second reading debate today, I should like to know whether he is prepared to consider the type of amendment that I intend to move. I support the Bill.

Mr. CURREN (Chaffey): The Bill goes just a little further than the Fauna Conservation Bill about two years ago, to which I gave some consideration on the Opposition side. That Bill recognized the principle of game reserves which until then had not received any support whatsoever in South Australia, contrary to the position in Victoria. The first reserve under the Act has been established at Wollenoake Bend just above Renmark, where the Field and Game Association of South Australia is undertaking much voluntary work in bringing the reserve up to the standard envisaged by the legislation. The association has erected a fence to make the area vermin-proof, and considerable areas of water will be available for birds and water fowl generally.

The National Trust has received considerable parcels of land from landholders to be maintained in its natural state, which is also a good move. Much country in South Australia is most suitable for natural conservation, whereas it is unsuitable for agriculture or other productive purposes. I believe that the personnel to be elected to the commission will be adequate and will represent a widespread opinion of the general public, despite the member for Alexandra's advocacy of primary-producer representation. I do not wish to unduly delay its passage; therefore, I support the Bill.

Mr. QUIRKE (Burra): I support the Bill wholeheartedly. In fact, I want to thank the Minister and his department directly for introducing the Bill, because it represents a dream I had. This will be an extremely valuable piece of legislation that will have a tremendous impact on the future of South Australia. It may not be readily appreciated; in fact, many people have no appreciation of the sort of

thing contemplated by the Bill. However, many people will later be extremely grateful for this enactment. I do not want to repeat anything said by the member for Alexandra, but one of the principal functions of the Bill is to make safe what we already have. I pay the highest compliment I can to the Commissioners of the National Park and Wild Life Reserves, who will continue to function until the Bill is passed.

Sir John Cleland is one of the most remarkable men South Australia has produced. Those who have been associated with him in maintaining for so long the preservation of fauna and flora deserve the thanks of all South Australians. People in future will, perhaps, be more exuberant in their thanks than we are today. Mr. Lyon (Manager of the National Park) is a remarkable person and I have always wanted to express my thanks to him in a place like this. I have thanked him on other occasions but now I am grateful to have the opportunity of thanking him here, because he is the man who carried out the work that the commission put in hand. When I say "carried out the work" that is literally what he has done. He has been a road-making engineer, a water conservationist and everything else. I am glad to make a contribution to him for his remarkable qualities which he has used unstintingly. The other commissioners can bask in the reflected light of those two men but none of the commissioners is any the less. They have worked wonderfully well in the interests of the people of the State.

Now that those commissioners are passing and another commission is to take their place, I think it is fit that I should pay this tribute to them, for I knew them so well. There will be 15 commissioners provided under the Bill. A feature that could be incorporated is the assistance of people who own property contiguous to the reserves. I know these people are not all oppositionists and we can seek their support for work along the boundaries of these places where they could act as wardens or something like that. I do not know what title they could be given but I am sure some of them would be prepared to assist to preserve from the depredations of vandals and others what today has been set up as a precious heritage for people who come later.

As I said, there are people who would wish these things out of existence. One of the principal features of the Bill which gladdens me is that it will now be well-nigh impossible to reclaim land once it has been declared. There was a weakness previously; by proclamation,

lands could be alienated overnight. Under the Bill, it will need a resolution of both Houses of Parliament, in the same way as is needed with park lands, to take any of this country back again, and that provision has been sorely needed. I lived in fear and trepidation at one time that we would get pressure brought to bear that would result in some of the land we had preserved being taken away in the interests of agriculture. I am not opposed to agriculture in any way: we must use all the land we can for production. However, we must also keep some of it out of production in order to preserve the natural cover on that country.

It is no use thinking that natural cover can be preserved on a pocket handkerchief sized piece of land, because that cannot be done. Once the influence of superphosphate and other cultivation comes against the edge of the reservations then the natural conditions, which enable natural fauna and flora to flourish, are destroyed. These plants do not take kindly to complex fertilizer. Their growth has never needed this and, if it is used, it sometimes destroys them and certainly promotes the growth of weeds and other intrusions that are detrimental to the wellbeing of plant life. Therefore, the reserves must be big areas, and we have big areas. We have 560,000 acres today, and I am pleased about this. Successive Governments have placed much land at the disposal of people who have endeavoured to get land in every part of the State.

