

PART II

THE QUESTION PAPER

Questions are printed in numerical order

An index to questions appears at the end of Part II

FROM 28 NOVEMBER 1978

201 Mr ISAACS to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

What is causing the delay in the signing of the lease agreement between V.B. Perkins and Company and the Northern Territory Port Authority, a matter which has now been in dispute for exactly 6 years?

FROM 11 SEPTEMBER 1979

860 Mr PERKINS to MINISTER for EDUCATION

1. Is the minister aware of a letter, dated 14 August 1979, over the signature of Dr Lyn Walker, Head of the Department of Education Studies of the Darwin Community College, which has been sent to all external students enrolled with the Darwin Community College?
2. Does the minister share Dr Walker's concern that the Community College's commitment to external studies is under threat?
3. Is it true that the Darwin Community College, principal and staff, regard the position of a co-ordinator of external studies to be absolutely essential for the proper maintenance of the college's external studies program and, if so, does the minister share this opinion?
4. Can the minister give an assurance that cost-paring exercises will not erode the academic integrity of the Darwin Community College or affect its external study programs?

FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 1979

937 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

1. In view of the importance of the live cattle export trade to the NT cattle industry, will holding facilities be established at the wharf and will unloading facilities be improved?
2. What were the circumstances which resulted in the "Orient Clipper" incurring \$60,000 (or approximately \$40 per head for each of the 1,400 head of cattle loaded) in stevedoring charges in June 1979?

941 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

In view of the expressed opinion of the Chief Minister of the value of tourism to the NT does the government intend to lower the tax on toilet facilities which are not used to capacity for months on end during the off season for tourists?

948 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for EDUCATION

Has the Teachers Federation a policy on teachers' dress, hair and beard styles?

953 Mr PERKINS to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

1. Will the minister table the lot numbers and location of the houses involved in the Special Aboriginal Housing Scheme in Alice Springs?
2. How much money was received by the NT government from the federal government in the last financial year for the scheme?

3. How many new houses will be built?
4. How many old houses will be converted?
5. When did the building and conversion program begin?
6. When will the program end?
7. When will tenants start to move in?
8. When the scheme was first proposed were any of the houses to be built or converted opposite or next to privately-owned houses?
9. If so, how many?
10. Will any houses now being built or converted be opposite or next to privately-owned houses?
11. If so, how many?
12. Did the minister receive a letter from the Central Land Council on 17 July, over the signature of Mr Ross Howie, asking for an early reply regarding several questions on the scheme?
13. Has the minister replied?
14. If so, when did he reply?
15. If not, why?

FROM 11 OCTOBER 1979

959 Mr ISAACS to MINISTER for EDUCATION

Does the Education Department provide special assistance for gifted children? If so, what, in detail, are the programs currently in operation, and have additional funds been allocated for them in the 1979-80 financial year?

1009 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1. Which organisations received subsidies for social workers employed in community work in 1978-79?
2. Which organisations will receive the subsidy in 1979-80?

1010 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1. Which community organisations received Grants-in-Aid in 1978-79?
2. How much did each organisation receive?
3. Which community organisations applied for Grants-in-Aid for 1979-80?
4. Which organisations will receive Grants-in-Aid in 1979-80?
5. How much will each organisation receive?

1011 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1. Which church organisations received the loans now administered by

the Community Welfare Division?

2. What are the terms of those loans?

1013 Mr DOOLAN to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

1. Will the government be placing topsoil over the old cyclone garbage dump at Kulaluk and planting lawns in order to make the area useable?
2. Is the government content with the minuscule rehabilitation efforts made along the line of the sewerage pipes through Kulaluk which destroyed rain forest drainage patterns; and will it do more to aid rehabilitation in this area?
3. Will the government survey the damage done to the natural drainage and tidal flows of the Kulaluk area by sewerage works and the resulting death and changes to native vegetation there, with a view to deciding proper rehabilitative action?
4. Will the government urgently assist in the clean-up of old refuse dumps and mining in the Kulaluk area now while the area has been burned off with a view to creating fire protection lines to protect the remnant rain forest habitat of this area?

1019 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

When will the electrical wiring of houses at Duck Creek be completed to enable proper use to be made of the generators and power lines already supplied?

1020 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Who was responsible for the organisation of the design-construct competition for the museum and art gallery?

1021 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Who chose the judging panel for the museum and art gallery competition, and who were its members?

1022 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Where all panel members present during the oral presentations by the competing firms in the museum and art gallery competition and, if not, who were the substitutes for panel members and for what parts of the presentations were they present?

1023 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

(a) Which panel members and/or substitutes were present when the decision was made to allow John Holland Construction Pty Ltd to revise its design for the museum and art gallery after the initial assessment?

(b) When was that decision made?

1024 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Were any other of the competing firms, apart from John Holland Cons-

tructions Pty Ltd, given the opportunity to revise their designs for the museum and art gallery after the initial assessment and, if not, why not?

1025 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Did the original John Holland Constructions Pty Ltd design for the museum and art gallery vary from the brief in that it did not include a theatre?

1026 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Did the original John Holland Constructions Pty Ltd design for the museum and art gallery provide less area than required by the brief?

1027 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Was the original John Holland Constructions Pty Ltd scheme for the museum and art gallery closer to the beach than all other submissions despite instructions in the design brief that the foreshore should not be disturbed?

1028 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Will siting of the museum and art gallery close to the foreshore result in considerable amount of fill being required?

1029 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

(a) Did any departmental officers provide advice to the museum and art gallery competition judging panel and, if so, who were they, and on what matters did they advise the panel?

(b) If the answer to (a) is yes, why was this necessary in view of the fact that a leading Australian architect, Mr Bryce Mortlock, was available to provide expert advice to the panel?

1030 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Did Mr Bryce Mortlock advise the museum and art gallery competition judging panel that the initial John Holland Constructions Pty Ltd design was superior to all others?

1031 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Did Mr Bryce Mortlock recommend that John Holland Constructions Pty Ltd be invited to revise its initial submission on the design of the museum and art gallery?

1032 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Did Mr Bryce Mortlock recommend that other candidates be invited to revise their submissions on the design of the museum and art gallery?

1033 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Is Mr Bryce Mortlock's written advice to the museum and art gallery competition judging panel available to be seen by me or other members of the Legislative Assembly?

1034 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Did Mr Bryce Mortlock examine the revised submission of John Holland Constructions Pty Ltd to the museum and art gallery competition judging panel?

1035 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

When was the final decision made by the museum and art gallery competition judging panel to accept the revised John Holland Constructions Pty Ltd design?

1036 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Which museum and art gallery competition judging panel members and/or substitutes were present when the final decision was made to accept the revised John Holland Constructions Pty Ltd design?

FROM 13 NOVEMBER 1979

1052 Mr PERKINS to MINISTER for EDUCATION

1. Is he aware of the activities of the Yipirinya School at Alice Springs and, if not, what help does the Education Department propose to give to the school?
2. Is it a fact that the Education Department has prohibited mention of this school on the Aboriginal program on radio 8HA and, if so, why?

1054 Mr MacFARLANE to CHIEF MINISTER

1. Have the creditors of the Roper River community store, who were owed \$167,000, been paid and under what system does this community now operate its store?
2. Are there debts remaining and, if so, how will they be paid?
3. Are the books of community stores audited?
4. What steps have been taken to prevent a repetition of losses in community stores?

1057 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Was the meeting of cattlemen, held in Katherine on 29 October 1979, called to allow the Bureau of Animal Health to put a case for the eradication of brucellosis and tuberculosis or to allow cattlemen to discuss the 4 options put forward by the cattle industry?
2. Did it achieve either purpose?

1058 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Did the Fisheries Division examine the economics and purpose of the fish farm at Kununurra before recommending against the establishment of barramundi hatcheries in the Territory?

1059 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for EDUCATION

1. Will he have swimming pools built at each of the schools in

Katherine to enable children to learn swimming and life saving as part of their education?

2. In considering this proposal will he take into account the opposition which many rate-payers have to the idea of a town swimming pool?

FROM 20 NOVEMBER 1979

1060 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

Is it a fact that efforts to provide Katherine and district with low cost LP gas supplies are being hindered by an Aboriginal land claim over the site chosen for a gas depot?

1091 Mr VALE to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

- (a) What is the current waiting time for Housing Commission homes and flats in Darwin and Alice Springs?
- (b) Is any information available concerning the waiting time for Commission houses and flats in the suburbs of Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney and, if so, what is the waiting time for Commission flats and houses in the suburbs of these capitals?

1092 Mr VALE to MINISTER for HEALTH

- (a) What is the annual post-operative infection rate for the past 5 years for the Alice Springs hospital?
- (b) Are comparative figures available over the same period for the major hospitals in Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney and, if so, what are they?

1117 Mr ISAACS to MINISTER for INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Is it a fact that on the inaugural journey of the Darwin-New Guinea shipping route, a number of NT buffaloes were found to have TB? If so, what was the origin of the buffaloes and what steps have been taken to assure our trading partners, especially New Guinea, that this will not recur?

1118 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Did the Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation grant special quotas to North Australian meatworks in 1979, as the Australian Meat Board had done, to overcome geographical difficulties?
2. What quotas in tonnes were granted to each meatworks, including William Angliss?

1119 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Will cattle holding facilities be established at the Darwin wharf and cattle loading facilities improved?

Will general unloading facilities be improved?

1120 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Did the Chief Veterinary Officer, Mr D. Newton Tabrett, tell the

cattle industry meeting at Katherine recently that if Australian beef was banned from the US it would be because of brucellosis and not tuberculosis?

2. If this is a fact, will all cattle slaughtered in the Northern Territory have blood samples taken in an endeavour to locate areas where the disease is prevalent?
3. Does he agree with the Canberra based Bureau of Animal Health that brucellosis will be eradicated in the Territory by 1984?

1121 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

Are government departmental caravans parked on residential blocks in Katherine to avoid keeping them in caravan parks or because of the shortage of serviced land?

1122 Mr MacFARLANE to CHIEF MINISTER

Will the tax on toilet facilities in Katherine continue through the tourist off season?

1139 Mr PERKINS to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

Bearing in mind that the price of vegetables in Alice Springs is sometimes double that in Adelaide, and that the so-called Alice Springs "farm area" is plagued by salt problems, will the minister advise what steps will be taken to provide a more suitable alternative area for the production of farm produce in the Centre?

1140 Mr PERKINS to MINISTER for INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Has the Territory Development Corporation's "Detailed Investigation into Tourist Needs Throughout the NT" been completed; and, if not, when will it be completed?
2. When will the corporation's report be produced and will the report be made public?
3. What areas have been surveyed?
4. Has the corporation sought the views of Aboriginal groups and organisations and, if not, will the minister ensure that it does?

1141 Mr PERKINS to CHIEF MINISTER

1. Will he supply a copy of the instructions given to the police for the arrest and treatment of persons "for protective custody", including the measures taken to ensure that those arrested are aware of their rights?
2. What measures are taken to ensure that the police do not misuse their powers of arrest under "protective custody"?

474 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

1. Is it a fact that shortage of serviced land in Katherine is preventing the provision of sufficient housing for the 20-odd people on the Housing Commission list?
2. Does the NT government have plans for providing Katherine with a satellite development area as it has for Darwin?
3. Will 5 and 10 acre blocks be available in the Katherine area in 1979?

ANSWER

1. The Housing Commission was allocated 12 low density and 3 medium density sites in Katherine in June 1979. I am informed that the Housing Commission will build on all these sites this financial year. All other vacant allotments have been sold privately. The Department of Lands and Housing is identifying possibilities within the existing town area for release as soon as possible. Given the limitations of this approach, any shortfall will be borne partly by the Housing Commission.
2. A strategy plan and a new town plan of Katherine are currently being prepared. These are still in the formulative phase and it is too early to forecast in which direction future development will occur. This will depend on the problems caused by flooding in the area, and costs of servicing alternative locations. This task is proceeding as a matter of priority in view of the urgency of the matter.
3. The Department of Lands and Housing is currently considering applications from the lessees of several agricultural leases, in the Katherine area, to sub-divide their leases into smaller miscellaneous leases. Arising from these applications, rural living lots could become available over the next 6 months.

858 Mr PERKINS to MINISTER for EDUCATION

1. Is it true that the Department of Education has no adequate and proper facilities for the Aboriginal Vocational Training Program in Alice Springs?
2. Has the Department of Education agreed to the purchase of a fully equipped workshop facility in Priest Street, Alice Springs and, if so, what purchase price has been agreed?
3. When did the Department of Education first consider the purchase of this facility?
4. If the Department of Education intends to purchase this facility, when will the contract be completed?

ANSWER

See answer to Question No. 958.

859 Mr PERKINS to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1. Is the minister aware of the anguish and confusion among some Central Australian Aboriginal communities over the rules and regulations governing burials, which are being administered by his department?

2. Would the minister explain why he has been unable to give a full reply, as promised, to the points raised in my telegram of 9 August 1979?
3. Will the minister provide a clear statement on the way in which the rules and regulations governing burials in isolated areas will be administered?
4. Will the minister give an absolute assurance that the traditional and ceremonial rites of Aboriginal communities will be respected, and that officers of his department will handle such matters with discretion?
5. Will the minister give an assurance that officers of his department will not seek information from relatives of the deceased Aboriginal which will add to their anguish and threaten their cultural practices?

ANSWER

1. I am not aware that there is anguish and confusion amongst some Central Australian Aboriginal communities over the arrangements for burials. Certain representations have been made to me by the honourable member and by the Central Australian Aboriginal Congress about administrative arrangements to accord with the prescriptions of the amended Cemeteries Act.
2. On receipt of the telegram from the honourable member on 9 August, I investigated his representations and issued a public statement on the matter.
3. The second reading speech by the former Minister for Community Development to the Legislative Assembly on 28 February 1979 indicated the general arrangements for areas outside public cemetery areas. The government's interest is in ensuring that there are no unnecessary encroachments on land, that there are no health difficulties and that, in respect of urban or fringe urban areas, suitable identification of burial sites is available.
4. Within the limits of the conditions mentioned in part 3 to the question, officers of the department have and will continue to handle the matter with sensitivity and discretion. It is a fact that despite some inordinate delays in bringing to the attention of officers of the Department of Community Development, the request for approval, adequate arrangements have been made to enable burials to proceed. There is no case on record in the Central Australian area where an approval for a burial has been refused.
5. Officers of the department are aware of the need for sensitive handling of these matters. There has been no complaint from individuals or communities registered of anguish or concern about conflict arising between provisions of the Cemeteries Act and traditional cultural practices.

865 Ms D'ROZARIO to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

By what provisions of which Act are premises situated at lot 1769 Town of Darwin being used as offices?

ANSWER

The premises situated at lot 1769 Town of Darwin are being used as offices without any formal approval or permit under any act, ordinance or regulation.

There are, however, several problems being experienced by property owners whose properties are located in the area bound by Mitchell Street, Daly Street, the Esplanade and Knuckey Street, which is generally zoned B5 (Tourist Business). Lot 1769 is one of the properties which is zoned B5 in an area which is considered to have a unique amenity, being adjacent to an extensive park, having magnificent views towards the sea and located in close proximity to the central business district.

This area has been zoned B5 under the Darwin Town Plan 1978 which permits such uses as motels, hotels, restaurants, guest houses and hostels as well as varied residential uses. In the present economic climate, the large scale redevelopment of land in this area is unlikely. Where substantial buildings already exist on the land, then the likelihood of redevelopment in the short term is even more remote.

Meanwhile, the land owners in this area are paying very high rates on land which has been valued on the basis of its potential, under the existing B5 zone. In an effort to present some short term or interim solution to this problem, the City of Darwin Planning Authority resolved on 7 August 1979 to give notice of intention that it was considering the preparation of a draft planning instrument empowering the authority to grant consent to the temporary use of several lots in the B5 zone for office purposes, until 1 July 1982.

The lots in question had been identified by a survey carried out by officers of the Department of Lands and Housing. This survey identified 3 fundamental classes of land use within the B5 zone. The first group were those lots being used for purposes consistent with the current B5 zoning, the second group were those lots which are currently vacant or have non-substantial buildings on them, and finally there were those lots which had substantial buildings on them which did not conform with the B5 zoning and which were not likely to be redeveloped in the near future.

It is this third group that the Planning Authority refers to in its notice of intention which appeared in the NT News on the 9, 10, 11 and 13 August. It is intended that the existing buildings on each of the lots identified, could be used for office purposes until 1 July 1982. At that time, the whole situation will be reviewed and the future of this area reassessed.

The draft planning instrument is now at a stage where it is about to go on public exhibition for comment and objection for a period of 28 days. After that exhibition period, the Planning Authority will consider all the comments and objections lodged and make some decision in relation to the draft planning instrument.

867 Mr DOOLAN to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Who paid for repairs on the new section of road near Pine Creek, which was completed by McMahon Constructions only last year but has been closed to traffic for many months this year because of its extremely poor construction?

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ANSWER

The Northern Territory government.

934 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

1. How does the Katherine development projection by Pak Poy fit in with the present desperate situation for residential, industrial and commercial land sites?
2. Has the industrial subdivision and the residential subdivision of Katherine East been deferred because of lack of funds?
3. What are the contributing factors of the desperate land shortage in Katherine?

ANSWER

1. The Pak Poy report of 1973, forecast the need to develop more land in Katherine to avert a shortage in the late 1970's. The government of the day did not act on it immediately, presumably because the demand at the time was satisfied. During 1975 and 1976, a large proportion of Commonwealth funds was diverted to the reconstruction of post-cyclone Tracy Darwin. This affected sub-division design and construction in all major Territory centres.
2. Tenders were called for the construction of Katherine East industrial sub-division during 1978-79 but the lowest tendered price was unacceptably high. The prospect of releasing land in the area, before full servicing is completed, is being considered.
3. The government has produced a draft flood policy which will be circulated for discussion in Katherine to test local reaction. A public meeting will be held and the Katherine Municipal Council's views sought as to whether they consider developing land in flood prone areas to be an acceptable proposition.

Should this be the case, then considerable additional land can be developed within the existing town.

