

Mr Collins: Move an amendment then.

Mr BELL: Rather than moving an amendment, as the member for Sadadeen suggests, I believe that in the case of such an important issue as that raised by clause 5 of the Parole of Prisoners Amendment Bill, it would be appropriate to have a complete review of the Parole Board and its operations in the light of interstate precedents. I do not believe that has been done adequately, certainly not on the basis of the minister's second-reading speech. Perhaps the only sensible suggestion made by the member for Jingili concerned the inclusion of the different parole acts in 1 law. That might be worth investigating as well.

Mr Speaker, finally, I want to place on record my profound opposition to the proposal that natural justice not apply to the deliberations of the Parole Board.

Motion agreed to; bills read a third time.

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT (MOBILITY) BILL
(Serial 209)

Continued from 25 May 1989.

Mr SMITH (Opposition Leader): Mr Speaker, this bill has an admirable purpose which is to allow employees of the Northern Territory public sector to move between the various public sector employing agencies whilst retaining accrued service entitlements and conditions of service. The bill does that job admirably with 1 or 2 minor problems which, I understand, will be corrected by the amendments in the schedule that has been circulated.

I commend the government on the introduction of this legislation. Throughout Australia and even beyond it, there is a feeling that it should be made easier for people to transfer within the government sector, both within a particular state or territory and between states and territories. This bill addresses that issue within the context of the Northern Territory. Clearly, it also fits within the broader context of the need to ensure that people in the work force today have the opportunity to undergo retraining whenever necessary to ensure that they keep up with demands in their present occupation or, if their present occupation becomes less desirable or their positions are abolished, that they have the opportunity to retrain and obtain skills in other areas. The public sector is moving in that direction at present. It would perhaps be more appropriate to address those matters in another debate rather than taking up the time of the House now. The opposition supports the bill.

Mr HATTON (Nightcliff): Mr Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition almost summarised the minister's second-reading speech in his response. It is pleasing to note the opposition's acceptance of the bill. I rise to add my support to the bill and to note some of the practical difficulties which this bill seeks to overcome. I also note that, in the context of a number of the political grandstanding exercises the opposition engages in from time to time, the appointment of a person to a senior position within the women's policy area of the Department of the Chief Minister gave a good example of how problems could be overcome with transfers and seniority rights being able to be transferred from one sector of public employment to another.

This bill also assists people working in the public sector in other ways. A number of adjustments have occurred in respect of the changes in