

## PERCY PEASE PARK

DEDICATION AT INNISFAIL.

PUBLIC FUNCTION.

INNISFAIL, February 3.

The Minister for Lands (Mr. P. Pease), accompanied by Mrs. Pease, Mr. Eric Biding, private secretary, and Mrs. Biding, also Mr. Ainscow, engineer-in-charge Public Estate Improvement works, arrived from the South this afternoon. The Minister subsequently made an inspection of the new Court House building, which is in course of construction, and at 5 p.m. proceeded to the big reserve at Goondi Hill, where a function for naming the reserve Percy Pease Park took place.

Mr. J. T. McNamee, chairman of the board of trustees of the racecourse, showground and recreation reserve, when addressing those present, said it had been decided to call the area the Percy Pease Park on account of the great assistance they had received from Mr. Pease when he was Acting Premier. Some five or six years ago that reserve had practically no improvements on it. There was no show ring, and no levelling or drainage had been done, nor was there a grandstand or exhibition hall. Through assistance from Mr. Pease they had been able to go to the Commonwealth Bank and obtain a debenture loan, guaranteed by the State Treasury, of £2500. With that money they were able to drain and level the enclosure, and put down a show ring on the same line as the Exhibition Ground in Brisbane, and also a large grandstand. This grandstand, as far as was humanly possible, had been built cyclone proof, and it could be extended without great expense. It afforded the trustees of the reserve, who were men of all shades of political opinion, great pleasure to know that these important improvements had been brought about.

The chairman of the Johnstone Shire Council (Cr. S. K. Page) supported Mr. McNamee, and said his mind could go back many years when that reserve was called "Robbery Park." (Laughter). He had lost a lot of perspiration a long time ago assisting to make the racecourse there. He was pleased Mr. Pease was present, and that the park was to be dedicated to his name, which he thought was a most laudable action by the trustees. He could assure the Minister that the people would see

by the trustees. He could assure the Minister that the people would see that the park was kept in good order, and to the generations to come it would stand as a monument to what had been done.

The speaker then dedicated the reserve as the Percy Pease Park, and said he hoped Mr. Pease would be spared to visit the reserve from time to time and see further improvements effected.

Mrs. J. T. McNamee then presented Mrs. Pease with an afternoon tea service.

### MR. PEASE RESPONDS.

In responding, Mr. Pease said he appreciated the honour conferred upon him by naming the park after him personally, but he thought he could give them a good many names which would be far better. The Governor thought a wonderful lot of Innisfail, and he (Mr. Pease) thought they should perpetuate His Excellency's name somewhere. The speaker congratulated the trustees on the good work they had done at the reserve, and did not say that out of any sense of flattery or because they had been good enough to honour him by putting his name on it. The work by the trustees was wonderful. Last week he had to go to Ipswich with the State Treasurer (Mr. F. A. Cooper) in connection with the reserve there, and Ipswich was a city second to Brisbane to a certain extent. He had to talk to the trustees of cricket and football grounds at Ipswich, and he pointed out that a smaller place like Innisfail had been able to do more work in their reserve in a short time than Ipswich had been able to show for many years. He did say, on behalf of the Government, which controlled the reserves of Queensland, that the public spirited policy of trustees of the Innisfail reserve they were on that evening, was something to be commended, and when he returned to Brisbane he would have pleasure in telling the Land Administration Board what he was telling the Innisfail people just then.

### CRITICISM OF EXPENSES.

"I go through Queensland a good deal," said Mr. Pease, "and of all Ministers I am the one who spends the most money, but I am not ashamed of it, and am not going to apologise. I spent that money going around doing my duty to the State, and, after all, the State is not Brisbane. Criticism in that regard came from the Brisbane Press, but not from the Press of

in that regard came from the Brisbane Press, but not from the Press of Queensland, and, after all, Brisbane is only a little part of Queensland. If it were not for the rest of Queensland there would be no Brisbane. The cities live on the expansion of the country towns. So long as I preside over the department which controls public reserves, this reserve at Innisfail, governed by trustees who have exhibited a wonderful public spirit, will always get departmental support.

Mr. Pease tendered thanks for the present made to Mrs. Pease.

The Minister subsequently inspected the golf links, and later was entertained at a civic dinner. At 8 p.m. he met members of the Johnstone Shire Council and discussed various civic matters with them.

To-morrow afternoon Mr. Pease visits Flying Fish Point.