935 Mr MacFARLANE to CHIEF MINISTER

1. Has the Chief Minister satisfied himself that the federally funded associations in Katherine - Yulngu Association Inc. and Baruwei Enterprises Pty Ltd - are not competing unfairly with private enterprise?
2. If these associations fill a community need, will he fund other associations and unions such as the Cattlemen's Union of Australia (Katherine Branch) and the Northern Farmers and Pastoralists Association to fill a similar community need?

ANSWER

1. The Yulngu Association is a resource association established to provide assistance to Aboriginal communities on pastoral properties, and which receives federal government Grants-in-aid. The funds however, are not provided for the conduct of any commercial or quasi-commercial activities.

Baruwei Enterprises Pty Ltd, which was established by the Yulngu Association in April 1978 for the purposes of acting as a wholesaler

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

for the Aboriginal communities, has been granted a loan of \$503,000 by the Aboriginal Loans Commission and which now has a 51% shareholding, to enable the company to expand its operations in and around Katherine. This company would therefore appear to be operating in accordance with normal business practices. Neither association would seem to be competing unfairly with private enterprise.

2. The purpose of the associations is to assist Aboriginals and the funding is provided by the Australian Government.

It is suggested that you might seek the advice of the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs regarding the funding of other associations.

939 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for EDUCATION

Are courses being devised for rural dwellers a responsibility of the KREC or a college of practical education, or an intrusion of the DCC?

ANSWER

Short courses of a practical rural nature are at present being conducted by the Katherine Rural Education Centre. A full-time course in rural education, directed towards post year 10 level of education, is presently being devised. The Katherine Rural Education Centre, under the auspices of the Department of Education, will have responsibility for planning and offering courses of both a practical and theoretical nature for people of the rural community.

940 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

What steps are being taken to satisfy the demand for land in Katherine and to give this centre "over the counter" land sales?

ANSWER

Applications for sub-division of agricultural leases close to the town are being processed, and an area along the low level road is being investigated for sub-division by the government into 2 hectare blocks. These moves should satisfy the demand for rural living type blocks.

Within the town boundary, all vacant blocks are being assessed to determine whether leases are in compliance, or whether lessees wish to sub-divide if appropriate. The objective is to encourage the release of land which is not being used to satisfy the demand for residential land.

Until such time as there is serviced land available surplus to requirements, "over the counter sales" cannot take place.

944 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

How many streets in Katherine are not up to the sub-divisional standard contained in the offer of local government?

ANSWER

The Katherine council assumed control of roads in Katherine on 1 July 1979.

The offer of local government to Katherine made 3 specific undertakings

for upgrading roads. These were:

- recognition of roads in the northbank small farms area as new sub-divisional, not to be handed over until roadworks completed;
- completion of reseal of roads overdue for such action prior to handover; and
- upgrade the Springvale access road.

Work will commence this year on the upgrading of Springvale road and an amount of \$160,000 has been allocated for the project in this year's capital works program.

The road resealing program was brought up to date by the Department of Transport and Works prior to 1.7.79 and at the time of handover, there were no outstanding NT government liabilities in this area.

In the northbank area, the existing road network is based on the present layout of rural blocks which are known to be subject to inundation at flood time.

The Department of Lands and Housing are currently planning the possible release of 2 hectare rural living blocks facing on to the old low level road with larger rural living blocks between the river and the old low level road.

The release of this land may require the network of access roads to be completely revised. Before the government can offer for lease, land within a municipality, the standard of roads must be agreed to with the council.

945 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Has a moratorium been placed on aerial baiting with 1080?
2. If so, is there justification for this action?

ANSWER

1. Yes, a temporary moratorium has been put on aerial baiting with 1080 to enable a review of the policies and examination of the effectiveness of the program.
2. The Parks and Wildlife Commission is concerned about a widespread program of aerial baiting which may well result in very substantial reductions in the population of the dingo which is an indigenous animal of the Northern Territory. The commission has decided that as the present program expanded from a trial in 1977, it is now time to assess the conservation costs, the effectiveness and the economic benefits of an aerial 1080 baiting program. The only scientific evidence which the commission has on dingo control has been provided by CSIRO who recommend that aerial baiting with 1080 is unnecessary and uneconomic.

It is proposed that a review will be undertaken in the next 6 months in consultation with the Department of Primary Production, the pastoral industry and the CSIRO; research results will be taken into account. In the interim, any pastoralists who can identify a problem area where dingo numbers are excessively high and causing stock losses will be given every assistance by the commission staff on an individual

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

basis.

Note: This answer was provided by the Chief Minister as the matter falls in his area of responsibility.

947 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

When will the road to Springvale homestead be sealed?

ANSWER

Tenders for the reconstruction of Shadford Road closed on 11 October this year. The work, which includes providing a sealed running surface, is expected to be completed in May 1980.

949 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

In view of the need for small rural holdings around Katherine, will the government negotiate with local landholders such as Manbullo Station to provide such living areas?

ANSWER

The government is negotiating with lessees of land near Katherine who have made applications to subdivide. Applications are currently being processed for the sub-division of agricultural leases immediately adjacent to Katherine. It is expected that these sub-divisions will provide small rural holdings.

950 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

What is the estimated annual cost of plumbing repairs in Katherine due to mineralisation of the water supply?

ANSWER

The annual cost to the community of using the existing bore water supply is difficult to estimate, but is considered to be in the region of \$250,000. This includes costs to both the public and private sectors for such things as repair and replacement of plumbing fittings and heating appliances and water softener operating costs.

951 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

1. When will a virologist be appointed to the new laboratory at Berrimah?
2. Is botulism killing cattle in the Mountain Valley-Moroak-Mataranka area?

ANSWER

1. A virologist has been appointed to the Technical Officer Class 2 position and is presently in charge of the laboratory.

The department is experiencing considerable difficulty in attracting the right person for the Officer-in-Charge, Veterinary Virologist Class 3 position. This is partly because of the remoteness of Darwin and the highly specialised nature of the position.

A recent applicant is considered highly suitable but there is no guarantee that he will accept the position if offered.

2. Botulism is now considered to be more common in the Top End and is thought to have been the cause of cattle deaths in the Mountain Valley-Moroak-Mataranka area over the last couple of years. Vaccination for botulism appeared to prevent further deaths in 2 herds in the area which were thought to be suffering losses from botulism. The disease can be difficult to confirm by conventional laboratory means and apparent prevention of further deaths may have been coincidental.

The A.L. Rose Virology Laboratory should prove a useful addition to our diagnostic ability, particularly in differential diagnosis of a number of diseases including suspect botulism.

The botulism vaccine is one of the most effective and cheapest available. Cattle on any property with a history of botulism should be vaccinated.

952 Mr PERKINS to MINISTER for EDUCATION

1. Is it true that the Darwin Community College has 130 teaching staff and 3,455 equivalent full-time students?
2. Is it true that the Community College of Central Australia has 16 teaching staff and 985 equivalent full-time students?
3. Is it true that at the Darwin Community College the student/staff ratio is 27 to 1 and at the Community College of Central Australia it is 62 to 1?
4. Is it true that the Community College of Central Australia staff and council, and the Alice Springs community, had been led to believe by the minister that the change of status of the Alice Springs Community College from an annexe of the Darwin Community College to a Technical and Further Education College within the Education Department would mean that the college would receive greater funds and improve its facilities and resources?
5. Did the Council of the Community College of Central Australia seek a budget allocation of \$1,435,000 for this financial year?
6. Does the allocation of only \$900,000 by the government to the Community College of Central Australia indicate that post-school education in the centre can be properly served by a lesser amount than the College Council sought?
7. Does the minister recognise that the budget allocation is totally inadequate to maintain proper services to the Central Australian community?
8. Does the budget allocation of \$900,000 indicate that the minister has no faith in the analysis of the needs of post-school education in the centre by the College Council?
9. If the answer to 8 is yes, does this lack of confidence in the College Council indicate that the minister will seek to change the composition of the Council; and, if so, will the College Council be replaced by departmental staff answerable to the minister?
10. If the answer to question 8 is no, will the minister ensure that the budget allocation to the Community College of Central Australia is immediately increased to the sum requested by the Council; that is \$1,435,000?

ANSWER

1. Information provided by the Darwin Community College is that the various schools of the college have 150 full-time teaching staff (including 20 technicians) and 150 part-time teaching staff, as at 13 August 1979. The number of students was 379 full-time, 4,719 part-time and 194 external studies.
2. The Community College of Central Australia had 17 full-time teaching staff, and 50 part-time teaching staff with action being taken to fill at least an additional 3 positions. The number of students is 13 full-time and 1,523 part-time.
3. Because of the diversity of courses and continually changing numbers of full-time and part-time students at each college, it is difficult to establish an exact student/teacher ratio.

My department is currently investigating means of assessing more accurately full-time equivalent of part-time students. This should permit a more realistic calculation of staff/student ratios. It should be recognised that in institutions such as the Darwin Community College and the Community College of Central Australia, staff/student ratios, when taken in isolation, can be very misleading and should be treated with caution.

4. The Community College of Central Australia approached the Commonwealth Minister for Education with a proposal to separate from the Darwin Community College to operate as a post-school education institution under the provisions of the Education Act.
5. Yes.
6. The estimation of funds for 1979-80 for the Community College of Central Australia was carried out when that college was an annexe of the Darwin Community College. Following discussion between the Darwin Community College, Treasury and the Department of Education, it was agreed that \$790,000 should be excised from Darwin Community College funds for the Community College of Central Australia. It was agreed that this sum would be sufficient to maintain the status quo as it incorporated actual expenditure for 1978-79 plus an inflation and growth factor. Cabinet finally allocated \$900,000 which allows for some expansion of activity.
7. It will be obvious from my previous comments that the budget allocation is adequate to maintain existing services and allow a modest expansion of activity.
8. - 9. - 10. The answer to question 6 and 7 disposes of the necessity to answer these questions.

954 Mr PERKINS to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1. Is the minister aware of the case of Emily Jako Nambajimba, who was sentenced to 2 years gaol in 1977 with a non-parole period of 4 months?
2. Is the minister aware that this woman was not granted parole even though the judge, Mr Justice Muirhead, asked the Parole Board to find suitable accommodation for Ms Jako as "she is, in fact, no criminal but a young woman, an epileptic, suffering a most serious personality disorder"?

3. What steps were taken to find the suitable accommodation recommended by the judge?
4. Does the minister agree that there is an urgent need for a half-way home facility in Alice Springs to take care of people like Emily Jako Nambajimba?
5. Is the minister aware that there are several other people in urgent need of such a facility?
6. Will the minister take action to ensure such a facility is provided?
7. What does the minister suggest should be done for Ms Jako to ensure she receives a "meaningful program for her care" as Mr Justice Muirhead suggested?

ANSWER

1. Yes.
2. Yes.
3. Every effort was taken to find suitable accommodation for Emily Jako Nambajimba including an interstate placement in what could be described as a home for young women. Miss Nambajimba either declined to accept these accommodation arrangements or they proved to be unsuitable to her needs.

4. Half-way house facilities that have been established elsewhere are normally designed to cater for ex-prisoners or ex-psychiatric patients. In the case of Miss Nambajimba, accommodation in a half-way house facility for ex-prisoners would not be appropriate to her needs. The question of establishment of a half-way house with a medical orientation is outside the ambit of my portfolio.

Half-way house facilities have been subjected to critical evaluation both interstate and overseas. The results of the studies have been equivocal in regard to their effectiveness.

5. I am advised that at this point there is not a need for the establishment of a half-way house for ex-prisoners in Alice Springs. However, my department will continue to monitor this situation.
6. I do not intend at this stage to proceed with the establishment of a half-way house until the need for such a facility is clearly established.
7. Judge Muirhead acknowledged the difficulty of this case before referring it reluctantly to the Parole Board for consideration. I am advised there are many complex and difficult problems associated with this case. During the times they have access to her, my staff continue in their efforts to develop constructive post-release alternatives.

956 Mrs O'NEIL to CHIEF MINISTER

- (a) Who are the members of the Oral History Committee?
- (b) What are their qualifications?
- (c) What are the terms of reference of the committee?

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

- (d) Where is it intended that the material collected be stored?
- (e) Is it intended that this material be available for use (e.g. in publications) and, if so, is the donor's permission obtained?
- (f) Do interviewers receive any training?
- (g) In selecting interviewees, what efforts are made to minimise biases in the collection towards certain periods or events, districts or racial groups?

ANSWER

- (a) Harry Giese (Chairman), Peter Spillett, Don Dickson, Peter Forrest, Jim Bowditch, Vern O'Brien and Dr "Slim" Bauer.
- (b) Harry Giese - Co-founder, NT Historical Society; some experience as interviewer of old Territorians.
Peter Spillett - President, NT Historical Society; Councillor, Oral History Association of Australia; Author/Historian; Churchill Fellow (NT History).
Don Dickson - B.A., Dip. Ed. (Sydney); M.Ed. (PNG); Thesis for M.Ed. on "Documentary and Oral History Sources"; published journals and articles on history; Examiner and Supervisor for Masters and Ph.D. history students.
Peter Forrest - Director of National Trust.
Jim Bowditch - Editor, Central Australian Advocate, for 4 years and 19 years Editor of NT News from late 1954; has written widely on NT including articles with major historical content.
Vern O'Brien - Secretary, Department of Mines and Energy; Author of articles dealing with various aspects of Territory history; preparing a book on David Lindsay.
Dr "Slim" Bauer - Ph.D.; Field Director, North Australia Research Unit (ANU) since 1974; completed definitive study of early history of land settlement in North Australia.
- (c) The major role of the committee is the collection of historical data in the form of personal recollections of people and events from persons who have had a lengthy association with the Territory. At the same time the committee is concerned to collect and store any documents, materials, etc. which people interviewed are prepared to make available for archival purposes and possible display in the Territory.
- (d) The tapes and transcribed material, together with documentary material, photographs, newspapers, pamphlets, etc. will be stored in a selected area of the Commonwealth Archives building in Darwin.
- (e) In all cases people supplying the information are asked whether they wish to place any restrictions or limitations on the use of the material. Their wishes will be scrupulously followed. The material will be available to bona fide students of history and writers.

- (f) At the present time interviewers have been selected on the basis of previous experience in undertaking interviewing associated with oral history programs and other forms of information collecting. Pamphlets, publications and instructions on the collection of oral history material is being provided to them as it is obtained. The first of a series of seminars will be held shortly where people presently undertaking work can extend their experience and where other persons who may be interested in offering themselves as interviewers can obtain an understanding of what is involved.
- (g) The question has not yet arisen. As the program develops, any biases which may become apparent will be progressively ironed out.

957 Mr PERKINS to CHIEF MINISTER

1. How and when will the new director of the Territory Parks and Wildlife Commission be selected?
2. What qualifications will be required for the position?
3. What will the salary be?
4. Can the minister give an assurance that the government will make every endeavour and advertise internationally to get the best possible person for the job?
5. Who will be on the selection panel for the position?

ANSWER

1. The new director of the Territory Parks and Wildlife Commission will be selected in the same manner as all other heads of departments and prescribed authorities, i.e.:
 - the position will be advertised inside and outside the Public Service; and
 - the selection committee will examine applications and recommend an appointment to the minister.

The position was advertised in the Government Gazette of 25.10.79 and the press commencing the same week.

2. Prime qualifications required will be proven high level management ability combined with a background in conservation and wildlife park management.
3. At present it is Executive Level E6 - currently \$32,585 - plus district allowance, but the salary may have to be negotiated to secure the best applicant as most states directors' salaries are higher than being offered here.
4. The government will make every endeavour to get the best person for the job. Advertising will not be outside Australia.
5. In accordance with standard practice the selection panel will be composed of persons recommended to the Chief Minister by the Public Service Commissioner. The usual makeup is the Public Service Commissioner and another departmental head or appropriate specialist.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

958 Mr PERKINS to MINISTER for EDUCATION

1. Does he agree that there is an urgent need for an Aboriginal vocational training facility at the Community College of Central Australia?
2. Did the minister inspect a facility in Priest Street, Alice Springs, called "Sportorama" and agree that this would meet the needs of an Aboriginal vocational training facility?
3. Was the building valued and, if so, how much was it valued at?
4. Did the minister agree that the property should be acquired for Aboriginal vocational training purposes and that acquisition should be made in this financial year?
5. Is there an allocation in the budget for acquiring this facility and, if not, why?
6. Will the minister ask Cabinet to ensure that the premises are acquired this financial year?

ANSWER

1. It is recognised that there is a need for some form of Aboriginal vocational training facility in Alice Springs.
2. Officers of the Department of Education have inspected premises called "Sportorama" which could be suitable for a vocational training facility. This could include activities related to Aboriginal vocational training.
3. The Valuer-General has assessed the property including machinery and improvements and his valuation is now known to the government.
4. A decision to acquire this property has not yet been made.
5. No provision has been made in the 1979-80 budget for specific acquisition of this property because it was first necessary for the premises to be valued. The Valuer-General's valuation has only recently been received.
6. No assurance can be given that the department will acquire the property this financial year until all aspects of the proposal have been fully considered.

1008 Mr ISAACS to CHIEF MINISTER

What was the breakdown of expenditure of the Office of Information for the year 1978-79?

ANSWER

Salaries and allowances	\$ 180,475.51
Travel	\$ 5,619.08
Printing	\$ 26,737.53
Photographic requisites	\$ 7,975.59
Incidentals	\$ 4,922.36
TOTAL	<u>\$ 225,730.07</u>

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

1012 Mr DOOLAN to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

1. Why was the Nightcliff-Fannie Bay connector road located so far into the Kulaluk area and away from existing roads at Ludmilla?
2. How much has this increased the cost of the road compared to connecting Totem Road to Namarluk Drive and Namarluk Drive to Fannie Bay by the shortest possible route, with provision for a noise barrier to houses affected in Ludmilla?
3. Does locating the road deep into Kulaluk land ruin or decrease the chance of using reclaimed land there (i.e., cyclone garbage dump) for ovals in the future?