I still have a dream, and the Director of the department and some of his staff know about it. I dream that we will have a wild life reserve on the eastern side of the Mount Lofty Ranges incorporating a considerable area of the range country and a large area of the Murray Flat country which we could really make into a natural park. This is not impossible of achievement; it would be within the range of Adelaide and yet far enough away so that more of the interested people would go there instead of its being overrun with people with little interest. We must recognize that people have motor cars, and these cars could have access to any part of that area. I think that would confer a lasting benefit in the preservation of fauna. If only the indigenous animals were there, there could be a bringing back into growth of much that has now disappeared from there.

Regeneration will take place if the association with which the original plants were built up is restored. We can get regeneration of natural fauna and flora provided that the two are compatible and we do not have any intrusion of such animals as sheep, which are a menace to wild life reserves. People talk of the fire hazard and say that if the sheep eat the grass out there will be no fire hazard. Well, there will be not much else, either. The member for Alexandra knows that it is far better to have a fire through one of these properties to clean it up than it is to try to preserve it and have no fire at all. In fact, in many parts of the world there is controlled burning in order to remove the hazards of a heavy conflagration in the form of a major bush fire. That could be adopted in Australia. We can burn much of this country out with controlled burning and so help it from being wiped out entirely when a sudden conflagration occurs.

However, that is a matter of administration. I hope the Minister will look at the matter of this animal reserve. I know of an ideal spot for the purpose I have in mind, and the idea could be put to people who have greater knowledge than I have to see whether they concurred in the practicability of bringing it into existence. It is a terrible shame the way some people have treated the inoffensive hairy-nosed wombat. I know that it might tear a hole in a wire-netting fence. We must have places for such animals where people are tolerant and where perhaps we will put up better netting fences to keep them in. I know this little animal can do considerable damage to some netting fences. Still, he is one of our precious survivors, and it is up to us to preserve him. We should give him natural conditions where he can root around in limestone gullies to his heart's content.

The step we are taking today is tremendously important. We have in this country a line of animals known as marsupials that occur nowhere else in the world as they occur here. There are isolated instances of them, such as possums, but nowhere else do the rarities of our past animal structure occur as they do here. We almost claim, I think, that Australia carries the direct links between the reptilian age and the coming of the placental mammals. The little platypus and the echidna are egg-laying, which was a reptilian characteristic. Then they became mammalian to an extent, without being placental mammalian. They lay eggs and suckle their young. They had to draw the milk through the pores of

the skin; they have not even complete mammary glands. We have the kangaroo, which is not placental, and the female cannot nourish the young: they have to leave as soon as the little inherent nutriment has gone, and they have to climb into the pouch. Nature has adapted them for that, and the biggest things about them are their hands that enable them to grip their way up, which they do with very little assistance. All these things go back to that period of time when the big cat family was not on the earth at all. They are a phase between the reptilian age and the coming of the mammal, and they are the intermediate ones that were preserved here when probably the land bridges were destroyed by the melting of the ice age which prevented the big cats from ever reaching here and isolated the marsupials here for ever.

There is our heritage, and if we are not going to take complete action to preserve every single one of these animals (some we have lost, much to our discredit) by getting land in the environment that will keep them, and protecting them in that environment, then we had better give them away to other people overseas who are prepared to do just what we have not been prepared to do, people who will cherish them for what they are and who will be willing to even plant and bring into existence the conditions under which they flourish. America has done this with our koala bears. I do not want that sort of slur on us. We must do it ourselves, and we can do it.

Many children, even in the country, do not know, except from text-books, what many animals look like. We should set up reservations where animals could develop in a natural environment and where children could see these animals. We want something in the drier northern areas. Such an area would need to be vast. We often think that tiny animals in such an area are extinct, but careful investigation will show that they are not.

Mr. Bockelberg: There are some out at the front of this building, too.

Mr. QUIRKE: I am speaking of things that are precious to preserve. I feel sorry for the kids out there: there is something wrong with them, and I would not worry about them. If they are prepared to be uncomfortable on the marble that is punishment enough.

Mr. Rodda: It is a hard flora!

Mr. QUIRKE: In supporting the measure I am apt to become wrapped up and say more than I should. I understand an amendment is to be moved by the member for Alexandra.

This will help the Bill, because he is as keen as I and other members are to see the measure passed and the whole of this project brought under one controlling body, which is the only way to progress. It will also preserve our flora and fauna, and this is desirable not only now but for the people for whom we are in a measure responsible, those who come after.

