

types? Not the slightest relief, as far as I know, has ever been offered to a person to commence a private business of any type in a country town.

Yet, in the city I think the Government still carries guarantees for private business to the tune of about £6,000,000. I believe that if we are going to start on decentralisation, then we as a Government and the Commonwealth as a Government should be prepared to offer this type of man a guarantee. I am of the opinion that a certain sum of money should be set aside annually to be used as a fund for decentralisation so it can be said to a middle-class businessman who wants to start a business in, say, Northam, Kellerberrin, Katanning, or perhaps in any medium-sized country town, "Yes, we will provide some money for you to subsidise the freight and other additional costs you will have to meet for power, water, etc. in the establishment of your business."

The Hon. J. G. Hislop: It might take half a lifetime though to establish it.

The Hon. N. E. BAXTER: That would have to be worked out. I agree that some limitation should be put upon it, and the whole project would have to be considered as to whether it would be a successful venture in a number of years. It is the same idea as is adopted in land development. It is decided that it will take a lot of capital to develop a property over a period of three to five years. The same system could be applied to business concerns.

If we are to advocate decentralisation, we must be honest about it and do something to assist it. I do not believe that merely establishing bigger businesses such as Laporte and a super works in this or that port is the answer to the problem. The answer is to give every encouragement to people to start their small businesses even though they might only employ between two and ten people. They are still increasing the population of those country towns where they commence operations and are thereby encouraging others to go there.

I believe the Government should give sincere thought to this matter and work out the possibilities of encouraging the middle-class man to commence his business in the country areas where he could supply direct to the farming community and the country-town dwellers rather than force them to buy everything from the cities or the coast.

That would be the answer to our problem rather than just talking about decentralisation and doing nothing about it. On that note I conclude and support the motion.

Debate adjourned, on motion by The Hon. S. T. J. Thompson.

House adjourned at 3.43 p.m.

# Legislative Assembly

[Thursday, 8 August, 1963.]

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*Number Required*

- (2) How many more agricultural advisers are required by his department in—
- (a) the north-west;
  - (b) the South-West Land Division?

Mr. NALDER replied:

- (1) (a) 11.  
(b) 36.

In addition there are 86 professional officers of various classifications stationed in the metropolitan area whose interests are State wide.

- (2) Changing conditions make it impossible to forecast future requirements with any accuracy, but at present all applicants with suitable qualifications and experience willing to accept adviser positions are being recommended for appointment.

### WATER SUPPLIES TO CARNARVON TOWN LOTS

*Availability, Applications, and Cost*

33. Mr. NORTON asked the Minister for Water Supplies:

- (1) When will water be supplied to Carnarvon town lots Nos. 660 to 674 on the North-West Coastal Highway?
- (2) How many applicants are there in this area for a water service, and what is the cost of such a service?

Mr. WILD replied:

- (1) Water will be supplied to lots 671 and 672 (medical officer's new quarters) by the 30th September, 1963.
- (2) No application for a water service has been received in respect of any of the other lots nominated—660 to 670 and 673 and 674. Lots 673 and 674 can be supplied with water on application on a rated service basis.

Applications for water to lots 660 to 670 would involve an extension of the main; the cost to the consumer would depend on the amount of additional revenue to be derived from the extension.

34. This question was postponed.

### TENDER PRICES FOR GOODS

*Terms of Preference*

35. Mr. GRAHAM asked the Premier:

What are the precise terms of the preference or concession which is allowed in tender prices for the supply of goods of W.A.

origin and manufacture, as against goods from elsewhere for departmental purposes?

Mr. NALDER (for Mr. Brand) replied:

A preference not exceeding 10 per cent. on articles of Western Australian manufacture, against those of Eastern States or overseas, is granted by the Government Tender Board. Articles not totally manufactured in Western Australia are granted preference in proportion to the percentage of local manufacture.

### ALCOA OF AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD.

*Claim in Advertisement*

36. Mr. HAWKE asked the Minister for Industrial Development:

- (1) Did he see an advertisement on page 15 of *The West Australian* of the 9th July, 1963, from Alcoa of Australia Pty. Ltd. which claimed: "We'll refine skyscrapers, salt shakers, escalators at Kwinana, W.A."?
- (2) Is the claim made in the advertisement true?

Mr. COURT replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) If the full text is considered and the heading is not used out of context, the advertisement is a fair statement of the position. The full text shown in conjunction with a map of Australia (which clearly shows where the respective operations take place) reads:

We'll refine skyscrapers, salt shakers, escalators at Kwinana, W.A.

Kwinana is the western seaboard of Alcoa's fully integrated aluminium industry. Here rich bauxite is refined to produce the white powder of alumina. The refinery is a vital link in Alcoa's all Australian aluminium operation. From the alumina comes the aluminium for Australia's future. The skyscrapers, the clocks, the rolling stock—the everything for tomorrow is made possible by Alcoa's all-Australian aluminium operation. Alcoa is now at work in the mining, refining and smelting of aluminium. This £45 million enterprise, through its 49 per cent. Australian ownership, is an important factor in Australia's economic framework.

Mr. Hawke: Very misleading!