ANSWER

1. The location of the connector road between Fitzner Drive and Ludmilla Creek has been chosen to provide an adequate buffer between Ludmilla North residents and the expected traffic. It was originally proposed to connect Namarluk Drive to Coconut Grove Road and then to provide for an intersecting road from Namarluk Drive, south of the old sewer treatment area, to Playford Street via the waste water treatment plant. This proposal was rejected because of the effect this would have on residents of Namarluk Drive and the hazards that would occur by use of an intersection as previously described. This has not affected the alignment of the connector road north of a point opposite Tudawali Street.
2. The development now under construction is actually shorter than that utilising Namarluk Drive. Because existing roads are not being utilised the cost of construction was increased by approximately \$200,000 based on proposals considered in 1977. However, the savings to motorists in running costs alone for the 1 km shorter journey have been estimated to be in excess of \$100,000 per year. The overall cost to the community is thus much less than if we had opted to use Namarluk Drive.
3. As already stated, it is only a very short length near the southern part of Kulaluk, that the alignment differs from that which would have been used to connect to Namarluk Drive. Large areas of land remain, both on the cyclone dump and elsewhere, that can be developed for sports ovals or other recreational purposes. This possibility has not been compromised by the alignment selected.

1014 Mr DOOLAN to CHIEF MINISTER

In answer to Question No. 326 regarding eradication of hyptis at Obiri Rock, the Chief Minister said:

"Weedicides have not been used at this stage because they are considered to be ineffective according to the advice we have."

1. Who gave this advice to the Chief Minister?
2. Does the Chief Minister have confidence in his own Department of Primary Production?
3. Is he aware that officers of the NT Department of Primary Production are certain that some weedicides (e.g., 2 4 D) are effective against hyptis?

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ANSWER

1. The source of that advice cannot be located. However, a better answer would be that the broadscale use of weedicide for practical long term control of hyptis in the Alligator Rivers Region does not appear to be the most suitable means of control. Hyptis is widespread in the area and broadscale use of weedicide in a national park has serious consequences. The control of hyptis can possibly be undertaken by other means.
2. Yes.
3. Yes.

1015 Mr ISAACS to MINISTER for EDUCATION

What are the minister's intentions in regard to the early integration of handicapped children into the school system?

ANSWER

The Northern Territory Department of Education is committed to a policy of integration for handicapped pre-school age children wherever it can, in the interests of the child, be achieved. I am unaware of any case of a pre-school age handicapped child being refused admission to a pre-school. Where it is considered that immediate integration of a handicapped child into a regular pre-school is not in the best interests of that child (this would apply in severe cases of handicap requiring close paramedical treatment), then I have undertaken to provide educational assistance to the Darwin Spastic Centre, to those children whose parents elect to send them to that institution.

In relation to the philosophy of integration, I would like to make it quite clear that for a small number of children this will be at best a long term goal, and placement in a special school will work most effectively towards the achievement of this goal.

My department prefers not to see the integration/segregation arguments polarise. It prefers to use the policy statement of the Australian Association of Special Education as its guide when it defined integration as a "maximum useful association consistent with the interest of both groups", i.e. handicapped and non-handicapped.

At present I am prepared to consider early admission to a pre-school for deaf and severely visually impaired children if, in the opinion of a placement and review panel, it is thought that early intervention could lead to later educational gains. The Stuart Park pre-school is specifically designated for the deaf and the Tiwi pre-school for the blind.

The services of the Spastic Centre are already available for other forms of handicapped conditions among children of below pre-school age. I have already indicated that I have undertaken to provide educational assistance to the Darwin Spastic Centre.

1016 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Will he ascertain from the federal Minister for Transport the cause of an incident at Tindal airport on Tuesday 2 October 1979 involving a TAA Friendship aircraft, a Lear Jet and a light aircraft from Darwin and obtain from the minister, for the information of the Assembly, details of any action he is taking to prevent such incidents occurring in the future?

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ANSWER

Matters involving air safety are the responsibility of the federal Minister for Transport. I therefore suggest the honourable member makes representations to him.

1017 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Has the need for and the practicability of establishing a barramundi hatchery in the Territory been investigated and, if so, with what results?

ANSWER

To date, the Fisheries Division has made no detailed investigation on the needs and practicability of establishing a barramundi hatchery in the Northern Territory. Such a hatchery would only be necessary in the following circumstances:

- (a) if a reproductive failure of wild stocks necessitated restocking of natural waters;
- (c) where large freshwater empoundments incorporating recreational fishing have been constructed; and
- (d) if commercial pond rearing of barramundi becomes economically feasible.

As none of these circumstances had arisen in the Northern Territory, no investigation of the feasibility of a barramundi hatchery has been warranted.

Research officers of the Fisheries Division are monitoring developments in this field, particularly in South-east Asia where there has been limited success in developing hatchery techniques. However, the establishment of a reliable hatchery system for barramundi is still in the early stages of development and a considerable amount of additional research will be necessary before a routine system becomes available.

1018 Mr MacFARLANE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

To whom and for what kinds of licences should persons wishing to establish crocodile farms in the Territory apply?

ANSWER

Within the Northern Territory, it is illegal to kill, take, possess or dispose of any crocodile or crocodile product except as provided for in a permit issued under the Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act. The government is examining the feasibility of establishing crocodile farming under appropriate controls and applications should be made to the Director of the Territory Parks and Wildlife Commission.

This answer was provided by the Chief Minister who is the minister responsible in this area.

1053 Mr ISAACS to CHIEF MINISTER

1. Is the Northern Territory government negotiating to purchase the Baptist Hostel in Katherine?
2. If so, what is the purpose of the purchase?

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

3. What studies have been undertaken to show a demand for the purpose indicated in answer to 2. above?

ANSWER

1. Yes.
2. Primarily for the accommodation of children from remote areas for educational purposes.
3. Studies of the educational needs of children from remote areas are continuing. Enrolment figures for the School of the Air provide some guide. Parents' views also have been obtained to determine desirable terms of residence.

1055 Mr MacFARLANE to CHIEF MINISTER

Have the Police been provided with powers to move loiterers and layabouts from the vicinity of public toilets in Katherine and, if so, have the Police been instructed to use them?

ANSWER

The Police have limited powers to deal with loitering offences. A bill before the Assembly will expand those powers and if the bill is passed and becomes law, the Police will enforce those expanded provisions in the same way as they enforce all laws of the Territory.

1056 Mr MacFARLANE to CHIEF MINISTER

Does his government intend to exercise the same powers over unalienated land in the Territory as is exercised by state governments over unalienated land in each state?

ANSWER

Yes.

1061 Mr ISAACS to CHIEF MINISTER

Is the Chief Minister aware that individual police officers are negotiating with individual high school principals to obtain daily absentee lists? Would the Chief Minister confer with his colleague, the Minister for Education, to put a stop to this practice?

ANSWER

I am not aware of this practice. I will look into the matter to ascertain whether there is such a practice and, if so, the intention of the practice.

1062 Mr VALE to MINISTER for EDUCATION

Can he advise whether or not matriculation classes will be conducted at Sadadeen High School in Central Australia?

ANSWER

Much has been spoken about this issue over the last couple of weeks. I understand that the problem will be somewhat exacerbated by very lengthy articles in this week's Centralian Advocate. The concern of parents has arisen largely out of an answer I gave in the House on 10 May 1978, some 14 months before the function of education was transferred to the Northern Territory. My responsibility to this House at that time was to answer questions for the information of honourable members based on information given to me by the Commonwealth government. Whilst the level of consultation between myself and the Commonwealth was very good indeed, the executive decision-making did not lie with me. It does now and I am determined to make decisions in the best interests of Territory children and in light of current information and advice.

With the exception of one adviser only, I am advised that a matriculation program at Sadadeen High School would not be in the interests of children attending there. Indeed, it would not be in the interests of secondary education in Alice Springs as a whole. My advice is such that I have every reason to believe that such a move would destroy matriculation in Alice Springs as a whole. There are 47 matriculation students in Alice Springs at the moment and 45 is regarded by my advisers as being the absolute minimum possible to run a viable matriculation program. Indeed, to offer all of the electives and options normally associated down south with matriculation classes, you would require about 60 students. Nevertheless, 47 is viable. To have 2 parallel programs would result in a greatly reduced number of students in each. In other words, instead of there being 47-50 at Alice Springs High, there would be approximately 25 in each high school. As such, my advisers inform me that there would be very little prospect of the students doing a successful matriculation program.

The proposal I am putting to parents in a letter dated 12 November 1979 will offer yet another option. Alice Springs High at the moment is the only place to offer a year 12 in the Northern Territory. It is our intention to upgrade the standing of that year 12 certificate in the eyes of the community. In addition, the second high school

in Alice Springs gives us a unique opportunity to provide a third stream of education, one that is very close to your heart, Sir. It is proposed to offer in this third stream a school of vocational studies in years 11 and 12. That school of vocational studies will be broken into 2 sections: vocational studies technical on one side and vocational studies business and administration on the other.

The proposal to parents will be that years 8, 9 and 10 in both Alice Springs High and Sadadeen High will be of a parallel nature so that students who wish to attend Sadadeen through years 8, 9 and 10 will not be disadvantaged in any way if they wish to move to Alice Springs High to do the matriculation program. Similarly, those students in Alice Springs High will have the opportunity, if they so wish, to transfer to the vocationally orientated Sadadeen High. The further advantage of this system will be that the program of vocational training will be done by way of what is called "link courses" with the Community College of Central Australia. Specialist tuition will be made available to students of Sadadeen High who wish to undertake a vocationally biased secondary education system. If the parents of Alice Springs agree to this program, it is also proposed to enter into discussions with colleges of advanced education around Australia who are interested in linking with the Northern Territory such that the year 12 certificate in vocational studies can be seen as an admission to colleges of advanced education to undertake such degree courses as Bachelor of Business Administration and diplomas in electronics and so on.

What we are offering to the people of Alice Springs is a very new and very exciting program in secondary education. It is not to be seen as a downgrading of Sadadeen High in any way. We are offering the whole of the Alice Springs district a third stream of education and you, Sir, would be well aware of the national concern of having people properly trained in schools to handle vocational activities in this very complex and technical world.

1063 Mrs LAWRIE to TREASURER

Is he aware that, following approval of an application for a loan from the 4% home loan scheme, it takes 6 weeks for the loan moneys to become available? If he is aware of this, could he explain to the House this seemingly unreasonable administrative delay?

ANSWER

I am not aware whether it normally takes 6 weeks after approval for loans to come through the system or whether that is an exception to the rule. However, I will endeavour to obtain information from the Housing Commission and advise the House later this sittings. I personally see no reason for such a delay because there certainly are adequate funds available for this particular program. That certainly is not the reason for any possible delay that may exist.

1064 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for HEALTH

Dr John Campbell of the New South Wales Health Commission has been in Darwin examining the hospital system. He is due to make a report to the minister shortly. Could the minister inform me whether that report will be made public or not?

ANSWER

Dr Campbell is on secondment to the Northern Territory from the New South Wales Health Commission. His report is expected to be in our hands before the end of November. I have not addressed myself to the issue of whether the report should be public or confidential. I could not decide until I see the report. I cannot give the honourable member an indication at this stage of whether it will be tabled at some future date.

1065 Mrs O'NEIL to CHIEF MINISTER

Is he aware that the Solicitor-General has received a complaint alleging that the Minister for Community Development committed an offence against the Child Welfare Ordinance? In view of the gravity of the allegation that a minister had breached the provisions of an act that he himself administers, will the Chief Minister assure the House that the matter will be investigated as a matter of urgency?

ANSWER

The honourable member for Fannie Bay appears to be making a political issue of what is essentially a matter for the proper administration of justice. Matters that relate to alleged criminal offences should not be brought into this House even though the honourable member for Fannie Bay has plenty of good precedents on her side of the political coin for attempting to try to convict men in absentia in other places. She certainly can take a correspondence course from the New South Wales Attorney-General on how to pillory a man when he has not been given any rights at all to answer for himself. This is an attempt by a politician in the Northern Territory to prejudice the course of justice. If there is a complaint and if it has been lodged with the Solicitor-General, he will investigate it. If he finds that there is any substance to the complaint, he will no doubt issue a summons.

1066 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

Which government department has responsibility for the housing and house repairs at Coastal Plains Research Station and which government department collects the rent for these houses?

ANSWER

The Primary Industry Division has that responsibility.

1067 Mr COLLINS to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

Why was Mr Ken Day allowed to illegally extract \$375,000 worth of tin from Collia mine and who gave him permission?

ANSWER

I am not sure that Mr Ken Day has actually mined \$375,000 worth of tin. Together with 3 other parties, Mr Day claims to have an interest in a mine called Collia. They have been operating for some time. They have recourse to settle at law the issue amongst themselves. The issue was referred to the Wardens Court earlier this year and was not resolved. It was then sent back to the parties to try to resolve it while the operation of the mine continued. The matter is still not resolved but it will again be referred to the Wardens Court at the earliest possible time so that the parties can appear together before the Mining Warden to have this dispute settled. I would not care to say anything more than that until the matter has been dealt with by the Mining Warden.

1068 Mr BALLANTYNE to CHIEF MINISTER

In light of the recent crocodile sightings at recreational areas in Gove, has a report been received by the Chief Minister in relation to the number of crocodiles reported at recreational areas or other areas on the Gove Peninsula? If not, will there be a feasibility study on the monitoring of such sightings?

ANSWER

A few weeks ago, the honourable member for Nhulunbuy asked whether there would be a survey of the number of crocodiles in that area. My recollection is that the Territory Parks and Wildlife Commission was to undertake such a survey. The results of the survey have not reached my desk at this stage. It is a job that will take some time because crocodiles are apparently not animals that walk up and introduce themselves to the people looking for them. I will inquire into the matter and try to give the honourable member some indication as to when the survey is likely to be completed.

1069 Mr ISAACS to CHIEF MINISTER

Can the Chief Minister inform the House when he expects to make a decision about the purchase of Connair?

ANSWER

The purchase of Connair is a matter for the shareholders of Connair. I understand from reading the popular press and many communications that come my way that there are various parties interested in buying Connair. Those people are free to negotiate with the Connair company for its purchase. Indeed, we heard not so many weeks ago an announcement that the company had been sold. Subsequently, there appeared to be considerable doubt as to whether that was in fact the case. The Northern Territory government has indicated that any party purchasing Connair without the Northern Territory government's approval could not expect an automatic grant of additional civil aviation licences within the Northern Territory when it became the province of the Northern Territory government to grant those licences.

At present, a panel of 3 members, chaired by Mr John Riley, the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Transport and Works - I do not recall the names of the 2 other members of the panel but they are both people from outside the Territory who have long experience in civil aviation: I think one of them was our civil aviation attache at the Washington Embassy at some stage - is looking over applications that we have received from TAA, Ansett, East-West Airlines and one or two others in relation to the future grant of licences within the Territory. I assume that it will take them some weeks to arrive at a decision because the matter is complex and I do not know whether they have actually met to look at the applications as yet. After they have made a decision, I would expect that they would submit their decision, together with the reasons therefore, for final ratification by Cabinet and an announcement would thereafter be made to the public.

1070 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for Community Development

I have heard recently that Palmerston House is scheduled to be demolished. Could he inform me if this is correct and, if so, when is that demolition to commence?

ANSWER

At the moment Palmerston House is being used by the Department of Community Development for the storage of refrigerators and other equipment until such time as a firm plan is made to demolish the premises. I am unable to provide any further information.

1071 Ms D'ROZARIO to CHIEF MINISTER

What arrangements have been made in the Northern Territory Public Service and statutory authorities for the employment of Territory tertiary students during the forthcoming long vacation?

ANSWER

Various arrangements have been made. I do not have the full details with me at this time but I can obtain them from the Public Service Commissioner. There have been arrangements made in Alice Springs, I understand, for students to work with the Department of Transport and Works and in other departments and I am certainly not aware that all these students will be paid. Offers have been made in some circumstances for students to gain job experience rather than actually work for a wage. I will obtain full details for the honourable member and supply them later in the sittings.

1072 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Is it planned to close down the Coastal Plains Research Station?

ANSWER

It is not proposed to close down any research station in the Northern Territory even though there has been some public discussion about the closure of the Katherine Experimental Farm. There is some variation to the activities being undertaken at that farm and I note your remarks, Sir, in regard to rural education facilities in that region. These will be considered. There is no departmental or governmental instruction or policy to close down any research

station whatsoever.

1073 Mr OLIVER to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Will he confirm that the proposed connecting road between Lovegrove Drive and Smith Street in Alice Springs will be in the same position as originally planned?

ANSWER

I am unable to give that confirmation to the honourable member. The area in question is currently being re-arranged to some extent to cater for railway lines and other facilities.

1074 Mr DOOLAN to MINISTER for EDUCATION

Could he advise on the progress relating to the working party report on a Northern Territory teaching service which is believed to have been completed about last July?

ANSWER

To the best of my knowledge, the time period which we had set for community and parent reaction to the working party's report has now expired. The collation of all that information is being done at the moment and I will be going to Cabinet with the results. The matter will then become one for Cabinet's consideration. I had proposed to the members of the working party that they reconvene briefly to consider the comments made on their report. From memory, I think that all parties, with the exception of the Northern Territory Teachers Federation, agreed to do so. It seems that, in the absence of cooperation from the federation, it will not be possible to reconvene the working party to examine comments. The matter will now take its course and become a matter for Cabinet.

1075 Mr BALLANTYNE to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

What plans are there to upgrade library facilities in Nhulunbuy?

ANSWER

An overall policy to use the infrastructure of the Education Department throughout the Northern Territory is currently being examined by the government. I am very happy to say that, in the initial stages of the Nhulunbuy High School, facilities will be upgraded to provide a library service not only for the school but also for the community. This is a first step towards community use of many of the Education Department's infrastructures. We were not able to use it prior to 1 July but, in consultation with the Minister for Education, the government is seeking ways to use education infrastructures, especially those in remote areas, for community purposes.

1076 Mr COLLINS to MINISTER for EDUCATION

At previous sittings of the Assembly, it was the minister's intention to make a ministerial statement on the status of education services in the Northern Territory. Is it his intention to proceed with that statement at this sittings?

ANSWER

Yes. However, due to the time lapse, some updating is necessary but I will try to present it at this sitting.

1077 Ms D'ROZARIO to CHIEF MINISTER

Is he aware of a proposal by the Territory Parks and Wildlife Service to obtain possession of former mining tenements identified by numbers 1K and 7K of some 2.4 hectares in area which were formerly part of Oolloo Station and, if so, what is the purpose intended for this land?