Mr. McANANEY (Stirling): I, too, support the Bill, because it is needed and will serve a useful purpose. We have been careless in Australia, but in England many forests have been maintained and much land is available to the public. American national parks have been highly developed, mainly through the efforts of President Roosevelt who, during the depression, used young unemployed people to work on them. Much money will have to be spent on our areas to turn them into something of value. The national park near Callington is a mass of uncleared scrub without a suitable fence to keep in the native animals, and kangaroos and other animals do much damage. The mallee hen needs more protection, although some people try to keep it alive by protecting its nest.

This legislation is an initial step, but much money will be needed in the future. For instance, the sanctuary on Younghusband Peninsula will have to be developed. On the sanctuary on my property it is a wonderful sight to see ducks and other animals not afraid of people, and Cape Barren geese, which were nearly extinct, are also coming back. At Ashbourne I was instrumental in having six koala bears let out on a private property, and I have another application from a person wanting to start a koala bear sanctuary. It is heartening when private people display an interest in our natural animal life. Perhaps 15 members are too many for the commission, but I am pleased to see the administrative side of our national parks is being considered.

Mr. RODDA (Victoria): I, too, support the Bill as I realize we have a duty to preserve our natural heritage. I was interested to hear what the member for Burra said about the hairy-nosed wombat, which does much damage to fences in my district. However, as we are tolerant people in the South-East, we put up with it. I agree that 15 is a useful number of members for the commission, as it is to operate on a broad basis with the responsibility for large areas of national park. I endorse the remarks of the member for Alexandra to the effect that primary producers should be represented on the commission. This

legislation will be implemented by the commission's personnel who have done much valuable work in the past, and who will have a big duty to perform. The commission's powers are defined in clause 15, which illustrates just what is contemplated by this legislation. The Kangoora reserve, one of a number of reserves in my district, contains wild life that has been troubling adjoining landholders, as well as traffic on nearby roads.

The commission's power to construct fences and cuttings will be a desirable feature in confining fauna to a reserve. However, not everybody is in favour of reserves; indeed, one outspoken gentleman has told me that reserves are the most desirable things in the world provided one does not live next to them. In regard to the hundred of Spence, which is the area known as the "Big Heath", I am wondering whether, with the advent of the drain from Beachport to Bool Lagoon, the land will not alter considerably. As an officer of the Lands Department in 1950, I was in charge of a soil and vegetative survey in that area, where we found many dead eucalypts caused by the spilling of the drain into what was waste country.

In fact, about 6,000 acres became inundated, which adversely affected the flora there. The completion of the drain and the consequent diversion of water may bring about what one might call a "change in the balance" and, indeed, the 6,000 acres may not fulfil the function intended by the authorities in the event of a reserve being created. I am also interested in Bool Lagoon which has received much recent attention, where a drain, levee banks, and flood gates will represent an important innovation.

Mr. Freebairn: The Land Settlement Committee has had something to do with that.

Mr. RODDA: Yes, indeed. For the honourable member's information, the committee will probably be hearing more about it. When visiting the district of the member for Eyre (Mr. Bockelberg) recently, I was confronted by a battery (that is the only term for it) of people not terribly enthusiastic about reserves. However, being good-natured, I found that the only way to reply to them was to say that when I was in another member's district I had to observe the code amongst members of Parliament, never to interfere with another member's district or his wife. I commend the Bill to members.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Lands): First, I wish to thank those members who have spoken in this debate, not only for

their support but for the remarks they have made about the services of the present Commissioners of the National Park and Wild Life Reserves. True, as I previously said, the department, honourable members and I appreciate the splendid work of these people. They have a big task to perform, as they administer about 550,000 acres in this State which, of course, is mainly why it has been necessary to improve the legislation to facilitate their work. The member for Stirling (Mr. McAnaney) said that the sum spent in acquiring land in this State for national parks was small in relation to the sum that would have to be spent in order to improve such land and to make full use of it. Although that is a reasonable assumption on his part, I point out to the honourable member that the urgent need at this moment is to obtain land that is available before it is no longer of any use as a reserve.

