should be able to look at is a requirement that existing vegetation not be removed except with approval.

Mr Perron: What about the coffee bush? Do you want the coffee bush to stay there too? Have you ever been down there in your life?

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr SMITH: Are you as simple as that comment would indicate, or are you just trying to be mischievous?

Mr Deputy Speaker, under any sensible system of planning, the Planning Authority should have the power, in a case such as the one we are talking about, to require that vegetation can only be removed with permission. That is how the essential character of the area of land can be maintained whilst, at the same time, allowing it to be developed in the interests of the broader community. Of course, I do not expect members opposite to understand that concept, so people will have to wait until there is a Labor government which will implement it. Thank goodness that is only 12 to 15 months away.

As I said, in the case of the booklet it has put out, the government is attempting to reinvent the wheel. It is fiddling with the mechanism of a system that is not working. What is required is a comprehensive re-examination, rather than just fiddling at the edges. That is something that obviously is not going to be given to us by this government, and again it is something that will have to wait until we have a Labor government. That is why the opposition is not participating in the review and why, as part of its approach for action on winning government, is putting in place its own procedures.

Debate adjourned.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr MANZIE (Lands and Housing): Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to make a personal explanation. The Leader of the Opposition claimed during that debate that I had accepted an invitation to attend a public meeting and then refused to attend. I would like to make it very clear that at no time did I accept an invitation. Not only that, I had arranged to attend another event. The only advertising concerning my attending that public meeting was carried out by the Leader of the Opposition and resulted in embarrassment to the meeting organisers. He stated on talkback radio and on various other radio programs that I would be present. His actions caused embarrassment to a number of people, and I would like it recorded that at no time did I accept the invitation.

I certainly would like the community to know that the only inferences which gave the impression that I would be attending were those made by the Leader of the Opposition, during the 3 or 4 days preceding the meeting. That caused some personal embarrassment to me, but even more to the people who were involved in the conduct of the meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTS AMENDMENT (ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY LIVING AREAS) BILL (Serial 230)

Bill presented and read a first time.