ANSWER

Mr Speaker, you will have to forgive me if my answer is not 100% correct because I do not really carry the mining registers of the Northern Territory in my head. I think that those areas are the leases at the Oolloo crossing which somebody took out some years ago and erected a store. The Territory Parks and Wildlife Commission has acquired those interests for the purpose of setting up a ranger station and a small reserve in that part of the country. Honourable members would be aware that the Daly River Wildlife Reserve is across the river in that area. It is a long time since the proposal came to me. If the honourable member wants more complete details, she should ask me a question on notice and I will supply them.

1078 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

Have the inspectors been appointed for after hours policing of illegal sand and gravel mining in the rural areas?

ANSWER

At this stage, additional staff have not been appointed to undertake the surveillance to which the honourable member for Tiwi refers. However, there has been a reorganisation of the environmental inspectorial side of the department to ensure that officers can work after hours and on weekends to maintain surveillance over some of the illegal mining that does occur in the area.

1079 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Has he received the results of the youth needs inquiry which was carried out in the Northern Territory this year and is it intended that those results be made public?

ANSWER

I have received the report and I believe some 200 copies have been circulated. It is a matter of my taking it to Cabinet and, after that, I hope to be able to table it in the Assembly.

1080 Mr OLIVER to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

In view of the proposed hobby farms adjacent to some towns further up the track, can he advise what the situation is relating to hobby farms in the Alice Springs area?

ANSWER

I would have to seek some further information for the honourable member. There is a small area near Alice Springs which is called a farms area but which is not strictly a viable economic unit for farms. I believe some of the area may be used for what is termed these days "hobby farms" for semi-rural pursuits consistent with the availability of water and good soil. I am unaware of any particular proposal to have a specific subdivision created near Alice Springs for sale as hobby farms. The areas immediately adjacent to Alice Springs have a series of problems in relation to this type of activity as far as soil types and water supply is concerned. In particular, there is concern expressed by people from the Primary Industry Division and the Parks and Wildlife Commission in relation to any activities relating to the running of animals on areas which are liable to be overgrazed very quickly, particularly as Alice Springs may not continue to enjoy the very good wet seasons that it has had in the past few years. Such activity has to be carefully watched to ensure that serious harm is not done to the environment in Alice Springs. Certainly, the hobby farms concept envisages a small area of land on which a person may keep a number of animals and use for agricultural purposes. If the honourable member wishes a more specific answer or wishes to make a proposal, I would appreciate a letter from him.

1081 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

I read a report recently in the Northern Territory News that said that problems had been experienced in the processing of Taiwanese fishing vessels. Was this report correct and, if so, could he give me some detail on the problems?

ANSWER

I understand there were some quarantine difficulties. From the Fisheries Division's point of view, there were few difficulties. I propose to make a statement on the Taiwanese vessel situation at a later time.

1082 Mr COLLINS to CHIEF MINISTER

When will the Chief Minister make a statement concerning his recent negotiations with the federal government over the control of Jabiru and the Kakadu National Park?

ANSWER

When I am in a position to do so.

1083 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Following on from my repeated requests to the minister regarding bus services to the Darwin rural area, when will this service be inaugurated?

ANSWER

I must give the honourable member an 'A' for persistence but, unfortunately, the extension of the bus service in any way at all is just beyond our financial capacity at this time. Obviously, it is a year

to year proposition. The cost of a bus is about \$85,000. To employ extra people will cost between \$12,000 and \$15,000 per person not counting the extra costs involved. It is not proposed that any extension of the bus services will be made at present.

1084 Mrs LAWRIE to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

As he has now received submissions concerning the future use of Carpentaria College, would he advise the House when his government will be deciding the future of that area?

ANSWER

The department has received a small number of applications relating to the future use of Carpentaria College. They are being collated in the form of a briefing to me. I have not received it but I understand it is complete. I hope to receive it within a few days and to submit it to Cabinet for a recommendation and a final settling of the whole question. Hopefully, this will be after the next Cabinet meeting in about a fortnight.

1085 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

The land formerly occupied by the Parap Infant School has been vacant for nearly 5 years since the cyclone. When does he anticipate that a decision will be made as to the future use of this land?

ANSWER

I do not have that specific information with me. I am not sure what the land is zoned for currently under the Darwin Town Plan. However, I will undertake to establish what it is proposed to use the land for and advise the honourable member.

1086 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

The minister mentioned that progress announcements on a solution to the parking problems being experienced in the main city area will be made shortly. Is he able to give me more details on those proposals at this time?

ANSWER

I cannot release any further details on this matter until it has been considered by Cabinet and certain decisions made. However, I would like to advise the House that a fairly recent statement in the local newspaper was incorrect. It implied that an agreement had been reached with the local city council on the future of the government's involvement and the corporation's involvement in car parking in the central business district of Darwin. We have had a working party working closely with the city council with a view to coming up with an acceptable solution to what is developing into a very serious problem. The government has accepted a degree of responsibility to assist the corporation in establishing permanent car parking in the central business district. The situation has certainly been outside the control of the city corporation up until very recently when, through the implementation of the new Planning Act, local government gained a majority of members

on the Town Planning Authority. Therefore, it is now in a position to control the conditions whereby car parking spaces will be provided by developers in the future.

However, the government accepts a degree of responsibility for the situation as it has evolved today. I now have a Cabinet submission prepared detailing recommendations on the level of government assistance. It proposes the establishment of a car parking trust which would receive all income from car parking revenues in the city as well as governmental assistance if any. The trust would administer land and car parking facilities which may be constructed. The trust would also have the ability to borrow up to \$1.2m outside loan council approval. On the proposals that have been presented so far, it seems to me to be a very workable and sensible solution to a fairly complex problem. I cannot give any more details until Cabinet has made certain decisions on the matter.

1087 Mr ISAACS to CHIEF MINISTER

Does he or an officer of his department, as a matter of practice, inform the relevant traditional owners when the Chief Minister issues permits for entry onto Aboriginal land pursuant to the Aboriginal Land Act? If not, will he consider implementing the practice?

ANSWER

I personally sign all permits for public servants who are entering or are likely to enter upon Aboriginal land. These permits are signed on the application of the department, placed in a plastic cover and remain valid until revoked. When public servants intend to enter Aboriginal land in the course of their duty - and that is the only circumstance in which those particular permits may be used - they are required to telegram the local community about the purposes of the visit and when it is likely to take place. Generally speaking, it is hoped that they will receive an acknowledgement that the visit will be in order. Unfortunately, due to poor communications in the bush and perhaps to less than 100% efficiency with office administration, answers are not always received to these communications. Indeed, it is alleged on occasions that public servants enter upon Aboriginal land without first notifying their intention to do so. Nevertheless, at my request, a number of circulars have been sent through the whole public service asking that this practice be adopted and adhered to. We endeavour to rectify any complaints received from individual communities or through the Northern Land Council.

However, I must say that there is a degree of reluctance by public servants, for instance, to wear the permits on their shirts as has been requested in some places. There have been misunderstandings because some public servants have not first called at community council offices as has generally been requested. These incidents are understandable when one considers that not every public servant is experienced in moving around these communities. Many community council officers are entirely anonymous and one only knows who they are through experience. I have asked communities, through the Northern Land Council and some directly, to mark their community council offices prominently. I have also asked that public servants, upon entering an Aboriginal community, to attend first at the community council office. I do not know that there is a great deal more that we can do.

1088 Mr DOOLAN to MINISTER for INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Is he aware that the dreaded noxious weed mimosa is abundant at Kulaluk and, if so, what does he intend to do about it?

ANSWER

I was not aware specifically that mimosa was growing at Kulaluk. I was aware that there is a small acreage in that area populated with bovine species of which the honourable gentleman may not have been aware. I am aware that mimosa is scattered throughout the Adelaide River region and the Primary Industry Division is taking measures to control the spread of this weed along with other weed prevention proposals being undertaken.

1089 Mr BALLANTYNE to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

Can he inform me if the recent shortage of avgas has had any detrimental effect on the coastal surveillance program and, if so, what steps have been taken to overcome the problem?

ANSWER

I cannot reflect about the impact that any avgas shortage or alleged shortage may have had on coastal surveillance. My understanding is that the avgas shortage that we experienced in August and September has been substantially overcome. The normal levels of activity in the third level of our airline industry have been maintained and no disruption or shortage in avgas is expected at least before next March.

1090 Mrs LAWRIE to TREASURER

He will be aware that he has 2 public housing lists under his control, one dealing with Northern Territory Public Service housing and the other dealing with public sector housing. Can he change the policy so that persons transferring from one list to the other may retain any accrued waiting time?

ANSWER

I guess the honourable member was seeking an affirmative answer but I find that difficult because I can foresee a number of problems. I will undertake to examine the matter but, in the meantime, I suggest that the honourable member write me a letter on the subject so that I can formally respond to that.

1093 Mr ISAACS to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

My question relates to the statement attributed to the minister in the NT News a couple of days ago in relation to the Darwin Trader. What is the latest information on the future of this service and what steps are being taken by the Northern Territory government to prevent the service ending?

ANSWER

The question of the Darwin Trader ceasing its regular service to Darwin has been one of great concern to the Northern Territory government and indeed to everyone in the Northern Territory. We thought a solution had been reached when ANL, Portland Cement and Norcement agreed to a contract for the delivery of cement to Darwin. This particular contract fell through and ANL attempted to obtain a freight agreement with Burns Philp and Brighton Cement. This did not eventuate either. The government set up a committee to look at alternatives with the Darwin Trader at the time. Amongst other alternatives we considered Bourkes Shipping.

The Trader is currently undergoing a refit and there is no indication from the Commonwealth or from ANL that it will be removed from the shipping route. However, we are concerned about the possibility that they may remove the Trader from the shipping route. If this was to eventuate, we would expect several months notice. The committee that the government originally set up for the purpose of looking at alternative shipping has now been reconvened. We are pressing for a continuation of the service after the refit has been carried out and we are looking at viable alternatives for another shipping service.

1094 Mr PERKINS to CHIEF MINISTER

Is it the policy of the government to provide housing for government employees in outback areas? If so, are the Aboriginal health workers who are employed by the Health Department provided with housing in the same way as other government employees in outback areas and, if not, why not?

ANSWER

The government's policy is to provide housing for all employees of the public service wherever they are forced to reside in the course of their employment. Funds are allocated each year in the budget for the provision of public service housing. The Northern Territory government has embarked on some ambitious programs through the Departments of Health and Education to train and employ numerous Aboriginal health workers and teachers. We recognise that we have a responsibility to provide housing for public servants such as these and we will move as quickly as we can within our financial capacity to provide the appropriate housing.

1095 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

When will the houses in Stow Road, Howard Springs, built for gaol staff at Gunn Point Prison Farm be occupied and will all the houses be occupied?

ANSWER

I understand that the houses are completed and are now awaiting final inspection by the department. As soon as that is done, the houses will be allocated to prison officers.

1096 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for HEALTH

Is he able to inform this House when the Casuarina Hospital will be open to receive patients?

ANSWER

The main ward block at Casuarina Hospital has been handed over in the last couple of weeks to the Department of Health which is in the process of commissioning it. It is anticipated that the ward will start to receive patients in March 1980. Present planning indicates that there will be 360 beds and cots available when the unit opens.

1097 Ms D'ROZARIO to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Is it the intention of the government to impose a 100 kilometre per hour speed limit on all Territory rural roads?

ANSWER

The question has not been decided at this stage. No doubt these questions are being raised because of the energy situation.

1098 Mr OLIVER to MINISTER for EDUCATION

Is it proposed that he will meet with the parents in Alice Springs to discuss openly the new proposals for Sadadeen High School?

ANSWER

In answer to the honourable member's question, might I try to restate what I indicated yesterday. It is not a question solely of Sadadeen High School but a question of a composite education system for the entire Alice Springs district. I think the parents of the children at present at Sadadeen must recognise the reality of that. The proposal is not confined solely to one school but will affect students from Tennant Creek to the South Australian border. It will be a composite system of 3 streams of education.

To answer the question specifically, it is certainly my proposal to have a public meeting with parents in Alice Springs who have children in all schools in Alice Springs - primary, secondary and private schools - because they are affected by the type of secondary education which the Northern Territory government provides. I anticipate that that meeting will occur tomorrow fortnight, probably at a school other than Sadadeen in order to make it quite clear that it is a matter of concern to the whole community. Of course, it is also of paramount

concern to the parents who have their children at Sadadeen at the moment and those who are looking forward to placing their children in Sadadeen next year and the year after.

1099 Mr VALE to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

What plans has the department to provide additional residential land in Central Australia? Will his department examine the possibility of making alternative residential block sizes available?

ANSWER

Confining my remarks to Alice Springs rather than Central Australia as a whole, the current turn-off of land for this particular year in Alice Springs for 1979-80 is expected to be a total of 410 lots. Some of those have been sold already to the private sector and quite a number have been allocated to the Housing Commission. The 410 lots are considered to be above the actual demand for land in Alice Springs. In 1980-81, it is expected that another 340 will be available. These will be lots for single unit dwellings, houses and town houses. For 1981-82, a further 440 lots are programmed. For flats and home units, the terminology used is land for a certain number of units rather than blocks of land because that can be misleading in that a few blocks can provide many units of accommodation. Land will be turned off for 90 units in the current financial year, 100 units in 1980-81 and 120 units in 1981-82.

The second part of the question referred to the release of varying sized parcels of land for these purposes. Subdivisions nowadays do provide for a variety of sizes of land for houses, flats and town houses. When I say a "variety" of sizes, they usually differ marginally. If the honourable member is asking whether we are proposing to release, for example, 0.5 acre or 1 acre lots for houses, that has not been proposed nor is it intended at this stage.

Note: See also answer to question 1168.

1100 Mrs LAWRIE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Having regard to the debate which took place yesterday on the proposed Fish and Fisheries Act, will he indicate whether there will be an increase in the research section of the Fisheries Division to allow the necessary monitoring of the fishing industry over the next few years?

ANSWER

That is a fairly difficult question to answer. Since we accepted fisheries as a responsibility from the Commonwealth, the units of administration itself has doubled in size. It is now a unit of some 42 persons. At this stage, we are looking towards a period of stability whereby the unit may be as effective as possible. Some research is still being undertaken but no large program or concentrated program has been outlined at present.

1001 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

When will work commence on the sealing of Whitewood and Hillier roads at Howard Springs since the wet is now here and the work is planned for this year? Will the \$220,000 budgeted for the sealing of

Whitewood and Hillier roads be sufficient for the job?

ANSWER

I am unable to satisfy the honourable member that the work will be done before the wet season. Tenders will be called in May next year and it is assumed that the estimated amount will be sufficient to cover the work involved.

1102 Mr ISAACS to MINISTER for INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Is it a fact that on the inauguration of the Darwin to New Guinea shipping route a number of Northern Territory buffalo were found to have TB? If so, where did the buffalo come from and what steps have been taken to assure our trading partners, especially New Guinea, that this will not happen again?

ANSWER

I ask him to place his question on notice.

1103 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The future of the old Town Hall in Mitchell Street has been on quite a number of citizens' minds for a number of years. Has this matter been raised with the minister and is he able to give us some insight into the future proposals for the old Town Hall?

ANSWER

The Minister for Lands and Housing has approved in principle the reservation of lot 4955 Smith Street, the site of the old Town Hall, for preservation and protection under the Crown Lands Act as a place of historical interest. Executive Council approval is currently being sought and consultant architects, Wilkins, Klemm and Morrison have been commissioned to document the project, call tenders and administer contracts for the demolition and removal of the modern auxiliary structures, the stabilisation of the ruins and the development of the site. Tenders will not be called until after Executive Council approval has been received. Discussions are currently being held with the department for the potential use of the site with a view to submitting options for the future management of the area once the physical conservation has been carried out.

1104 Ms D'ROZARIO to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

Has there been any undue delay in confirming the appointment of the candidate who successfully appealed against the provisional promotee to the position for Director of Mines and, if so, what is the cause of the delay?

ANSWER

I am not aware of any undue delay but it is a matter that probably is the prerogative of the Chief Minister because it would fall within the jurisdiction of the operation of the Public Service Commissioner's Office.

1105 Ms D'ROZARIO to CHIEF MINISTER

Mr Speaker, I redirect my question to the Honourable Chief Minister.

ANSWER

As far as I am aware, there has been no delay. From information from the Public Service Commissioner this morning, I understand that it is unlikely that the Public Service Commissioner will confirm the appointment of any person from the current batch of appointees to the position of Director of Mines. I understand that the position of Director of Mines is to be re-advertised.

1106 Mr BALLANTYNE to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

Recently, it was announced that approximately 150 ships from the Taiwanese fishing fleet would be calling into Darwin from time to time in connection with licensing matters and to take on provisions and fuel. Can he inform the House what arrangements have been made to safeguard the supply of fuel to the Northern Territory fishing industry so that it will not suffer from any fuel shortages which might arise from the increased demand?

ANSWER

As a result of the government's introduction of the 200-mile fishing limit, fishing boats such as the Taiwanese will operate in our northern waters and will call into the port of Darwin for goods and supplies. The first 60 ships that are due to come through will consume about 1,800 tonnes of distillate. The 150 ships that are expected to go through the port in the next 3 months will require an additional 4,800 tonnes. I have taken this matter up with the federal Minister for National Development, Mr Newman. I requested of him that, in the event of there being any shortages of distillate, the Northern Territory be given an additional quota to cover the increased consumption of the fishing industry. Most of the difficulties that we have had with the continued supply of petroleum products in the Northern Territory have been caused by a great increase in the business sector and the productivity of the community.

1107 Mr COLLINS to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

What is the status of the government's proposal to restore the old uranium mining areas of the Northern Territory and, in particular, when will work resume at Rum Jungle?

ANSWER

The honourable member asked this question before and I think the last advice I gave him was that there was a proposal before the Commonwealth Cabinet for several million dollars to proceed with work and rehabilitation in the Rum Jungle area and in a few other areas in the Territory. As honourable members would be aware, I think an amount of about \$300,000 has already been spent. I am not aware of any further commitment by the Commonwealth in this particular area of expenditure. However, I will undertake to find out for the honourable member and advise him at some future date.

1108 Mr DOOLAN to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

Could he advise the House of the amount of money received for 7 drums of tin concentrate obtained from old battery stands at Mt Wells which was forwarded to Associated Tin Smelters in Sydney?

ANSWER

I do not carry an accounting register of the sales of the Mines Branch products around in my head. I will undertake to obtain the information if the honourable member will provide me with details of the particular drum concentrates involved, the owners and when they were dispatched.