For that reason, I think the emphasis in spending money on national parks will have to be on the acquisition of land for some time yet. When we consider that we have sufficient land, the total effort should then be directed towards improving the reserves that we have. The member for Alexandra, amongst other things, indicated that he was keen to see representation of primary producers on the commission, which idea his colleague the member for Victoria supported. Although I do not disagree with that, I doubt whether it is possible to amend the Act in such a way as to ensure that primary producers will be represented on the commission. without our having to give effect to the desires of many other organizations in South Australia interested in this matter. Although I could not name all of them, many field naturalist organizations are interested, some of which I have listed. The Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society, the Zoological Society, the Botanic Garden, and many others would all have to be given representation. Therefore, if we are going to specify in any one case the need for representation on that body, I can see great difficulty in this matter. Mr. Rymill is one of the commissioners, and he has been a commissioner for some time; he is well-known in the primary-producing field. I said that most of the commissioners at present serving would be re-appointed, because I can assure the House that I will not reappoint myself as a commissioner. I am a commissioner, *ex officio*, of the National Park and Wild Life Reserves, but I will not re-appoint myself.

Mr. Rodda: On the matter of location, primary producers would have a great interest.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I do not deny that. Indeed, I have had preliminary discussions with the Director on this matter, and one of the areas I said I should be interested in having represented in the primary-producing field was the West Coast, because large areas there are set aside for this purpose and, if it were possible to get someone who was able and willing to become a commissioner, I should have no hesitation in appointing such a person as a commissioner.

The Hon. T. C. Stott: We could give three good names.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I believe the honourable member would realize that, if we wanted to seek the advice (and it is always wise to seek advice) of well-recognized organizations, we might get in touch with his organization, and similar organizations, for names to be put forward. From these names we could select commissioners. Many other interests will have to be looked after.

The Hon. T. C. Stott: The member for Alexandra has only asked for three, and you have 12 others.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: More than 12 organizations are interested. I have given an assurance that primary producers will be represented as far as I am concerned, although I do not say that I shall always be Minister.

The Hon. D. N. Brookman: How many primary producers will there be?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The member for Ridley said that the honourable member indicated three.

The Hon. T. C. Stott: The member for Alexandra nominated three organizations.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: He has not indicated how many people from these organizations should be accepted.

The Hon. T. C. Stott: One from each.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: If I do this, I can see a difficulty arising because, to be consistent, I should then have to set up a similar situation to that which we have now, where we have members *ex officio* because they hold certain positions and are therefore automatically members of the commission. I should have to set out a list of organizations from which would come commissioners.

I think the member for Alexandra said it was necessary to balance the thinking on the commission. I agree, because if we had the whole 15 as "birds and bees" types it would not be balanced. It will be necessary to have some people as commissioners who have a good

knowledge of finance, for instance, or a good knowledge of administration. If one looks at the names of the present commissioners one can see that there is an evenly balanced and excellent representation on the commission. On the commission now are the types of person that can play their part from their own experience in life and the knowledge they have from that experience. Therefore, I see great difficulty arising from any attempt to alter the Bill as it stands regarding the appointment of commissioners.

The member for Burra (Mr. Quirke) made a good speech. I know he is keenly interested in the matter and I have always said that I believed that he was largely responsible for putting some ginger into the matter whilst he was Minister of Lands. I am sure he is pleased, and that the people who have this matter at heart are pleased, to know that my predecessor (the present Minister of Agriculture) played his part in this respect. I am interested in it, although I do not have the same knowledge on these matters as the member for Burra has. It was interesting to listen to what he said because he has obviously studied these matters and understands them. I appreciated listening to him this afternoon. I hope that the Bill, with the amendment I have indicated, will be passed shortly.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee.

Clauses 1 to 6 passed.

Clause 7—"Members of the commission."

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I wish to move an amendment to this clause but the Parliamentary Draftsman has not had time to prepare it. I suggest that progress be reported.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Lands): In view of the circumstances, I am happy to accede to the honourable member's request.

Progress reported; Committee to sit again.

STATE LOTTERIES BILL.

Returned from the Legislative Council with the following amendments:

No. 1. Page 11, line 5 (clause 19)—Leave out "any person, who is requested or authorized by".

No. 2. Page 11, line 6 (clause 19)—Leave out "to do so,".

No. 3. Page 11 (clause 19)—After subclause (9) insert new subclause as follows:

"(9a) An agent of the Commission shall not sell any tickets in a lottery except in premises at which he is authorized by the Commission to sell tickets. Penalty: Two hundred dollars."

Consideration in Committee.

Amendments Nos. 1 and 2.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH (Premier and Treasurer): I ask the Committee to reject these amendments. Clause 19 (7) contains a general prohibition against the distribution, display or publication of any notice or advertisement which states or from which it could be reasonably inferred—

- (a) that he or any other person is an agent of the commission;
- (b) that he or any other person is authorized to sell tickets in any lottery; or
- (c) that he or any other person invites any person to purchase from him a ticket in a lottery.

