

for four years and very rarely has a nurse. I think that question is well put and the Committee should find that out.

Mr. Reddy I have been informed that the service is very satisfactory up there. I think that requires going into thoroughly.

Mr. Spencer As far as I know there has not been a doctor on the *Lady Anderson* for the last four or five years, and the *Lady Anderson* covers that coast and is very conspicuous by her absence.

Mr. Smallwood In reply to Mr. Hollett, if he would look at the table of financial statistics he will see that the cost of maintaining and operating the *Lady Anderson* for this year, which ends today, is \$11,800....

Mr. Newell You have to add the salaries — about \$7,000 for wages for the *Lady Anderson*.

Mr. Ashbourne Rev. Mr. Burry has now gone out to try and get that information from the department, but I remember it was stressed, at the time that we discussed this matter, the difficulty that the department had to procure a doctor for this service. When there has been a shortage of doctors even for their stations on the land we can readily appreciate and understand the difficulty of procuring a medical man to go on the ship. I feel sure there is great need of a medical man to serve that part of the coast and that as soon as the department can get a qualified doctor willing to go on that ship one will be provided.

Mr. Hollett Whether it cost \$11,000 or \$35,000 is not to the point at all. What I want to know is what service the ship can be if she has had no doctor or nurse for four or five years? It's pertinent to the issue and these are things we want to find out.

Mr. Fudge I wonder if the Committee visited any of the hospitals and made inquiries from the patients there how often they see a doctor? I refer now to those who go in on the government, not paying their own hospital bill.

Mr. Ashbourne Mr. Chairman, various members of the Committee have visited various institutions. I visited the General Hospital and went through it, and also the Sanatorium since they moved into the new wing, the Children's Home and Merchant Navy Hospital, the Home for the Aged and Infirm, and I feel sure that other members have visited other government institutions. During the course of my rounds I questioned several patients about the food and care which

they were being given, and found no complaint. I took it, of course, that in the general work of these institutions that the doctors would make their rounds, probably twice a day, and it did not occur to me to ask whether the doctors did that because I took it for granted....

Mr. Vardy I may say that on the welfare side of it I visited just about every hospital in town. I was to the Mental Hospital with other members of the Committee and have been there on three different occasions, I have been to the Sanatorium and talked to the patients, and any observations I have I propose to make later.

Mr. Bailey We have a cottage hospital at Old Perlican, and they also practice with a doctor in Trinity South. The people of Bay de Verde district, including New Melbourne in Trinity South, practice with the doctor and hospital in Old Perlican, and the people of Trinity North go to Heart's Content. As you know a man or woman has a lot of dependence in a doctor they are used to; but we always found out that when a patient went into hospital they had to go under another doctor, and people often wonder if the medical services could not have been served better if both doctors could have had a chance to practice in the same hospital. I don't know if the doctor has the same chance to practice, but I know it is not possible to get under our own doctor's care in Old Perlican. I don't know if this condition exists in any other part of the island, because I believe that when a case puzzles the doctor he just calls in another one. The people are wondering why it costs a man in New Melbourne \$10 for the doctor and hospital, and \$14 in Old Perlican. They asked me to find this out, whether the doctor is barred from practicing in the hospital or whether it's his own free will or otherwise. It seems strange when there is a hospital in the vicinity that all doctors should not be allowed to practice in them.

Mr. Ashbourne Mr. Chairman, as far as I know the fee for these cottage hospitals is \$10. The doctors who attend the hospital, their wages are \$200 a month and two thirds of the fees collected. I will try to find out why that additional \$2 is charged — is that it, Mr. Bailey?

Mr. Bailey The fee for hospitals is \$4. I am paying \$4 and everybody in the district pays \$6 to the doctor and \$4 for the hospital, a total of \$10. When we come to New Melbourne we pay \$10 for the doctor and the hospital besides.... That