1109 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Has a Director of Library Services been appointed yet?

ANSWER

The answer is no. However, we are hopeful that an appointment will be made in the next couple of weeks.

1110 Mrs LAWRIE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and INDUSTRY

Has he given any consideration to forming a mercantile marine authority given that people wishing to upgrade their qualifications as merchant seamen in the Northern Territory face an almost impossible task?

ANSWER

No consideration has been given to the formation of such a body. It is a matter we will have to examine. If the honourable member would like to write to me, we will see what we can do about it.

1111 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to CHIEF MINISTER

Have any firm plans been made for night police patrols in the Darwin rural area?

ANSWER

Yes. The police proposal is that patrols will move around the Howard Springs and Humpty Doo areas. I do not have full details but the honourable member may obtain them from the Commissioner of Police or, if she cares to write to me, I will supply her with full details.

1112 Mrs O'NEIL to TREASURER

Is he aware that the price of buffalo meat for pet consumption has doubled in the last 12 months in Darwin from approximately \$1.40 to \$2.80 for a 2 kg pack? Will the minister have this enormous price increase investigated in the interests of consumers and, presumably, their owners?

ANSWER

I was not aware that such a price increase had taken place. However, the opening up of the European Common Market to our buffalo meat - and the

Northern Territory is one of the few places in the world today where buffaloes are slaughtered for human consumption - has made a tremendous demand on the buffalo resource and no doubt has driven up prices fairly dramatically over recent months. Perhaps that is an excuse for the price rise. However, I will ask the Price Controller to make some inquiries and submit a report to me on the results of recent increases.

1113 Mr VALE to MINISTER for INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Have there been any results from the study of agriculture, crop development and marketing in the Territory undertaken for the government early this year by the Queensland Department of Primary Industries?

ANSWER

The study group has recently submitted 2 reports covering the horticultural and cropping industries. The reports are being considered by the department and the government will be in a position to outline its plans early next year.

1114 Mr ISAACS to CHIEF MINISTER

Have the police compiled a report in relation to the Collia Mine and, in particular, have investigations been made into the whereabouts of the missing partner, Mr Kay?

ANSWER

I cannot be sure that the police have compiled a report into the Collia Mine as such nor can I be sure that the police have compiled a report on the missing partner. I do know that the police have made investigations into the whereabouts of the missing partner and, in the view of the investigating officer, there are suspicious circumstances. Nevertheless, there is apparently no evidence available on which any charges can be laid. There have been reports that Mr Kay has been seen elsewhere on this globe since the date of his alleged disappearance in the Northern Territory.

1115 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

There have been reports in the press of late that industrial solar air-conditioning systems are not receiving financial support from the Northern Territory government while similar systems in other states do receive support. Are these reports factual and, if so, why is no support being provided?

ANSWER

The government receives requests for support from time to time for various types of solar energy applications in the Northern Territory. I guess the honourable member is referring to the application we received from the Telford group who were seeking financial assistance with the establishment of a solar air-conditioning unit on their revamped hotel in Darwin. I think they wanted a similar amount for the one in Alice Springs if that was possible. The consideration that was given to this proposal was quite extensive but there are a couple of points in it that determined that assistance for these projects should not be forthcoming. We are particularly keen to encourage the

use of solar air-conditioning appliances in the Northern Territory where there is a need for an impetus. In this particular case, there was no need for any encouragement on the project because the proposal was identical to a program that had been conducted in Perth. The proposed unit for the Telford Hotel in Darwin was an identical unit to the one that had been tried and proven in Perth. There was no experimental stage to be gone through and there was no doubt about the viability of the project.

Given that our electricity and operating costs are very much dearer than those in Perth and southern cities, the introduction of a solar air-conditioning unit in this case was just that much more attractive. The government had to decide whether it was prudent to spend \$60,000 to encourage somebody to install this infrastructure - if the price of electricity continues to rise at its present rate, he would probably get his money back within 5 years - or whether to try to save those resources for other solar applications that would have more practical uses in the community. Perhaps we could introduce solar appliances to sectors of the community where there is not a proven capacity at the moment.

The government is committed to supporting the introduction of solar equipment and hardware in the Northern Territory. We will continue to look at every particular case on its merits. This case was very difficult to justify on financial grounds.

1116 Mr COLLINS to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

In view of the heartening nature of the honourable Minister for Mines and Energy's statement on the economies of solar air-conditioning what programs does the government have to introduce this system into its own building programs?

ANSWER

Mr Speaker, tonight the energy section of the Department of Mines and Energy, together with the Department of Transport and Works, will canvass the application of solar hardware in Northern Territory buildings. To date, the only suitable structures for the proposed system are the Housing Commission units at Casuarina.

The particular system that has been developed in Western Australia has to be retained in close proximity to the area that is intended to be air-conditioned. It is extremely difficult to situate it on the roof and pump the cool air from the solar unit down into the basement. While it may have an application on the roof of a restaurant, it is unsuitable for very high-rise buildings.

We are considering the introduction of solar refrigerated air-conditioners into some government buildings, particularly a new health centre which is planned for Dripstone. Some time ago, a Japanese firm distributed literature advertising the first solar refrigerated air-conditioner available on the Australian market. It was not completely solar; it utilised a small electrical component. However, it was the first commercial product to be offered for sale in Australia. I have taken this matter up with the Directors of Mines and Energy and Health to see whether these appliances could be installed in the new Dripstone centre on a trial basis. If they are suitable, there would be a

considerable cost-saving to the Northern Territory. Again, it is a new principle and, man being as conservative as he is, not many people in the community will rush out and purchase a trial unit at a cost of \$1,000 in the hope that it will have a suitable application.

1123 Mr ISAACS to CHIEF MINISTER

Since Christmas Day and New Year's Day will fall on a Tuesday this year, will the Northern Territory government follow the lead given by the Victorian and New South Wales governments in proclaiming both the 24th and the 31st of December public holidays?

ANSWER

I have not given this matter any consideration. It certainly has not been drawn to my attention by my advisers and, unfortunately, I have not had a chance yet to look at the days on which Christmas and New Year fall. Since it has been brought to my attention by the Leader of the Opposition, I will seek advice from the Public Service Commissioner and my departmental head and I will attempt to provide some information before the sittings concludes.

1124 Mr VALE to MINISTER for HEALTH

Have orthodontists been engaged in the Alice Springs and Darwin areas as foreshadowed by the minister earlier this year?

ANSWER

The recruitment of an orthodontist to the Alice Springs area has been successful and I had the good fortune to meet the new orthodontist down there during my last visit. He seems to be well supplied with a workload that he did not think would abate in the near future. In the Top End, we have an orthodontist appointed to the Health Department and we are recruiting a second one. We have been very fortunate in securing the services of a second orthodontist. Because of these 2 appointments, it is anticipated that visits to places like Katherine, Tennant Creek and Gove will begin in the new year.

1125 Mrs LAWRIE to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

Will he introduce this sittings a bill to close the loophole in the Liquor Act which mitigates against the conviction of liquor traders for the serving of liquor to under-age persons as was reported on After Eight?

ANSWER

I did not hear After Eight so I cannot comment on what was said. We propose to introduce during these sittings about 20 amendments to the Liquor Act which result from recommendations of the Liquor Commission. They relate particularly to the administrative side of the commission's activities rather than policy. With regard to the particular point that the honourable member raises, I will have to check and let her know.

1126 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Has the government any plans for extending the reticulated water supply to the rural area because of the great expense incurred by block owners in sinking individual bores?

ANSWER

There are no immediate plans to extend the water facilities to persons on rural blocks. The matter will be reassessed in the light of regional plans that will be presented to the Minister for Lands and Housing in due course. I would warn that, at that time, there would be some cost recovery aspects to be taken into account and it may not be as clearcut as first thought.

1127 Ms D'ROZARIO to MINISTER for EDUCATION

Is it his department's intention to conduct in-service training courses for immigrant teachers to improve their English language skills?

ANSWER

I undertake to provide the honourable member with the answer to that question later in the sitting. I have no direct knowledge of a specific program to improve the English language capabilities of migrant teachers. As the honourable member would be aware, a wide range of in-service programs are constantly going on and one would assume that, if there was an identifiable need in that area, that would be catered for. Nonetheless, I will seek a specific answer for the honourable member.

1128 Mr BALLANTYNE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Has a decision been made on the siting of a new motor vehicle registry office at Nhulunbuy and, if so, when will the branch be opened?

ANSWER

The proposed motor vehicle registry will be sited within the existing space at the Transport and Works depot at Lot 42. The existing arrangements will continue in the short term. The police department will continue to carry out the testing function and the clerical function will be carried out by a Transport and Works officer. Additional office accommodation is currently being provided at Lot 42 and will be completed in early 1980. This additional accommodation will house the existing clerk and the motor vehicle tester. The tester will be appointed now and will be in Nhulunbuy some time in January.

1129 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

A few years ago the Darwin Sailing Club and the Darwin Trailer Boat Club applied for extra land adjacent to their existing leases for the purpose of parking their boats. A decision on this matter was deferred until after the foreshore environmental study was completed. This has been completed for approximately 12 months. When can these clubs expect a definite answer to their application?

ANSWER

I too would certainly seek an early resolution to the question of additional areas to be used by clubs like the Sailing Club for parking boats and for car parking. As the honourable member for Fannie Bay said, the foreshore management study has been completed. Unfortunately, such studies often lead to others. There has been a recent study on all foreshore areas of Darwin with a view to assessing the suitability

of various sites for a marina which a number of parties have proposed should be established. The Vesteys Beach area is one of the areas which has been examined. Until such time as a number of decisions have been made on such matters, it is not really proper that the Darwin Sailing Club or others should be allocated specific land for the parking of cars and boats. In the meantime, I understand that there has been a fairly liberal attitude taken towards the Darwin Sailing Club and its stacking or storing of boats on what is virtually a public reserve. They will not be harassed in any way by inspectors until such time as a satisfactory resolution can be found.

1130 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for EDUCATION

Is he aware of a letter from the Darwin Primary School Parents, Teachers and Friends Association to the Director of Education asking about the provision of school furniture, fire protection, detection equipment and a public address system? If so, what action will he take to ensure that these matters are treated as a matter of urgency?

ANSWER

The matters referred to by the honourable member for Port Darwin have already been treated as matters of urgency. I understand that, a couple of years ago, there was a rather extraordinary foul up in that the furniture purchased for Darwin Primary School apparently went elsewhere. There is nothing to be benefitted by canvassing that any further.

I understand that the question of furniture has now been largely overcome by a mutual arrangement between 2 principals. The Principal of Darwin Primary School is one of these people and is satisfied by the arrangement. Certainly, the department has been in constant communication on this issue with the Principal of Darwin Primary School.

In respect to the question of fire alarms and a public address system, the public address system contract has now been let. I understand that the Department of Transport and Works are looking after that particular system which will have the dual purpose of fire alert.

I undertake to visit Darwin Primary School probably next Monday. If the honourable member will meet me at the airport, I will go straight to Darwin Primary School and have a look at the problems first hand. My understanding is that the design of the building is such that making an exit in the event of a fire emergency is very easy indeed. The main problem is to alert staff and students to the presence of the fire as early as possible. By combining the fire alert facilities with the public address system, we hope to overcome any problems which may exist at the moment.

1131 Mr ISAACS to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Is the minister yet in a position to supply me with an answer to question 201 which I asked on 28 November 1978? This concerns a lease agreement between V.B. Perkins and the Northern Territory Port Authority? Can the minister inform me whether a lease agreement has been completed and, if not, why not?

ANSWER

I am not in a position to provide that information at the present time.

1132 Mr VALE to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

Can he advise whether certain organisations and buildings within the Northern Territory will now be charged at domestic rather than commercial electricity rates and whether churches are included in those organisations?

ANSWER

There was an announcement several months ago to the effect that Cabinet has agreed that electricity rates for churches were to be charged at the domestic rate rather than at the commercial rate. It was Cabinet's view that this would be a big help to the churches concerned. Cabinet also agreed to charge people who run boarding houses, accommodation quarters, banks and similar institutions at the domestic rate rather than at the industrial rate. An anomaly existed in the regulations to the Electricity Commission Act that made it compulsory for the commission to charge the commercial rate for electricity for accommodation that was provided adjacent to premises in which a business was operating. It seemed to be an unreasonable burden to place on people who ran institutions of this type and who provided a great deal of accommodation in the Northern Territory community generally. Where any organisation has accommodation adjacent to its business premises, it may now have that metered at the residential rate.

Cabinet is also in the process of giving consideration to providing domestic power rates for caravan parks. We have a difficult situation in the Northern Territory in that caravan parks, which normally provide a service to the touring public, are often used as permanent home sites for people who cannot obtain accommodation or land in the wider community. We are looking at the possibility of extending this concession to caravan park operations because so many of the residents in those parks are permanent dwellers who, if they had the opportunity, would move into the wider community where they could obtain power at residential rates. I would be happy to make a further statement on that in the future.

1133 Mr DOOLAN to MINISTER for TRANSPORT AND WORKS

What action has been taken by the Primary Industry Division on the interim report on agricultural and horticultural development compiled by Queensland consultants to the Northern Territory government?

Mr SPEAKER: I believe that was answered yesterday.

1134 Mr BALLANTYNE to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

What steps must be taken to see that comment is received from as broad a spectrum as possible before the new Mining Bill is debated?

ANSWER

The honourable member would recall from the text of the second-reading

speech that it is the government's intention to include as many people and organisations as possible in the consideration of the new mining legislation. Times have changed dramatically since the pick and shovel days. Because mining has such an impact on so many areas of the community and it will become more important by the year 2000 when society will be that much more sophisticated, it is important that everybody should have an opportunity to consider the legislation. Copies of the legislation and related material have been sent to 142 mining companies throughout Australia, most of whom are active in or have an involvement with the Northern Territory in some way. The legislation has been sent to Commonwealth ministers and departments and all relevant state government departments for their comments. In the Northern Territory, copies have been sent to the Environment Council, the Aboriginal Land Councils, the Heritage Commission and other organisations. We are looking forward to receiving their comments.

One interesting thing that has come out of the circulation of the bill was that we received an approach from AMIC through the local chapter of the Chamber of Mines to hold a forum in a southern city because most mining company people would be able to attend. Discussion could take place on the actual mechanics and land administration side of the legislation because they are so important to everybody on a day to day basis. That seemed to me to be a very practical suggestion. I have informed the Chamber of Mines that, if they organise it, we will make the staff available to participate in the workshop. I am sure that an exercise like this will benefit the community as a whole.

1135 Mr OLIVER to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Can the minister advise me on the progress of the proposed lake at Alice Springs?

ANSWER

The information that the honourable member requests is not available to me at this stage. However, I am led to believe that drilling, silt testing and early investigations have proved quite satisfactory. This would enable the government to construct a lake just above the old telegraph station. The cost of such a venture would be in the order of \$2m which would be quite an investment. I think that the results of further studies should be available early next year.

1136 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Has a suitable position in the city yet been found for the Darwin public library?

ANSWER

This particular question has been asked of me several times in the House. At this stage, I am still unable to confirm that the library services have secured premises within the city boundaries for the operation of the Darwin library. However, I hope that some successful negotiations might be held later this week or early next week in relation to the selection of a location in the Smith Street Mall.

1137 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Will he confirm that the hobby room and other areas at Berrimah prison which were designed for the rehabilitation and recreation of prisoners are in fact being used to accommodate prisoners because of an excess in numbers?

ANSWER

I received a report several weeks ago confirming that. However, I am not sure of the current position. I will find out and supply her with that information later in this sittings.

1138 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Has the government any future plans for the sealing of other roads in the rural area of Darwin?

ANSWER

Obviously, there will be further developments in the sealing of roads as time goes on. We are studying this with the help of consultants who are in that area at present. A report should be available by January next year which should provide an analysis of the existing road networks and proposals for areas which we should look at. The priorities of course for the sealing of roads in this area will be dependent on this further information and the availability of funds in the budget.

1139 Mr ISAACS to CHIEF MINISTER

Has the Northern Territory government held discussions with the Australian Electoral Office over the conduct of the next Legislative Assembly elections? If so, can he confirm that the Australian Electoral Office will be responsible for the conduct of the next Assembly election?

ANSWER

The Northern Territory government has been holding discussions with the Australian Electoral Office for some 12 months regarding arrangements for the conduct of Northern Territory elections to be held in the future. On one occasion whilst I was in Canberra, in company with Northern Territory government officials, I paid a courtesy call on Electoral Officer and senior members of his staff. There was consideration being given at one time for the appointment of a Northern Territory government official as Chief Electoral Officer under the Northern Territory Elections Act. However, I understand that the attitude of the Australian Electoral Office was that, if it was to handle the conduct of Northern Territory elections, then it required an officer of the Australian Electoral Office to be appointed as Chief Electoral Officer rather than do the work on an agency basis. Arrangements are virtually in the process of finalisation - although it may take a couple of months more - for an officer from the Australian Electoral Office to be appointed Chief Electoral Officer of the Northern Territory. When the Electoral Bill is assented to, I would expect that staff of the Australian Electoral Office will be responsible for the conduct of future Northern Territory elections.

1140 Mrs LAWRIE to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

Can he indicate whether the offer of a health team to be sent to East Timor has been accepted by the authorities?

ANSWER

The offer by the Northern Territory government to provide a team of health officials to go to East Timor was made about 10 days ago by the Chief Minister to the Minister for Foreign Affairs in Canberra. To my knowledge, there has not been any response to the offer. When there is, the details will be made available to the House.

1141 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Several areas in the Port Darwin area are still to be connected to the main sewerage system. These areas include Myilly Terrace, Carey Street and also Temira Crescent. Can he inform me when the main sewerage system will be extended to include these areas?

ANSWER

I understand that the items to which the member for Port Darwin refers are on the 1979-80 capital works program. The work is due to go to tender in June 1980.

1142 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

The Elizabeth River people have been placed in an invidious position

regarding access to blocks in stage 1 and stage 2 of the subdivision done under Commonwealth requirements. Can the minister inform me of the position of the proposed standard of roads for stage 3 of the subdivision?