Paragraph (c) could have the effect of preventing the commission or any servant of the commission from distributing, displaying or publishing any advertisement announcing a lottery and the conditions under which it will be conducted. The powers of the commission in clause 13 (1) do not over-ride the prohibition contained in clause 19 (7), as those powers have to be read subject to this Act. It is therefore necessary to protect the commission and its servants from any penalty they could otherwise incur under clause 19 (7) when performing such particular administrative functions as announcing to the public particulars relating to a current or future lottery or doing such other necessary things for the promotion or conduct of the lotteries which would otherwise be punishable under subclause (7).

This is what clause 19 (8) (d), as originally introduced, was designed to do. However, the Legislative Council's amendments would have the effect of exempting only the commission, and not any of its servants and other persons acting on behalf of the commission, from any penalty for a breach of clause 19 (7). This protection afforded to the commission could not possibly extend to a servant of the commission or any person acting on behalf of the commission, even if he was acting with the commission's authority, if he committed a breach of subclause (7), because the exemption in favour of any person who is requested or authorized by the commission has been removed and the exemption in this amendment means that the paragraph will apply only to the commission, as a body corporate, doing or causing to be done the things enumerated in clause 19 (8) (d).

The Committee will appreciate that in all the circumstances the commission must have the right to do what is necessary, with the approval of the Minister, on all occasions.

I cannot suggest what was in the mind of the mover of these amendments, but I believe he wanted to give added protection. However, I ask the Committee to reject the amendments and restore the Bill to what it was when it left this place.

Mr. HALL (Leader of the Opposition): We seem to be disagreeing on who is the authority to do these things. Is it taken for granted that the commission may do things and its servants do them in its name?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Attorney-General): This measure includes a feature not generally obtaining in other legislation that specifically makes it an offence for any person to do certain things. An exemption in the original Bill applied to the commission and to such persons as it requested or authorized to carry out its work. If the specific permission is removed from the servants or agents the commission itself, as a corporate body, has a defence, but those who carry out its work do not have a defence.

Mr. Hall: Is there a distinction between a commission agent and an employee?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No: anyone other than the commission would be committing an offence if these amendments were agreed to.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: An advertisement over the name of the commission would be exempt?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The commission would be, but the newspaper that published it would not be. It would be impossible for the commission to work if a penalty were placed on people who carried out work the commission was supposed to do. Under the Bill as it left here, the persons who had a defence were those specifically authorized by the commission, and the commission is subject to the direction of the Minister. These amendments create an impossible situation.

Mr. SHANNON: I agree with the Attorney-General's interpretation, and I think it is proper that the Committee do not agree to the amendments.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I sympathize with the amendments, because I have seen much undesirable and dishonest publicity in other States by agents of lotteries. The only advertisements that should appear should be those officially approved and distributed by the commission. I know of the immense sums made by unscrupulous and dishonest agents, particularly in Sydney, through advertising to the effect that an agent has the lucky agency that has been responsible for so many first prizes. At

present, no limitation is placed on the type of advertising to be used, except that an agent must receive the preliminary authorization from the commission but, in fact, commissions have authorized the very type of advertising to which I object. The clause should be tightened up for, despite what the Premier said about the scheme's commencement, it is as wide as the heavens. I should indeed be pleased to hear from the Attorney-General of a provision prohibiting the commission from authorizing an agency to use simply any form of advertisement.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The member for Gumeracha is reading far too much into clause 19 (8) (d). The only thing an agent is normally allowed to do is to exhibit a notice to the effect that lottery tickets are sold at his agency. If anything else is desired, the commission must authorize the specific advertisement. The draftsman has taken care to ensure that the commission controls the type of advertising to be used.

Mr. HALL: I believe "or authorized" should be struck out, so that the responsibility for any advertising would rest solely with the commission. This simply means that a notice can be given to anyone providing blanket permission to conduct a campaign.

Mr. COUMBE: I believe the Bill, as it was passed originally in this place, was in its correct form. I have seen lotteries conducted in other States and I know of some of the undesirable features they have. In this place, we went to much trouble to see that those undesirable features were eliminated as much as possible. The important word in this connection is "authorized". If things are done without the authorization of the commission an offence has occurred. The commission must have power to publish information that a lottery is to be held on a certain date and, when that lottery has been completed, to publish the names of the winners. Therefore, someone will have to do the printing (it cannot be done on the commission's premises), and the authorization is necessary so that this printing can be done without the committing of an offence. I oppose the amendment.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: As the clause stands, it is open to grave abuse. All that has to happen is for an agency to write to the commission and say that it is not doing well and wants to put on a television show or print a handbill and the commission can write back and say that it is authorized to do these things, and the commission might

never see the material to be used. This happens in the Eastern States and it is what the commission will want to happen here, because it will be anxious to get as much turnover as possible. What the Attorney-General said is true—that nobody can do anything without the authority of the commission; but whether the commission specifically looks at the quality of the material to be used is another matter. I seriously suggest to the Premier that it is necessary to prevent any undesirable advertisements appearing, because the lottery will be under the Government's name.

The Hon. D. A. Dunstan: That is why what you say will happen won't happen.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Attorney is always intolerant of another person's opinion, but in a democracy people are allowed an opinion different from the official opinion at times. Therefore, I am allowed to have my opinion and to voice it.

The Hon. D. A. Dunstan: I am not saying you cannot: I am suggesting you are wrong.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Bill was designed to stop undesirable advertising. Provided that the words of the clause ensured that the commission endorsed the advertisements, then no difficulty would be involved.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: I entirely agree with the honourable member that he is entitled to express his view at any time; the Attorney-General does not dispute that. We deliberately set out to make this matter as clean as possible. In my second reading explanation I said that from what I had seen of lotteries in some of the other States I would not want a lottery here if it were conducted under those conditions.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: We are helping you achieve your aim.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: That has already been done. We are accepting that no-one will be permitted to sell tickets outside of an approved place. I ask the Committee to consider the point raised by the member for Torrens (Mr. Coumbe). Any printing will have to be authorized by the commission. If we accepted the amendment, how could the commission be expected to set up its own printing press? We have provided for the lottery to be conducted fairly. I ask the Committee to reject the amendment to clause 19 (8) (d).

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I think we are all agreed on the general principles the Premier has enunciated. We all wish to avoid and

prevent undesirable things. Will such matter as is authorized under paragraph (d) carry an authorization of the commission as part of the printed or illustrated material? Under the Electoral Act, any advertising or any printed or circulated matter that is presented to the public in any form during an election campaign has to carry the authorization of some person. If such printed matter as may be included under this clause carries a similar authorization, I think it places an inescapable responsibility on the commission for the matter being printed or distributed. If it will carry such authorization, then my mind will be considerably relieved on this point.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: I assure the Committee that it will carry the authorization of the commission. I do not want to see any cheap advertising or publicity.

Mr. McANANEY: I believe the clause is sewn up as tightly as we can get it and that it should remain as it is. Subclause (7) prohibits any individual notice or advertisement, and as far as I can see that authority is not over-ridden. I think this is a perfectly legitimate clause and that it should not be altered. Therefore, I oppose the amendment.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: How is the public to know whether or not an advertisement is approved by the commission? Does the Premier intend that the commission would specifically approve each notice or advertisement? My objection is against agency advertising.

The Hon. B. H. Teusner: And advertising agents.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Yes. If the Premier is able to make it clear that every approval will be an approval by the commission and no-one else, that will be all right. It is when we start agency advertising

that the rat-race comes in. This is what occurs in other States.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: Clause 19 (8) (a) sets out what an agent may be permitted to display. How much further can we go?

Mr. Coumbe: He has to be an agent.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: He cannot do anything unless he is an agent, and he has to be approved. In no circumstances can any person display anything other than the words "Lottery Tickets Sold Here", and the size of those letters will be governed by the commission and must be approved by the Minister. We want a decent and clean lottery, and this is once I do not agree with what is done in New South Wales and Victoria in respect to advertising.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: We all agree that we should ensure that there is no undesirable advertising, but we disagree on the way it should be done. I agree with the interpretation of the Attorney-General about the amendment, and that it should not be accepted in its present form. To safeguard the position we could add at the end of subclause (8) (d) "if the contents of any such notice, placard, handbill, card, writing, sign or advertisement of any lottery, or of any proposal for any lottery have first been approved by the commission." This puts the responsibility squarely and explicitly on the commission to give its approval before anything appears publicly, whatever form the advertisement may take.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: I should like time to consider the two amendments suggested to me, and I ask that progress be reported.

Progress reported; Committee to sit again.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 5.20 p.m. the House adjourned until Tuesday, October 25, at 2 p.m.