ANSWER

There certainly has been a great deal of difficulty experienced by persons in that area. A subdivision was well under way in June 1978 when legislation was passed through this House which effectively stopped all subdivisions on freehold land in the Northern Territory until such time as they had approval. In order to obtain approval, developers had to provide at least an adequate access to each parcel being subdivided. In the Elizabeth River area, quite a number of people had purchased land and, while some work was done on roads, the roads were never accepted by the Department of Transport and Works as roads that it would maintain. There were other difficulties associated with a particular crossing over the Elizabeth River. The legislation effectively prevented further subdivisions. Fortunately, in this particular situation, the developer still had a large parcel of land in stage 3 which he proposed to complete and the government was able to withhold approval for the completion of stage 3 until such time as roadworks had been brought up to a certain standard and until a causeway over the upper reaches of the Elizabeth River had been built. I have had a number of meetings with the developer and we have reached an agreement on the construction of a causeway over the upper reaches of the Elizabeth River and some associated roadworks. I feel that there is an end in sight, fortunately, for the people who were victims of the inefficient legislation which was in operation in the Territory until last year when I moved in this House that we should pass urgent legislation absolutely prohibiting further subdivisions without approval. I believe that the case before us is a reinforcement that that action was indeed necessary and has served its purpose.

1143 Ms D'ROZARIO to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

Has the government recently given an undertaking to residents in the Elizabeth River Estate that a causeway will be built over the Elizabeth River and this causeway will be paid for by the government? If so, what is the estimated cost of this structure and when is it likely to be constructed?

ANSWER

In reply to the previous question, I mentioned I had a number of meetings with the director of the company concerned about whose responsibility it was to construct a crossing over the upper reaches of the Elizabeth River having regard to the fact that it will service quite a number of blocks belonging to this particular developer which he proposes to develop. It will also service quite a large number of blocks that he has already sold - land which was legally subdivided but which did not have adequate access. Those persons are now the responsibility of the government in a strict sense. The causeway will also service future subdivisions in the area. Thus, there are a number of people who will benefit from that particular causeway. I have given an undertaking to a number of people in the area that the government will build the causeway. The estimated cost is \$54,000 - that is a preliminary estimate - and the developer has given me a verbal undertaking, which I am seeking to

clarify in writing, that he will contribute \$44,000 towards the building of that crossing. The government will be contributing the remainder.

1144 Mr COLLINS to MINISTER for EDUCATION

Does the government intend to establish a Northern Territory Teaching Service on 1 January as planned and, if not, when will the government establish such a service?

ANSWER

In answering the question, I might take some liberties with the terms in which it was couched. I would assume that the honourable member's question was promoted by an ABC press report yesterday in which the Teachers Federation was reported to have said that, unless a firm proposal is forthcoming from the government by 1 July next year, it will take industrial action. I must say that I am very disappointed that the Teachers Federation would take out on children what they see as a real or imagined frustration between themselves and the government. Indeed, if one is to canvass this question properly, one must ask why the Teachers Federation is suddenly so anxious to have a Northern Territory teaching service when it has always been the Northern Territory Teaching Federation's policy to continue with the CTS. One can only assume that the working party report envisages terms and conditions of employment way beyond that which they presently enjoy. I suppose that that is a subject for another day.

The Teachers Federation has been well aware that the report on the establishment of a Northern Territory teaching service has been widely circulated in the community over the last months. They are also well aware that the time for expiry of submissions from the public was 16 November and we already have threats of industrial action. Mr Speaker, let me say that that sort of statement is a total misrepresentation of the facts. As I have said in this Assembly, the federation has been asked to reconvene the working party to study the submissions from the public. I have also indicated previously that, to the best of my knowledge, they have declined to do so. At the moment, we are having a valuation done by the department and by various other interested departments such as Treasury in relation to the financial implications of the report. The Public Service Commissioner is studying the administration of the type of system envisaged. When all of that is collected, it will be condensed into a paper for Cabinet's consideration as soon as possible.

I want to see the establishment of a Northern Territory teaching service by July 1 next year and not just a proposal. Let me reiterate that no threat of any kind is going to remove this government's commitment to the widest possible consultation of the public in matters concerning education.

1145 Mr BALLANTYNE to CHIEF MINISTER

This relates to the Employment (Leave of Absence) Bill inquiry. Can the Chief Minister tell me what stage the inquiry has reached and whether a date has been set for its completion?

ANSWER

Certain correspondence has been dispatched to the gentleman whom we

proposed to appoint as the person to conduct the inquiry. That person has been so appointed by the Executive Council. I am not aware when the retired Judge from the Conciliation Arbitration Commission will come to the Northern Territory. I can ascertain that information for the honourable member before the conclusion of this sittings.

1146 Ms D'ROZARIO to MINISTER for EDUCATION

What arrangements are being made for school children attending Anula and Wulagi schools to attend swimming classes at Casuarina swimming pool now that funding for this specific purpose has been discontinued?

ANSWER

Before I answer the question, a little bit of history is necessary. Funding for swimming and road safety programs is an extension of benefits which flowed from the cyclone, if indeed benefits did flow from the cyclone. This is a benefit which no other school children in the Northern Territory have ever received. It was a special allowance for excursions originally made to schools in Darwin because of their destroyed or semi-destroyed state. It was a special disability grant which was only applied to Darwin children as a result of the cyclone. On my understanding, as the building settled down and those purposes were no longer relevant, the special allocation was never terminated. These funds were channelled - and quite rightly; I am not criticising it - into specific programs of swimming training and road safety training both of which are highly desirable activities. However, there is a limit to the amount of money available for every endeavour. I would like to see funds available for pools and road safety cycle tracks for children everywhere in the Northern Territory. Nonetheless, this is quite impossible in the present economic circumstances.

To answer the question specifically, the general school-based funding for the year has been seriously eroded in Darwin schools because they anticipated that this special fund would continue. As a result, the general one-line funding which covers 4 areas in school-based funding is now somewhat depleted as a result of the continuation of these programs which were not specifically funded this year. In light of that, I have asked the department to find the money to reinstate those programs at least for the balance of this year. To pick up that program for less than half the year for Darwin alone will cost between \$15,000 and \$20,000. It gives some idea of the cost of bussing. If you were to amplify that right throughout the Territory, it would give you some idea of the staggering cost of those sort of excursions.

1147 Mr ISAACS to CHIEF MINISTER

In view of the fact that 6 out of the 19 Legislative Assembly seats, as at 19 October 1979, were outside the 20% tolerance of electorates, will the Chief Minister give an assurance that a redistribution of all electorates in the Territory will be carried out before the next Assembly election?

ANSWER

I am not at present aware of the figures for the various Legislative

Assembly seats but, before any assurance can be given as to whether a redistribution will be effected, certain factors would have to become known. Amongst those factors would be whether the Electoral Office has embarked on a campaign to register voters which has taken place only in certain seats and not in others as yet and other factors so that a true picture of the position can be ascertained. For instance, I am aware in my own electorate that there are many persons whose names are on the roll but who have moved out of the electorate and, of course, there is the continual registration of new electors. Whilst the Leader of the Opposition may well be quoting figures which are available at the Electoral Office at the present time, perhaps further examination of these figures and some effort by the Electoral Office to establish the true position in all the electorates may be necessary before a decision on a redistribution can be taken.

1148 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for HEALTH

What steps is he taking to minimise the risk of introduction of exotic disease - both human and animal, into the Northern Territory as the result of recent arrangements whereby large numbers of Taiwanese fishing boats are to be based in Darwin?

ANSWER

The Northern Territory Health Department role is tied up with the federal Department of Health's quarantine services. We act in cooperation with and as an agent for the federal department in these matters. My understanding is that both the federal and local departments have taken particular measures to ensure that plant and animal species do not come ashore from the boats. There has been a great deal of comment in the press about the fact that there are animals and birds, particularly fowls, on these boats. The people involved have advised me that that is not in fact the case. The particular concern is with rodents which are likely to come ashore from boats that come to Darwin. The quarantine people board these vessels, confiscate any food, meat or animals that happen to be on board and fumigate the boat for any other things that are likely to bring disease into Australia. It is interesting to note that the quarantine people have not recorded, to my knowledge, any fowls or animals coming ashore in Darwin. One other interesting point that was brought to my notice some time ago was that most of the boats that have come to Darwin in the last 12 months have had a fumigation certificate which they received in their port of disembarkation. It is quite obvious that the people on these boats were expecting quarantine investigators to be quite strict with them and they have taken the precaution, in the first place, of having their boats fumigated to make their passage a little easier.

1149 Mr COLLINS to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

Is it true that 7 senior officers of the Mines Branch at either E4 or E5 level have resigned from the branch since 1 July.

ANSWER

I do not have any details on the number of officers that have departed from the Mines Branch at that level. I ask him to place the question on notice.

1150 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Why was the Darwin rural area, including Berrimah, given only \$80,000 for the re-gravelling of rural roads out of what I understand is a total allocation of \$11.5m for repairs and maintenance in the Northern Territory?

ANSWER

I ask her to place the question on notice.

1151 Mr PERKINS to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

What is the current proposal by his department for the establishment of a sewerage farm in the Alice Springs area?

ANSWER

It is well known that there is no current proposal for a sewage farm at Alice Springs. We did have a farm on the program at an earlier time but the council objected to that through the town planning processes and we withdrew our proposition. I understand that discussions are still taking place between the Alice Springs corporation and senior officers of the Department of Transport and Works. If a sewerage farm is proposed at a later time, we will support it.

1152 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

The last annual report received from the former Mines Branch was for the financial year 1968-69. Is it intended to re-institute the publication of annual reports on Territory mining?

ANSWER

The short answer is yes and I believe the first one is being printed now.

1153 D'ROZARIO to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

In view of the extensive redevelopment which has taken place over recent months in the Smith Street Mall, what is the future use of the former government tourist office site and when is it expected that this site will be developed?

ANSWER

The future use of the site in question is still under consideration by the government. At the moment, it is our intention that the site will be used for the Darwin operations of the Northern Territory Tourist Board which will shortly become the Tourist Commission. The centre of the mall will be an ideal spot for that purpose. However, until such time as the car parking situation in the central business district is resolved, it is difficult to ascertain the size of buildings to go on particular sites. This is very relevant to that site. There is no specific public car park near the site and it is an unusual site in that it does not back on to West lane. In fact, there is a small parcel of land at the rear of the block which completely isolates it at the present time. Technically speaking, except from the mall, there is no

access whatsoever which is fine for pedestrians but not for other purposes. There are a number of problems to be resolved in relation to the block and its future development. I hope that they are resolved in the near future. The provisions of multi-storey car parking facilities in Darwin will also help to clarify all the issues.

1154 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for HEALTH

Will he confirm that doctors on duty at Darwin Hospital have been instructed to advise patients to seek treatment from private practitioners rather than from the hospital outpatients department and was this decision made as a result of concern expressed by private practitioners about competition from Health Department services?

ANSWER

I have no knowledge of the instruction to which the honourable member for Fannie Bay has alluded. I ask the honourable member to provide cases, instances and the names of people involved because I would like to follow the matter up.

1155 Mr ISAACS to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

Can he inform the House of the electricity needs for a uranium enrichment plant and can he indicate the cost of such a plant?

ANSWER

The honourable member has raised a question that requires a great deal of detail to answer. I would prefer that he put it on notice because the size of an enrichment plant governs any demands for power. If the honourable member has any particular size of unit in mind, I would be happy to provide information for him.

1156 Mrs LAWRIE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Why does the Motor Vehicle Registry no longer place on car registration stickers the date of expiry of registration, the car engine number nor any other means of identification linking the sticker to the car?

ANSWER

I ask the honourable member to place that question on notice.

1158 Mr ISAACS to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Is his department responsible for youth employment programs? If so, what initiatives are being taken this year to provide jobs for 962 unemployed young people in the Northern Territory?

ANSWER

My department is not responsible for any youth employment programs. However, my department has had several discussions with the Commonwealth Department of Employment in an effort to have it continue the various programs which it operates in the Northern Territory such as the EPY course which is conducted by the Darwin Community College.

I believe that the Chief Minister will make a full statement on the unemployment problem in the Northern Territory during this sittings.

1159 Mr VALE to CHIEF MINISTER

If Katherine is the most racist town in Australia, as claimed last week by the honourable member for Victoria River, what does the Chief Minister propose to do about it?

ANSWER

I recall the honourable member for Victoria River saying that Katherine was the most racist town in Australia but I for one do not accept such a statement. I believe that we certainly have our problems in the Northern Territory. People have problems everywhere in Australia. There are problems between people of all sorts of ethnic groups right around this country and we must all work together to solve the various problems. At the present time, there is no doubt that, in some circumstances, unemployment exacerbates problems. Indeed, problems often occur because people do not have enough to occupy themselves either physically or mentally. I certainly do not accept the statement that Katherine is the most racist town in Australia. I believe that, if the honourable member reflected on that statement, he would probably seek to qualify it.

1160 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Has the Marriage Guidance Council been forced to close its Alice Springs office due to lack of funds and is the closure of the Gove office imminent for the same reason? Will the minister review his recent decision not to approve additional funding so that the work of this worthwhile organisation can continue?

ANSWER

I will advise the member at a later hour.

1161 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

What is the current position regarding people in the rural areas paying bonds or levies and undertaking to use the minimum amount of electricity before their blocks are connected?

ANSWER

The previous regime in the Northern Territory under the Commonwealth government had a system of minimum accounts or bonds that people were required to enter into to enable them to obtain electricity on their blocks. While it served a very useful purpose, the Electricity Commission felt that it could come up with a better arrangement to provide a rural electrification scheme that would be much more wide-spread than the previous program. My understanding is that, where previous consumers had an agreement or contract with the government for the minimum sale of electricity, they could enter into a new agreement with NTEC or they could continue with the present scheme. I understand that only one person has opted to change at this stage.

1162 Mrs LAWRIE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Has the working party established to report on the examination and development of legislation to control the ingredients of stockfeed, including antibiotics, yet reported to the minister and, if not, when is it likely that the report will be forwarded?

ANSWER

We did promise that the report would be completed by the end of this year but I have not seen it as yet. I will let the honourable member know in due course.

1163 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

Is the Darwin Planning Authority continuing to waive parking requirements under section 38B?

ANSWER

There has been some difficulty in Darwin with regard to planning and building approvals. Some discussion ensued yesterday in this House on this matter. The Planning Authority has deferred or declined to make a decision on at least 2 applications before it to waive the provision of car parking for developments in the central business district in Darwin pending an agreement with the Northern Territory government on a solution to the financial problems of establishing permanent multi-storey car parks in Darwin. As I mentioned earlier during these sittings, a submission on this matter is about to go to Cabinet for decision. Until such time as the Planning Authority and the city council can be assured that there is a solution in sight, I understand that they are taking the attitude that they will not waive further car parking provisions in the central business district. This is causing some problems to developers at present.

1164 Mr ISAACS to CHIEF MINISTER

What action is being taken by the government to reform the law of rape?

ANSWER

This is an interesting question because I may have mentioned this matter in this House earlier. If I have not, I regret that I have not done so. It is certainly fairly common knowledge that the government

is undertaking a reform of the whole of the criminal law, not just the law in relation to rape. That well-known Darwin newspaper, that unbiased organ of journalistic freedom, the Darwin Star, carried a story some months ago to the effect that the Chief Minister had appointed one of his cronies as a consultant to assist the government in carrying out its reform of the criminal law. In fact, the position is that, quite some time ago, the Department of Law, the Solicitor-General, the Crown Prosecutor and the Crown Counsel, together with a Mr Connolly, a very senior member of the Queensland bar, engaged in a mammoth study of the Northern Territory's criminal law which is scattered through various pieces of legislation, principally in the Criminal Law Consolidation Act.

After lengthy consultations with the judges of the Northern Territory Supreme Court, the Law Society and other interested parties, Mr Connolly embarked on the codification of the Northern Territory's criminal law because it was believed, as a matter of policy, that it was probably best that there should be a complete criminal code produced. Because Queensland was the leading code state, it was decided that a Queensland counsel should be employed. This first draft code has in fact been produced and was some months ago sent to the judges of the Supreme Court for their comment. At present, I understand we are still awaiting those comments. I would not like to infer any criticism of those judges by saying that they have had the document for 4 months or 3 months because there are 4 volumes of the proposed code and I myself have only had time to read one as yet. It is something that I do not think we should rush into; it is something that should be given careful consideration. After the judges have made their comments and these have been considered, the legal profession, the civil liberties council and various other groups must be given their opportunity to comment. Finally, I hope it will result in the production of a bill that can be introduced into this House some time next year. I believe it would need to go over probably at least 3 sittings so that everyone in the Territory and indeed around Australia may examine it if they so wish. I might remark that our new code includes the English Theft Act provisions which are quite an innovation. I believe that criminologists, legal people and ordinary people right around this country will want to pass comments on this bill. I do not think that we should be in a hurry but I expect that this House will see it next year.

1165 Mr BALLANTYNE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

When will the boat ramp at the town beach in Nhulunbuy be available to the public?

ANSWER

Work has proceeded on design, access roads and the parking facilities. Clearances are being obtained from the Northern Land Council and we expect to complete the work by the middle of next year.

1166 Ms D'ROZARIO to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

When is it expected that the Aboriginal housing agreement, which is to be entered into with the Commonwealth government, will be signed?

ANSWER

I expect that it will be signed very shortly. The document has been going back and forth between my office and the office of the federal Minister for Aboriginal Affairs for some time to incorporate minor changes. It is presently in his hands; I do not have the final draft of the document. I cannot give a specific time but I expect that it will be signed shortly.

1167 Mr OLIVER to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

Is there a new or revised town plan for Alice Springs? If so, when will it be available for public inspection?

ANSWER

A new draft town plan has been completed for Alice Springs. It has currently been given to the Alice Springs corporation and a limited number of other persons for their comments prior to going on formal public display. I do not have a specific time for that display. It must first go before the Alice Springs Town Planning Authority for its consideration and possible amendment.

1168 Mr VALE to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

This is a follow up to a question I asked last week about the availability of residential land in Alice Springs. Can he advise which blocks would be made available during the next 3 years and in which areas they will be made available?

ANSWER

I have to apologise to the House and to the honourable member on this matter. The information I provided to question 1099 for the honourable member for Alice Springs, where it quoted a number of figures for Alice Springs, was incorrect. It was my own fault because I wrongly deciphered figures that were provided to me. I would like now to correct the record. In terms of production of house lots in Alice Springs, in 1980-81, there will be 40 lots in Araluen, 50 lots in Sadadeen, 20 lots in Mt John, 40 lots at Spenser Hill - a total of 150 lots. In 1981-82, the expected turn-off is 50 lots in Araluen, 150 lots in Sadadeen, 60 lots in Mt John, 40 lots at Spenser Hill - a total of 300. The provision for units of accommodation in the multi-density area - home units and flats - in 1980-81, there is expected to be 60 for the Mt John and Sadadeen area and 70 for 1981-82.

1169 Mr COLLINS to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

My question is in relation to an answer I received to a question last week. In view of the fact that the Mining Warden has ruled that he cannot adjudicate in the matter of the Collia Mine dispute, what circumstances have changed to allow that re-adjudication to take place and when will it take place?

ANSWER

I believe that the parties have asked that they be joined together under another section of the act - I think it is section 180 - to appear before the Warden to have the matter reconsidered.

1170 Ms D'ROZARIO to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

Does the Northern Territory Housing Commission have a pool of emergency accommodation in Darwin for quick allocation to persons in necessitous circumstances and, if so, what is the kind and approximate size of this pool in terms of the number of households that could be accommodated?

ANSWER

As I understand the system, the Housing commission does not keep a specific pool of houses set aside for emergency allocation. Because of the size of its house turn-off, house acceptance from contractors and houses handed back to the Housing Commission by tenants vacating, it has a constant supply of houses available for reallocation. The Housing Commission has a system whereby persons can make application to bypass the Housing Commission waiting list and seek emergency accommodation. At present, it receives some 30 applications a month for emergency accommodation. These are scrutinised very carefully because every person who is able to obtain accommodation forthwith is, in fact, disadvantaging hundreds of people who have been on the waiting list for a long time and who may be paying a large percentage of their income for private accommodation. At present, only 4 emergency allocations per month are made out of the 30-odd applications. I understand a separate pool of houses is not kept vacant waiting for an agreement to house people in emergencies.

1171 Mr VALE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

The Stuart Highway north of Alice Springs to the foothills has been reconstructed recently and a portion of that road is now open. Can the minister advise when the whole of the newly reconstructed highway will be open to traffic?

ANSWER

This is the road that Favaro went broke on by under-tendering for the job which it could not complete. It was taken over by the Department of Transport and Works. In an effort to show the department's spirit and its skill in road work, it completed the road in very good time and not very far outside the budgeted allocation. The road itself is driveable at this stage. We are waiting for the Charles River crossing to be completed. I understand that that is due for completion in February and the honourable member may even have the pleasure of opening it if he twists my arm.

1172 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

When the new fire station is built at Parap, will the Daly Street fire station continue to service the city area?

ANSWER

I do not know that all the processes have been completed to allow the fire station to be built at Parap. On the assumption that the fire station

may be built at Parap, I would suggest that the activities of the Daly Street fire station would be reduced somewhat and that the Parap fire station would provide all the activities that one would associate with a fire headquarters. If the honourable member would like to write to me or perhaps place the question on notice, she will receive more information.

1173 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

If there are subsequent connections of blocks to reticulated electricity before the lapse of the bond or levy do these later block owners have to pay a proportionate bond or levy and, if not, why not?

ANSWER

I ask that the question be placed on notice.

1174 Mrs LAWRIE to CHIEF MINISTER

When is it likely that people affected by the collapse of the Northumberland Insurance Company will be afforded some relief? Can he indicate any further developments since his last answer.

ANSWER

I cannot indicate any further developments since my last answer. After the Northern Territory Cabinet approved a scheme, the Australian government, which had resolutely resisted any contribution up to that stage, suddenly came good with an offer, the details of which I cannot recall. I thought the Department of Law would sort it out. I will certainly ascertain the present position in order to try to resolve this matter.

1175 Mr BALLANTYNE to MINISTER for HEALTH

Last year considerable publicity was given to the worrying problem of syphilis in the rural areas. At that time, the Department of Health said that a control program was under way. Is he able to indicate how that program is progressing?

ANSWER

The Department of Health has programs of public health control continuing throughout the Territory. The attack that the department has made on the VD problem in the Territory is meeting with some success. There has been a 25% reduction in the notifications of syphilis in the last year.

1176 Mr PERKINS to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Is he aware of a report in yesterday's NT News that the tourist industry in the Top End is in jeopardy? If so, is it a fact that the industry is being jeopardised by inadequate funding and a lack of certain facilities in the Top End?

ANSWER

It sounds like a Dorothy Dix question. I certainly saw the article and

went to the trouble of cutting it out. I thought that the report of the Chairman of the Darwin Regional Tourist Promotion Association lacked government information and that perhaps I should seek to hold a symposium to bring people like the chairman up to date on various tourist matters. I refute 99½% of what was said in the article and I assume that it is an accurate publication of the initial press statement. The fact is that something like \$12 to \$13m is being spent on tourism through other departments in the current budget. The operational budget supports tourist bureaus in the south and provides for a reasonable promotional campaign to have people visit the Northern Territory. The article indicated that a director of tourism was to be appointed. I would suggest that, if the act had been read, it would have been noted that the position is a chairman/general manager. It said that the 2-year job tenure was insufficient for any person to construct and implement a cohesive plan to market the Territory's tourist attractions. The 2-year term applies to the part-time tourist commissioners and also to those people who will be appointed to the Tourism Advisory Council.

1177 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

Will additional caravan parks be provided in the near future?

ANSWER

There is quite a lot of interest in this matter. We have applications from developers seeking about 5 sites. Most of them have expressed interest in a site within reasonable proximity of the foreshore. The Darwin Planning Authority has been contemplating proposals put to it for display of a rezoning at Brinkin to incorporate the additional areas that the government has undertaken to allocate to the Darwin Community College and for residential and other purposes. I specifically asked that my department put to the Planning Authority the subject of the provision of a caravan park at Brinkin and left it to the Planning Authority and the department to decide what would be the most suitable site.

I was not actually directing that a caravan park be put there but that the proposal be displayed. I understand the planning authority has rejected the concept of a caravan park being displayed for Brinkin. As a result of that information which only came to hand this morning, I will seek a report on why such a display has been rejected. It has been my philosophy that, whilst the Planning Authority is quite rightly a very independent board, I believe that the government does have some rights to have its proposals put on display to test public reaction. It seems that the Planning Authority has decided - although I have not been advised of this formally - not to put the caravan park in the plan for display.

I understand it has approved a display of a rezoning for a caravan park at Coconut Grove which will provide quite a number of caravan sites. There are other applications in the system which will probably receive a great deal of objection. An applicant has applied again for a caravan park site on the vacant crown land on the old golf course site this side of East Point. I am not sure whether the Planning Authority will choose to exhibit such a plan again because this area has a history of exhibition uses being rejected. I do share the honourable member's concern. With an increasingly mobile population in Australia, increasing leisure time and matters such as the sealing of

the South Road for which an undertaking has been given by the South Australian Liberal government, I believe we should be developing more caravan parks throughout the Northern Territory and they should be of the highest possible standard to assist our tourist industry.

1178 Mrs LAWRIE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Concerning the joint Sumital Taiyo fisheries investigation to be carried out in Northern Territory waters, could he advise who is providing the surveillance machinery available to the authorities to verify the operation of the joint fishing research as he indicated in his speech last Tuesday?

ANSWER

I would need to clarify one point. I am not too sure of the word "surveillance". The honourable member might mean "observer".

Mrs LAWRIE: I quote directly from his speech: "...comprehensive and regular radio contact particularly in relation to navigational details so that surveillance machinery available to authorities can be used to verify they are indeed operating in accordance with prior arrangements made with us ...". Who is providing that surveillance machinery?

Mr STEELE: I understand that it is under the administration of the federal Department of Transport. There is a sub-unit of administration that looks after coastal surveillance right across the north. I understand that full reporting procedures have to be entered into, that the vessels have to be numbered or marked in a certain way and that they are limited to so many vessels. I understand also that, in respect of the Taiwanese, for example, there is some self-discipline. If the rules are broken in any way, the boat is sent back to Taiwan and another is sent out. It is probably a little early to say just how effective the surveillance will be but, if it is not effective, we will be the first to criticise it.

1179 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

What does the Northern Territory government intend to do with the McMinns bore field?

ANSWER

We propose to rehabilitate and extend it.

1180 Mr COLLINS to MINISTER for EDUCATION

In view of the government's failure to utilise funds for the education of unemployed youth in 1978-79 when only \$14,000 of a \$60,000 Commonwealth grant was spent, can the minister assure the House that funds made available for this purpose in 1979-80 will be spent?

ANSWER

I understand that the honourable gentleman's information on the spending of the federal government allocations last year is correct. I do recall receiving some advice as to why that occurred and I will

certainly check that out and let him know what my formal advice is. When I found out about it, I was extremely annoyed. I can assure the House that it will never happen again.

1181 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

In reply to a question on notice from the member for Victoria River the Minister stated: "The location of the connector road between Fitzer Drive and the Ludmilla Creek has been chosen to provide an adequate buffer between Ludmilla north residents and the expected traffic". Can he explain why it was seen necessary to provide such a buffer for the residents in his electorate and not for the residents of Fannie Bay where the level of traffic is expected to be even higher?

ANSWER

I would have assumed that the whole matter was fairly self-explanatory. If you go through a built-up area, obviously there will be houses on both sides of the road. The government has seen an opportunity to provide a buffer to some people living in this area and that has been provided. I think it is very simple.

1182 Ms D'ROZARIO to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

What assistance is offered by the Northern Territory Housing Commission to community organisations for the provision of non-residential premises?

ANSWER

I am taxing my memory but I do not recall that the Housing Commission has assisted any organisation with non-residential accommodation. If the honourable member would care to place the question on notice or write to me, I could clarify it for her.

1185 Mr ISAACS to MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

In view of the lack of an appeal provision in the Liquor Act against decisions of the Liquor Commission, is the government considering the insertion of such a provision?

ANSWER

Not at this stage.

1186 Mr VALE to CHIEF MINISTER

Following on his successful negotiations with the Minister for Post and Telecommunications resulting in a direct broadcast of the Melbourne Cup, has he had any negotiations with the federal minister concerning the forthcoming Australian test cricket matches and, if so, what was the result of those negotiations?

ANSWER

It was interesting to hear the petition this morning because, obviously, the persons who subscribed to that petition are way behind events. I suppose that is a product of the fact that perhaps they cannot hear the radio. I do understand that, within 18 months or so, people in remote areas of the Northern Territory should again be able to receive short wave from Cox Peninsula. I understand that the federal government is allocating funds for that purpose. The Northern Territory government has taken action through the Restrictive Trade Practices Tribunal in respect of the Packer agreement with the Australian Cricket Board of Control. The hearing of the matter will commence within about a week or so. It is difficult to know whether Territorians will be able to see any test cricket on TV this year. Yesterday, I sent a further letter to the Minister for Post and Telecommunications regarding the coverage of major sporting events by the Australian Broadcasting Commission, including coverage of the 1980 Olympic Games. I thought we should take steps now to do our best to ensure that people in this remote area will see what their fellow Australian citizens down south will be seeing.

I have made representation in the strongest terms to Mr Staley on the basis that the ABC has a responsibility to provide a good all-round service to people, especially in remote areas, and that the Territory is virtually covered by the ABC in the absence of any other Territory-wide media network. Therefore, the ABC has a special responsibility for the Territory to ensure that we are kept well abreast of developments in the sporting world and, of course, in other areas as well. I will report to the House from time to time on the success or otherwise of my negotiations with the minister.

1187 Mrs LAWRIE to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Is it his intention to institute any form of inquiry into the handling of the dog problem in Darwin by the corporation prior to the passage of the Dog Bill as requested by 1695 people of Darwin.

ANSWER

The matter is under consideration.

1188 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

What is the current position regarding the recommissioning of the North Australia Railway?

ANSWER

The Commonwealth has agreed to our proposal that we undertake a joint study into the benefits and costs of a standard-gauge railway between Alice Springs and Darwin and for the Australian National Railways to identify the corridor for this railway so that the land can be reserved. Work has commenced on both projects. The joint study team consisting of Mr Grant Taylor, Commonwealth Department of Transport, and Mr Bill Foo, Department of Transport and Works, is expected to have its report completed by the end of the year. The Chief Minister has written to the Prime Minister urging a Commonwealth commitment to commence construction of the rail link within 5 years.

1189 Mr OLIVER to CHIEF MINISTER

Is it the government's policy to utilise to the full the resources of the Northern Territory Tourist Bureau when making official travel arrangements?

ANSWER

I have not given this matter any consideration. For instance, when I make visits interstate or, infrequently, when I make visits overseas, the people that we go directly to are the airlines concerned. I am not sure whether any other ministers avail themselves of the services of the Northern Territory Tourist Bureau nor am I aware whether any departments avail themselves of those services. If the government gave all its business en masse to the Northern Territory Tourist Bureau, it could cause some dislocation in the travel industry. I doubt that the Tourist Bureau would be in a position in Darwin to handle such an influx of business because there are only about 6 staff in the office. It would mean that staff presently employed in airlines offices would probably not have enough work to do. Whilst I appreciate the question and will certainly look into the matter, I think it could cause problems. The Northern Territory Tourist Bureau should direct its efforts more towards the promotion of tourism outside the Territory and satisfying the requirements of visitors to the various centres in which the bureau has offices rather than actually directly selling plane tickets.

1190 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for EDUCATION

There has been concern expressed in my electorate as to the future of the Larrakeyah Primary School. This is a growing and much needed school in the Darwin area. What is the future of the Larrakeyah Primary School and when can it be expected that the existing facilities will be brought up to the standard of existing primary schools?

ANSWER

Let me assure the honourable member that there are no plans that I am aware of to phase out the operations of the Larrakeyah Primary School. Nonetheless, I think it is the responsibility of any government to

maximise the use of the resources which are available to it. There is no question that the 2 primary schools in the greater Darwin district together have a smaller student population than one of the average northern suburbs primary schools. When we talk about upgrading the facilities to the standard of other primary schools, it would be absolutely impossible to upgrade Larrakeyah without bulldozing it and rebuilding it completely which is probably not warranted having regard to population densities.

To answer the question of providing additional materials to the school, I indicated to the House the other day that one particular school gained from the loss of the Darwin Primary School. That school was Larrakeyah and one would presume that its furniture and fittings are in good order. Nonetheless, there are deficiencies at that school, such as playground equipment, and the department has this in mind. As funds become available, those facilities will be upgraded.

There is the further problem of unsightly ground adjacent to Larrakeyah. That ground is a very steep slope and is unsuitable for a playground. The best thing that I can do is to take the matter up with the Chief Minister in his capacity as minister responsible for the Territory Parks and Wildlife Commission so that that area is upgraded to be a more aesthetically pleasing piece of ground.

1191 Mr ISAACS to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Will the minister take steps to ensure that traffic lights are erected at the Berrimah intersection of the Stuart Highway and McMillans Road? If not, what steps are being taken to make this potential death trap a safer intersection?

ANSWER

I can only say that we could look at the matter. I would not say positively here today that we will put lights on that major highway. I understand that there have been some problems. I will have the matter examined.

1192 Mr BALLANTYNE to MINISTER for EDUCATION

My question relates to a parking problem with school buses outside Nhulunbuy Area School. Has the minister taken any steps to improve the parking facilities for these buses because there is a safety problem? If so, when does he envisage such work will commence?

ANSWER

I have been aware of the difficulty at Nhulunbuy Area School for some time having visited the place on several occasions. We have taken steps with the Department of Transport and Works to increase the area available to buses. That work should commence very shortly with a view to being completed some time early in the first term of next year. It is proposed to provide parking for at least 4 buses. One would assume also that, if you have a problem with safe depositing of children from buses, the same would apply to cars. It is unlikely that there would be 4 buses there at any one time. This would allow a safe spot for parents to deposit children from cars.

1193 Mr COLLINS to MINISTER for EDUCATION

Is it the minister's intention to establish an advisory council for handicapped children?

ANSWER

It would be somewhat misleading to say yes because, in effect, there already is an advisory committee which makes final recommendations on the placement of students in such places as the Darwin Special School. The question obviously relates to the formalisation of that in the terms of the Education Act. That would be my intention Mr Speaker.

1194 Mrs PADGHAM-PURICH to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

What plans does the Northern Territory government have to build a third major water storage for Darwin and environs?

ANSWER

It is planned to build a third major water storage when it is required. We are looking at options at present and the necessary planning is underway.

1195 Mr DOOLAN to MINISTER for INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Under what conditions and which crops will be covered by the operations of the crop development scheme for 1979-80? What staff are available to service the scheme and what markets are available for crops grown in the Northern Territory.

ANSWER

I ask the honourable member to place his question on notice.

1196 Mrs LAWRIE to CHIEF MINISTER

Has the panel of 3 members to report to the Territory government on the applications regarding the proposed takeover of Connair yet met physically? If not, can he indicate when they will be meeting and if the 2 members who come from outside the Territory will be required to stay in the Territory to report as soon as possible?

ANSWER

I am not in a position to provide that information. I would ask the honourable member to place the questions on notice. Furthermore, I would consider the proposition put forward by the honourable member in the last question to be rather unreasonable.

1197 Mr VALE to TREASURER

Can the Treasurer advise the House whether the Northern Territory government loan-raising program which closes tomorrow has been successful?

ANSWER

It does appear that the government's loan will be fully subscribed.

As at 19 November, a total of \$7,176,000 was subscribed to the Northern Territory government's \$10m program. It was pleasing to note that \$5.3m came from Territory residents and institutions based in the Territory. There were 243 contributions under \$50,000 which amounted to \$427,000. I suspect that most of those were probably from small individual investors. It is very heartening to see that people are prepared to put their faith in the Territory. It is quite an attractive investment which has been put on the market for the first time. It seems that it has been a very successful exercise.

1198 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

An Aboriginal spokesman was quoted in the NT News yesterday as saying, "They are complaining that people are camping everywhere but it is no use trying to shift them if there is nowhere to shift them to". What progress has been made to provide land for transient Aboriginal campers in the Darwin area and, in particular, will land be provided near the new Casuarina Hospital for Aboriginal campers?

ANSWER

In Darwin, there have been 3 needs claims settled. The Railway Dam was the first one and I understand that development is proceeding there at the present time. Kulaluk was recently handed over and this is quite a substantial area. The third one which has been completed is the Knuckey's Lagoon lease which has not been formally handed over but people are aware that it is theirs. It has not been formally handed over because problems have arisen in arranging a handover ceremony. At present, I do not know of further needs applications to the government from Aboriginals in towns in the Northern Territory. The member for Fannie Bay specifically referred to land in the vicinity of Casuarina Hospital. I do not think any application has been made for any specific land there but we would certainly consider the matter if one is made.

1199 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for HEALTH

Is he able to provide any further information about the government's offer to send a volunteer health unit to East Timor?

ANSWER

The honourable member for Nightcliff raised this matter on 2 occasions. As a result of her reference to the issue last night, we had departmental officers take the matter up with the federal government which is considering this issue. Honourable members would all appreciate that we have to operate within the framework of a national effort in offering assistance to Timor. It is not possible for us to fly off on our own. I would like to advise the House of the contents of a letter between the Chief Minister and the Prime Minister making the offer and then consequently advise the House of the subsequent result:

My Dear Prime Minister, My government is anxious that the Northern Territory should make a practical offer to the Commonwealth government with regard to the famine situation in Kampuchea and, more particularly, in East Timor. Australia is assisting these countries on a large scale with food supplies, additional funds and specialist personnel.

I believe the Northern Territory is in a position to assist in a modest way with Northern Territory Department of Health volunteers. In my view, we should actively consider the position of aid to our neighbour East Timor and I understand we could, in all probability, raise a Northern Territory volunteer health unit from the Department of Health consisting of a doctor, 4 or more nurses, a dietician and administrative support. Such a team could, of course, only operate as a part of an overall Australian or Red Cross relief organisation having its own logistic support system, equipment and supplies

If you consider the above offer is necessary and acceptable, I will make the Secretary of the Department of Health, Dr Gurd, available to assist in making more detailed arrangements with officials you may wish to nominate.

Yours,

Paul Everingham.

There has been a great silence since that letter was transmitted to Canberra. At the time the offer was made, we regarded the matter as one of urgency because we felt that every day that went by was just another unnecessary day of suffering and famine for people on the other end. Last night, I received a reply from the Department of the Prime Minister:

A proposal to send a medical team to East Timor is under consideration. The whole question of aid is one that has to be handled very carefully as it is a matter of what can be proposed to the Indonesian government which will be accepted by them.

The Australian government is most anxious not to disturb negotiations in getting food directly to Timor rather than through Jakarta and it is a question of weighing up whether the offer of a medical team may upset these other priority arrangements.

The department assures us that the matter is being actively pursued and they will let us know something definite as soon as it can be arranged.

For the information of members, we will follow up the matter by contacting the federal government every 2 or 3 days until there is a result because it seems to me it is taking them an unnecessarily long time to consider an offer of the sort that we have made.

1200 Ms D'ROZARIO to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

In view of his undertaking that the government will contribute \$10,000 to the construction of a causeway over the Elizabeth River, has he made any inquiries as to whether the owners of land in other subdivisions in the rural area would benefit from improved access to their land? If so, does the government intend to contribute to the cost of improving access in the same way that it is assisting the subdividers of the Elizabeth River estate?

ANSWER

One would not have to be very bright to assume that the government contribution to other roads in the area would be of benefit to land owners. That was a rather ridiculous question that the honourable member for Sanderson posed. The government has the responsibility to make and upgrade all public roads in the Northern Territory many of which are of a fairly poor standard. However, if a developer lodges a current application the government can say: "Well, if you are going to subdivide this parcel of land and therefore reap the benefits, you will have to provide a reasonable standard of access to it". This of course has only been possible in the Darwin rural area where most of the freehold land is. Amendments to the relevant legislation in this House last year, over which the opposition fought very savagely stopped a whole range of subdivisions right in their tracks including the one at Elizabeth River. We are able to say to the developer, "Unless you contribute fairly towards this crossing, which admittedly will benefit more than simply the landowners to whom you will sell your land, you will not receive approval for the rest of your subdivision". The government has an on-going program of maintaining roads. Where other people will reap great financial benefits from subdivisions, we are asking them to contribute to public roads and public crossings which provide access to their subdivisions whether or not these also provide access to other people.

1201 Mr HARRIS to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Is it proposed that the government will support the establishment of a marina in the Darwin area?

ANSWER

The government does support the establishment of a marina in Darwin. In fact, it has undertaken preliminary studies into a range of sites that might be considered. Some of the sites mentioned in reports are subject to further environmental clearances. In due course, I imagine that Cabinet will take the view that further feasibility studies should be undertaken.

1202 Mr DOOLAN to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Is there a likely or guaranteed market for rice grown in the Northern Territory? Will the Northern Territory government be bearing in mind the famine and starvation in Kampuchea and East Timor in formulating its policies on cropping for 1979-80.

ANSWER

It is very hard to obtain a guaranteed market for any crop grown in the Northern Territory. At present, the Northern Territory government guarantees certain prices to growers. The only 2 growers in the Northern Territory who are making some money are Ron Hersey at Katherine and Ian Dahlenburg at Ti Tree. The Dahlenburg story is not as widely known as it should be. He has 5000 table grape vines and, this year, he will be in the Adelaide market some 6 weeks before the southern producers of table grapes. Samples of that crop will be sent to South-east Asia to see if we can excite some interest in that region.

The tone of the honourable gentleman's question was partly answered by the Minister for Health in his explanation about the health teams to Timor. I think the explanation does relate back to the Commonwealth government which prefers to coordinate all aid out of Australia. I do not know of any other mechanism that could be used.

1203 Mr VALE to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

Can he advise if an amount of \$3.2m was provided for in the 1979-80 capital works program to increase the Tennant Creek water supply to meet the needs of the new abattoirs?

ANSWER

The answer is yes. It was provided for at the time the abattoir was approved. The available information indicated that the Cabbage Gum Basin would not have the capacity to provide sufficient water for the operation together with other developments in the Tennant Creek area. Supply from the Tennant Creek west bore field was therefore considered and a cost advice estimate of \$3.2m was given to supply water for the abattoirs and other local needs.

In view of the considerable expense involved in developing this new bore field and pipeline, investigations were resumed to update information on the Cabbage Gum and Kelly Wells Basin. It is now known that the potential of these bore fields is much greater than had previously been proved. It will therefore be possible to defer development of the Tennant Creek west bore field for some time. This item has been deleted from the 1979-80 capital works program. As far as the original project, the Division of Primary Industry was asked to assess the real rural demand for irrigation water in the area and to determine soil suitability. This information will be relevant to any future development of the Tennant Creek west site.

1204 Mr COLLINS to MINISTER for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Is he aware that 1980 is the International Year of Handicapped Persons? Is the government considering any action to mark this event? Will the minister keep this in mind when he is considering applications for community grants next year?

ANSWER

I am aware that next year is the International Year for the Handicapped. I will take the honourable member's comments into consideration at the time of the grants-in-aid for 1980-81 grants program.

1205 Ms D'ROZARIO to MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

Can he confirm that one of the subdivisions of the Elizabeth River Estate and the person with whom he has negotiated the construction of the causeway over the Elizabeth River is, in fact, David Veale who is also the Director of Land Development in his department?

ANSWER

I cannot confirm that because it is not true. The only person I have had extensive discussions with on this matter and the only person, as I

understand it, who has any interest in the further subdivision of the area concerned is a Mr Lapira of Joondanna Investments.

1206 Mrs O'NEIL to MINISTER for HEALTH

On the late radio news on the ABC last night the Secretary of the Department of Health confirmed that patients were in fact being turned away from the Outpatients Department at Darwin Hospital. Will he investigate this matter in view of the fact that he was apparently unaware of this policy? Will he explain what he intends to do about it?

ANSWER

I took this matter up with the Secretary of the Department, Dr Gurd, and the advice I have on this particular matter is as follows: "I wish to advise that no change of policy has taken place in the Darwin Hospital. There are 3 outpatient departments at Darwin Hospital: one which provides specialist consultation by referral; a casualty department which works around the clock to deal with casualties and other emergencies; and a third that deals with primary care needs of an urgent nature". I am informed that the latter is not intended, designed or staffed to provide a full general practitioner service and cases of a non-urgent nature have always been referred back to a particular GP.

The situation has always been particularly difficult on public holidays and weekends when people perhaps find it difficult to obtain the services of their GP. As a result, the available facilities become overloaded and the hospital is unable to cope. A notice to this effect has been displayed in the outside section of the outpatients department in both English and Greek for the last 7 years. It comes back to an issue of communication between people. If people going to outpatients departments have no private practitioner and have always dealt with the hospital, they should make that perfectly clear to the doctor or the person to whom they are talking. It has been pointed out that, in many cases, people who have their own private practitioner and know they cannot obtain services after hours or weekends are quite happy to be given immediate attention at the hospital. We are dealing with 2 different problems. I ask the member again to give me the names and the instances involved so that we can pursue the matter and have it rectified at a personal level.

INDEX TO QUESTIONS
13 - 22 November 1979

Aboriginal housing agreement (D'Rozario) 1166
Aboriginal vocational training, Alice Springs (Perkins) 858, 958
Agriculture, crop development and marketing study (Vale) 1113
Aircraft incident at Darwin Airport (MacFarlane) 1016
Alice Springs -
 block sizes (Vale) 1099
 foothills road construction (Vale) 1171
 lake proposal (Oliver) 1135
 residential land availability (Vale) 1168, 1099
 revised town plan (Oliver) 1167
 sewerage farm establishment (Perkins) 1151
Anula, Wulagi schools, swimming classes (D'Rozario) 1146
Assembly elections, Australian Electoral Office supervision (Isaacs) 1139
Baptist hostel Katherine, purchase by government (Isaacs) 1053
Barramundi hatchery, feasibility (MacFarlane) 1017
Berrimah intersection, traffic lights (Isaacs) 1191
Berrimah prison, overcrowding (O'Neil) 1137
Botulism (MacFarlane) 951
Buffalo -
 exported to Papua New Guinea, TB infected (Harris) 1102
 pet meat prices (O'Neil) 1112
Burials, Aboriginal communities (Perkins) 859
Bus service, rural area (Padgham-Purich) 1083
Campbell, Dr John, report (Harris) 1064
Camping areas, Aboriginals in city areas (O'Neil) 1198
Caravan parks, additional provision (Harris) 1177
Carpentaria College, use (Lawrie) 1084
Casuarina Hospital, completion date (Harris) 1096
Child Welfare Ordinance, ministerial breach (O'Neil) 1065
Churches, domestic electricity rate (Vale) 1132
Coastal Plains Research Station, housing (Padgham-Purich) 1066, 1072
Coastal surveillance program, avgas shortage (Ballantyne) 1089
Collia mine -
 dispute, Mining Warden adjudication (Collins) 1169
 missing partner (Isaacs) 1114
 police inquiry (Isaacs) 1114
Connair -
 anticipated purchase (Isaacs) 1069
 takeover, government panels report (Lawrie) 1196
Cricket, TV broadcasts (Vale) 1186
Crocodile farm, licences (MacFarlane) 1018
Crocodiles, Nhulunbuy recreation areas (Ballantyne) 1068
Crop development scheme, crop types (Doolan) 1195
Darwin Community College, staff/teacher ratios (Perkins) 952
Darwin Hospital, Outpatients Department, patients turned away (O'Neil) 1206;
 (O'Neil) 1154
Darwin Library, new siting (Harris) 1136
Darwin Planning Authority, section 38B parking (Harris) 1163
Darwin Primary School, furniture (Harris) 1130
Darwin Sailing Club, lease extension (O'Neil) 1129
Darwin Trader, future service (Isaacs) 1093
Day, Mr Ken, Collia tin mining (Collings) 1067
Dingo, aerial 1080 baiting (MacFarlane) 945
Director of Mines, appointment (D'Rozario) 1104, 1105
Dogs, proposed inquiry (Lawrie) 1187
Education statement by minister (Collins) 1076
Electorate seats, tolerance levels (Isaacs) 1147
Electricity, bonds, rural consumers (Padgham-Purich) 1161
Electricity bonds, subsequent reticulated connections (Padgham-Purich) 1173
Elizabeth River Estate (D'Rozario) 1205

INDEX TO QUESTIONS
13 - 22 November 1979

Elizabeth River Estate -
 block access (Padgham-Purich) 1142
 causeway (D'Rozario) 1143
Employment (Leave of Absence) inquiry (Ballantyne) 1145
Fisheries research staffing (Lawrie) 1100
Gunn Point Prison Farm, staff housing occupation (Padgham-Purich) 1095
Handicapped children -
 advisory council (Collins) 1193
 pre-school integration (Isaacs) 1015
Health team to East Timor (Harris) 1199; (Lawrie) 1140
Health workers, settlement housing (Perkins) 1094
Hobby farms, Alice Springs (Oliver) 1080
Home loan scheme, loan delays (Lawrie) 1063
Housing Commission -
 community organisations assistance (D'Rozario) 1182
 emergency housing (D'Rozario) 1170
Housing lists (Lawrie) 1090
Immigrant teachers, english language skills (D'Rozario) 1127
International year of Handicapped Persons (Collins) 1204
Jabiru and Kakadu parks, negotiations (Collins) 1082
Katherine -
 land "over the counter sales" (MacFarlane) 940
 land, subdivision of leases (MacFarlane) 949
 loiterers, police powers (MacFarlane) 1055
 plumbing repairs from mineralised water (MacFarlane) 950
 racism (Vale) 1159
 serviced land shortage (MacFarlane) 474, 934
 streets, standards (MacFarlane) 944
Larrakeyah Primary School, future (Harris) 1190
Library Services, Director, appointment (Harris) 1109
Liquor Act -
 appeal provisions (Isaacs) 1185
 under-age provisions (Lawrie) 1125
Lot 1769 Darwin, office use (D'Rozario) 865
Lovegrove Drive and Smith Street alignment, Alice Springs (Oliver) 1073
Ludmilla-Fannie Bay connector road, buffer zone (O'Neil) 1181
Marina in Darwin (Harris) 1201
Marriage Guidance Council, closure Alice Springs (O'Neil) 1160
McMinns bore field (Padgham-Purich) 1179
Mercantile marine authority, establishment (Lawrie) 1110
Mimosa weed, Kulaluk (Doolan) 1088
Mines Branch -
 annual reports (Harris) 1152
 E5 level resignations (Collins) 1149
Mining Bill, circulation for comment (Ballantyne) 1134
Mining tenements, 1K, 7K, acquisition Territory Parks and Wildlife
 (D'Rozario) 1077
Nambajimba Mrs E.J, parole (Perkins) 954
Nhulunbuy Area School -
 buses parking area (Ballantyne) 1192
 new Motor Vehicles Registry site (Ballantyne) 1128
 town beach boat ramp (Ballantyne) 1165
 library facilities (Ballantyne) 1075
Nightcliff-Fannie Bay connector road, alignment (Doolan) 1012
North Australian Railway, recommissioning (Padgham-Purich) 1188
Northumberland Insurance Co, collapse (Lawrie) 1174
NT government loan, success (Vale) 1197
NT Teaching Service, establishment (Collins) 1144; (Doolan) 1074
Obiri Rock, hyptis eradication (Doolan) 1014
Office of Information, expenditure 1978-79 (Isaacs) 1008
Oral History Committee, composition (O'Neil) 956

INDEX TO QUESTIONS
13 - 22 November 1979

Orthodontists, Alice Springs (Vale) 1124
Palmerston House, demolition (Harris) 1070
Parap fire station (O'Neil) 1172
Parap Infant School, land use (O'Neil) 1085
Parking problems, city area (Harris) 1086
Perkins V.B., lease (Isaacs) 1131
Permits, entry onto Aboriginal land (Isaacs) 1087
Police -
 rural night patrols (Padgham-Purich) 1111
 school absentee lists (Isaacs) 1061
Public holidays, 24 and 31 December (Isaacs) 1123
Rape reform, laws (Isaacs) 1164
Registration labels, no serial numbers (Lawrie) 1156
Rice markets, NT crop (Doolan) 1202
Road repairs, Pine Creek (Doolan) 867
Rum Jungle, mining rehabilitation (Collins) 1107
Rural area, access roads (D'Rozario) 1200
Rural education program, Katherine (MacFarlane) 939
Rural roads -
 maintenance funds 1979-80 (Padgham-Purich) 1150
 sealing (Padgham-Purich) 1138
Sadadeen High School -
 matriculation classes (Vale) 1062
 public meeting (Oliver) 1098
Sand and gravel mining, rural surveillance (Padgham-Purich) 1078
Sewerage system connections to Myilly Terrace, Carey Street, Temira Crescent
 (Harris) 1141
Solar airconditioning (Harris) 1115
Solar programs (Collins) 1116
Speed limit, 100 km, state-wide (D'Rozario) 1097
Springvale Homestead, road sealing (MacFarlane) 947
Stockfeed antibiotics, report (Lawrie) 1162
Sumital Taiyo fisheries program, surveillance (Lawrie) 1178
Syphilis in rural areas (Ballantyne) 1175
Taiwanese fishing boats -
 fuel requirements (Ballantyne) 1106
 quarantine checks (Harris) 1148
 quarantine problems (Harris) 1081
Tennant Creek abattoir, water supply (Vale) 1203
Territory Parks and Wildlife Commission, Directors appointment (Perkins) 957
Territory students, vacation employment (D'Rozario) 1071
Tin concentrate, sale price (Doolan) 1108
Tourist Bureau -
 official use (Oliver) 1189
 Smith Street block use (D'Rozario) 1153
Tourist industry, inadequate funding (Perkins) 1176
Unalienated crown land, government powers (MacFarlane) 1056
Uranium enrichment plant, electricity needs (Isaacs) 1155
Virologist appointment, Berrimah laboratory (MacFarlane) 951
Water reticulation, rural area (Padgham-Purich) 1126
Water storage, third facility (Padgham-Purich) 1194
Whitewood Road sealing (Padgham-Purich) 1001
Youth employment programs (Isaacs) 1158
Youth needs inquiry, results (O'Neil) 1079
Youth unemployment education, funds (Collins) 1180
Yulngu Association (MacFarlane) 935